

Sheltered Housing Forum

Notes on first meeting: 14th May at Harleyford Manor

17 Residents attended the first meeting of the Forum:

Ron Kirkwood	Terry Poletti
Jerzy Zusin	Geoffrey Crimes
Jack Drennan	Kanthi Gunassekera
Peter Anderson	Chris Majszczyk
Arthur England	Patrick Bernie
Pauline Melson	W Gray
Tom Brown	Ellen Fox
Ruth Ellis	Lily Keen
Mr Moulden	

They represented 12 different schemes

Harleyford Manor	Ellis Court
Creswick Road	Garden Court
Shilaker Court	Bedford Rd
Lindsey A	Lindsey B
St Andrews Rd	Arundle House
Pembroke House	Neville Close

After the group members had introduced themselves and said where they lived, Michael; Wheatley outlined why it was felt that there is a need for a Sheltered Housing Forum. There are two main reasons:

- With the uncertainty about the future of sheltered housing in Ealing there is a need for a group that can represent the views of all sheltered housing residents in discussions with the Council and Ealing Homes.

- There are many other issues that affect all sheltered housing schemes that cannot adequately be dealt with at the quarterly Compact meetings. A Forum would provide a vehicle to discuss these issues and put forward solutions.

Those present at the meeting agreed that a Forum would be worthwhile. A list of possible issue that could be discussed was then considered. It included:

Future of sheltered housing	Health and Safety
Cleaning	Window cleaning
Grounds maintenance	Allocation of flats
Newsletter	EH/Council protocol
Service standards	Disability and Equality
Local tenancy agreements	Heating charges
Standard of repairs	Compact meetings
Access to IT	

The meeting then went on to discuss the need for a constitution. Michael distributed a draft constitution that is based on one that Gloucester City Homes have.

It was agreed that time should be taken over getting the constitution right. Those present at the meeting agreed to take it away and come back to the next meeting with their comments.

The meeting then discussed how representatives had been selected. Michael explained that he had asked residents that he knew and via the Community Housing Officers and Compact Meetings. In future more residents need to be given the opportunity to attend. The constitution will also set out how representatives will be selected.

It was noted that all the representatives present were from the East Area. Michael explained that residents in the West were aware of the meeting. Some had shown an interest in attending but declined at the last minute.

The majority of representatives present agreed that there should be another meeting. It was agreed that it should be in the same venue but further meetings could be held in different schemes. Date agreed 9th July.

It was also agreed that the meeting should be limited to two issues, the future of sheltered housing and feedback on the survey recently carried out in all the sheltered schemes. Michael said that he would endeavour to get representatives from management to come to the next meeting to discuss these issues.

The meeting closed shortly before 12 noon.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Richard Wheatle", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Strategic Involvement Officer

22nd May 2008