

CHADDERTON LOCAL BOARD

Thursday 29 November 2007 at 6.30pm

Members Present:

Jeremy Sutcliffe; Phil Rogers; Colin McLaren; Pauline Richardson; Julie Kirkham (Chair); Isobel Adam

FCHO Officers Present:

Nick Summerscales; Kristel Schirwing; Jayne Winterbottom; Sarah Mitten; Martyn Pickles, Janet Nuttall (Minute Taker)

Meeting Convened At:

Julie Kirkham took the Chair and convened the meeting at 6.35 pm.

Item 1 - Apologies:

Ian Whitehead; Barbara Jardine; Amina Begum

Members Absent:

There were no members absent.

Item 2 - Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

Item 3 - Items of Urgent Business

There were no items of Urgent Business.

Item Number/Title	Item 4 Approval of Minutes and Recommendations from last meeting held on Thursday 18 October 2007 and Matters Arising
Purpose	To approve the minutes and recommendations from the last meeting held on 18 October 2007 and discuss any matters arising.
Recommendations	To Board is recommended to note the contents of the minutes and recommendations.
Relevant Debate	<p>Action plan attached to back of agenda.</p> <p><u>Letting policy for Stockfield Mount and Landsdowne Court</u></p> <p>Colin McLaren requested that Bryan Elliott be invited to give a verbal report on the allocations policy specifically for Stockfield Mount and Landsdowne Court, and the impact this will have on sheltered housing.</p> <p><u>Update of the Park Estate Triangle</u></p> <p>Environmental Visits: Colin McLaren voiced concerns that all the budget available has been utilised. The Board needs to be aware of any funding from other areas which should be spent however small, and unskilled labour can be used to reduce costs. Sarah Mitten advised the Board this is in place and a list of schemes to be approved when funds are available is also in place.</p> <p>Jeremy Sutcliffe asked if the officers were confident that FCHO have explored other funding/joint funding for environmental schemes.</p>

	<p><u>Formal Estate Inspection</u></p> <p>The date has been re arranged to 10 December 2007. Nick Summerscales apologised for the short notice, however this did ensure all relevant service personnel are available.</p> <p>Members to confirm at close of meeting if they are attending. Crossley Street, meeting at 2pm outside 32 Walsh Street.</p>
Resolution	The minutes of the last meeting held on October 18 2007 were approved as an accurate record by the Board.

Item 5 – Public Questions

No members of the public were present

Item Number/Title	Item 6 Decent Homes Programme 2007/08
Purpose	To update members on the progress of the Decent Homes programme in the Chadderton Area for 2007/08.
Recommendations	Local Board members are requested to acknowledge the progress of the Decent Homes programme in the Chadderton Area within this financial year 2007/08.
Relevant Debate	<p>Martyn Pickles presented his report: The work has been completed on time and within budget. Problems highlighted by Pauline Richardson related to the asylum seekers' properties, which were not on the same scheme due the way the information was requested from the computer system. This has now been addressed.</p> <p>Jeremy Sutcliffe requested that Martyn Pickles provide the Board with a list of acquired properties for the Chadderton area which are having capital improvement work, and those which are not, saying that an overview would be beneficial to the Board. Colin McLaren asked what the future prospects were for Chadderton,</p> <p>Martyn Pickles stated that funding was the deciding factor, however the programme is on-going. The Board need to be aware of the possibility of the danger some estates may fall into the non decency category.</p>
Resolution	The Board noted the report

Item Number/Title	Item 7 Respect Update
Purpose	To inform the Board on progress made around the Respect Agenda.
Recommendations	That Board Members note the contents of the report and offer their continued support to the Respect Standard for Housing Management.
Relevant Debate	<p>Jayne Winterbottom presented the report. Jeremy Sutcliffe stated he was most unhappy with the way the report had not included the agencies which supported FCHO: the Police, Youth Service and Environmental Services. Jayne stated these comments would be passed on to Joanne Griffin.</p> <p>Pauline Richardson stated the report was to show the progress and actions FCHO had taken and recognises the support from the other agencies. Nick Summerscales explained that the report focuses on specific actions, and relates to the housing standard, and all agencies will set a standard specific to their organisation. He also said a multi-agency agreement is now in place on Barker Street Estate and Higginshaw Village Estate.</p> <p>Colin McLaren asked to what extent funding was available and what</p>

	<p>steps taken to ensure agencies work together and did not fund the same schemes.</p> <p>Nick Summerscales told the Board with funding in mind a Team has been assembled and trained to source external funds and grants that may be available.</p>
Resolution	The board noted the contents of the report.

