

BOROUGH OF KETTERING

TENANTS' FORUM

Meeting held – 12th March 2020

Present: Councillors Mark Rowley (Chair), Maggie Don, Andrew Dutton, Jim French, David Howes and Mike Tebbutt

Tenant Representatives:

Lynne Lund	(Northumberland Road)
Steven Soper	(Sackville Street)
Peter Harvey	(Dahlia Road)
Brian Kimpton	(Counties)
Lindsay Wooldridge	(Sackville Street)
Steven Panther	(Sackville Street)
Hamid Saleri	(Geddington)
Josephine Copson	(Alfred Street)
Karol Hall	(Burton Latimer)
Reg Carvell	(Leaseholder)
Anne Swoboda	(Rothwell)
Gloria Moore	(Grange)

Also Present:

John Conway	(Housing)
Leona Mantle	(Housing)
Dan Hannam	(Housing)
Pearl Nathaniel	(Finance)
Callum Galluzzo	(Democratic Services)

(Prior to the commencement of the meeting, a minutes silence was held in remembrance of former Tenant Trevor Nash who sadly had passed away)

19.TF.56 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Martyn Lund and Simon Sheldrick

19.TF.57 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

19.TF.58 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 6th

February 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

19.TF.46 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

19.TF.21 Homelessness Update

An update was provided to members in relation to the number of households currently living in temporary accommodation. It was reported that there was currently 122 households living in temporary accommodation compared to 147 households previously stated at the last meeting of the Tenants Forum.

A small update was also provided regarding the councils acquisition of Wellington House. It was heard that the Night Shelter had changed from the Parish Rooms to Wellington House to bring the building to use, contractual discussions were still ongoing between both parties.

19.TF.48 Voids Update

An update was provided to members in relation to the number of void properties under maintenance and repair work. It was reported that there was currently 76 void properties. Members heard that there had been a recent surge in the number of properties being returned to the Council.

19.TF.47 MATTERS RAISED BY TENANTS' FORUM REPRESENTATIVES

Concerns were raised by Tenant Forum representatives with regards to fly-tipping and blocked drains within the Sackville Street area.

Tenant Forum representatives also raised concerns regarding street cleansing between the pub and local shop along Highfield Road, where the passageway was covered in litter.

19.TF.48 FUTURE NORTHANTS UPDATE

Members of the forum were provided with a presentation from the Head of Housing to update them on work being undertaken by the Programme Board in relation to the Unitary Authority.

It was heard that the proposals had been processed and subsequently approved by parliament and the structural change order had now been passed.

Details of the new unitary authority including background information regarding each local authorities housing stock were provided. A summary of work currently being undertaken through the Future Northants Programme, including the Joint Committees, was given.

Proposals were also presented to members of the tenants forum which recommended that meetings of the Tenants Forum be moved from Thursday evening to Monday evenings in order to avoid clashes with Shadow Council committee meetings.

Following debate it was:

RESOLVED that future meetings of the Tenants Forum be held on the 3rd Monday of every month starting at 6:30pm

19.TF.50 HRA CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The forum was provided with the latest asset management report.

Members were presented with details with regards to the HRA Capital programme for the coming year. Details were provided to members including what projects would be funded through the programme and where the programmes would be based.

It was heard that projects were to be spread throughout the borough so that all village/towns outside of Kettering have the opportunity to participate.

19.TF.51 CONNECT

An update was provided regarding the forthcoming edition of the Connect magazine.

It was heard that the first editorial panel meeting had taken place ahead of the next issue. It was noted that the contents of the next issue would focus the Hamilton House project as well as providing details around the capital programme.

19.TF.52 TENANT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

An update was provided to members of the Tenants Forum regarding the ongoing work being undertaken by the Tenant Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

It was heard that the Tenant Overview and Scrutiny Panel were continuing to monitor performance indicators and would provide feedback to members at a future meeting of the Tenants Forum

19.TF.53 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Members were provided with details regarding Kettering Borough Council's contingency planning as a result of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

19.TF.54 PRIZE DRAW

The winner of the prize draw was Karol Hall

19.TF.55 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the provisional date for the next meeting of the forum was set as Thursday 9th April 2020.

(The meeting started at 6.30pm and ended at 7.47pm)

Signed

Chair

CJG