Item Number/Title	Item 8 Service Excellence Officer (Repairs) – Introduction & Update
Purpose	Update on the role and objectives of the Service Excellence Officer (Repairs).
Recommendations	For information only.
Relevant Debate	<p>Kristel Schirwing explained the role of Service Excellence Officer to the Board.</p> <p>Colin McLaren requested</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A family tree of just where the position of Service Excellence Officer fitted within the organisation. 2) Information on how much access Kristel Schirwing has to management. <p>Kristel Schirwing explained that her position within the organisational structure has not yet been confirmed. However she will be able to supply this information as the position is at present, together with details of who is currently her immediate line-manager.</p> <p>Kristel Schirwing stated that her role has developed from when she joined the company in October 2007, from, dealing with customer satisfaction issues, dealing with complaints and offering best value, and developing her role to a much wider group.</p> <p>However with a good administration team, regular meetings with her managers and attending the Repairs, Renewals and Housing Managers meetings, the management are involved at all levels.</p> <p>The Board requested that Kristel Schirwing attend future meetings to report on the progress she has made.</p>
Resolution	The Board noted the report

Item Number/Title	Item 9 Environmental Bus Tour
Purpose	To update Chadderton Local Board on approved and proposed environmental improvements and bus tour.
Recommendations	The Board is asked to note and comment on the contents of the report.
Relevant Debate	<p>Nick Summerscales requested that the Board approve 1 December 2007 as the date set at the last meeting. The Board agreed.</p> <p>Jeremy Sutcliffe asserted that finding a date to suit all members is difficult. Nick Summerscales presented the Board with an itinerary and a plan of the route. FCHO Officers present for this event will be Elaine Morgan and Nick Summerscales.</p>
Resolution	The Board agreed to meet at Broadway House and the details as set out by Nick Summerscales

Item Number/Title	Item 10a Items for Future Meetings and Forward Planning
Purpose	Board Members are invited to suggest possible items for future meetings.
Recommendations	N/A
Relevant Debate	<p>(i) Chadderton entry on FCHO Website Nick Summerscales advised the Board that Joanne Goodall is now responsible for ensuring the information relating to the Website is up dated as part of her new role as Governance Manager.</p> <p>(ii) The Board recommend a joint approach regarding Bare Trees; any opportunities to joint fund schemes should not to be missed. Jeremy Sutcliffe to keep Board members updated with meetings he will be attending.</p> <p>(iii) Funding available for 2008. Figures are not yet confirmed, but as a guide they will be plus or minus 2% of the budget available for 2007.</p> <p>Sent to Main Board for discussion and feedback on ownership of land.</p> <p>(iv) Jeremy Sutcliffe stated that Emanuel Whitakers has written to residents to advise tenants of work which is to be carried out, and that it now appears this will not happen. Martyn Pickles is to write to tenants and residents to update them on the decision about this work.</p> <p>(v) Nick Summerscales is to explain to the Board his role as Young Persons Development Officer. This will update the Board and clarify the deadlines and support offered.</p>
Resolution	<p>The Board agreed to invite Joanne Goodall to the February meeting.</p> <p>The Board agreed that the item by Nick Summerscales on his role as Young Persons Development Officer should be added to the agenda for the meeting on 28 February.</p>

Item Number/Title	Item 10b Feedback from Main Board
Purpose	To inform Local Board Members of the feedback from the Main Board Meeting held on 15 October 2007.
Recommendations	To note the contents of the report.
Relevant Debate	<p>Nick Summerscales advised the Board that Julie Kirkham, Sarah Mitten and himself have agreed to meet once a month to approve small improvement projects while the larger projects will be put before the Board. Also, Nick Summerscales, Julie Kirkham and Sarah Mitten will meet to discuss day-to-day housing management issues.</p> <p>Jeremy Sutcliffe stated the Officer for the Park Estate has established an excellent relationship with the tenants. Sarah Mitten thanked Jeremy Sutcliffe and stated his comments will be passed on to Rachael Wyatt.</p>
Resolution	Members noted the contents of the report.

Item Number/Title	Item 11 Any Other Business (a) Catering arrangements (b) Park Estate Triangle
Purpose	To discuss any other items of business raised by Members.
Recommendations	N/A
Relevant Debate	<p>(a) Julie Kirkham advised the Board that Harry Burns has sent an e-mail regarding catering and the amount of wasted food at the end of Board Meetings.</p> <p>Pauline Richardson stated that as she attended the meeting directly from work the buffet was important, however the Board did agree that the quantity should be scaled down to reduce costs.</p> <p><u>(b) Park Estate Triangle</u> The tenants have reported fly tipping and rodent problems in this area. Sarah Mitten is aware of this and is addressing the problem. The area is enclosed and the gardens are to be extended to include the triangle. There concerns of access for emergency services.</p>
Resolution	N/A

Meeting Closed At:

The Chair closed the meeting at **8:30pm**

Item 12 - Next Meeting Date

Thursday 17 January 2008 at 6.30pm

Venue: Falcon Enterprise Centre, Victoria Street, Chadderton

Apologies to: Corporate Support Team

Telephone: 0161 770 3536 / 3571 / 3576

Email: fcho.corporate.support@oldham.gov.uk

Signed: _____

Minutes Agreed on: _____
(Date)