

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

WEST HOVE & PORTSLADE AREA HOUSING MANAGEMENT PANEL

2.00pm 30 JULY 2015

ST RICHARDS CHURCH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE, EGMONT ROAD, HOVE, BN3 7FP

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Moonan (Chair), Meadows, Barnett, Gilbey, O'Quinn

Represtatives: Pat Weller (Knoll Community), Julie Fosberry (Ingram Crescent), Ann Tizzard (Knoll Community), John Blackbear (Ingram Crescent), Neil Tideswell (Ingram Crescent), Vic Dodd (Ingram Crescent), Tony Brown (Evelyn Court), Roy Crowhurst (Woods House), Muriel Briault (North Portslade), Arlene Macrae (North Portslade), Joseph Macrae (North Portslade).

Officers: Becky Purnell (Resident Involvement Officer), Rachel Chasseaud (Head of Tenancy Services), Pat Liddell (Resident Involvement Officer), John Peel (Democratic Services Officer), Cliona May (Assistant Democratic Services Officer).

1 APOLOGIES

1.1 Apologies were received for Councillor Atkinson, Councillor Lewry, Councillor Peltzer Dunn, Councillor Horan, Councillor Janio, James Cryer and Ododo Dafe.

2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

2.1 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the previous meetings held on 28 January 2015 and 14 May 2015 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

3 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

3.1 The Chair introduced Councillor Meadows, the new Chair of the Housing & New Homes Committee to the Panel. In her introduction, Councillor Meadows stated that she would be seeking to increase resident engagement and proposals on how to do so would be forthcoming.

4 RESIDENTS QUESTION TIME

4.1 (Item 1 – Tenancy Fraud) In response to Councillor Barnett, the Head of Tenancy Services explained that tenancy fraud cases can take a while to resolve due to gathering paperwork together and legal processes.

4.2 It was agreed that the Head of Tenancy Services would bring a report to a future housing area panel.

5 PERFORMANCE REPORT

- 5.1 The Head of Tenancy services presented a report that covered Housing Management Performance during Quarter 2 of the 2015/16 financial year. The Head of Tenancy services stated that the table provided figures and a RAG rating system against key performance indicators adding that the intention of the report was to provide Area Panels with information on Housing services performance and, as with previous versions of the report, comments and feedback on its presentation was welcomed to improve future versions.
- 5.2 In response to Roy Crowhurst, The Head of Tenancy services confirmed they can find out why properties are viewed and turned down. Roy suggested having a letting agency that would show possible tenants photos of all the available properties to save time and resources.
- 5.3 The panel all agreed and Councillor Barnett suggested the Ward Councillors are alerted to any vacant properties. The Head of Tenancy services agreed to bring feedback on this to the next area housing panel.
- 5.4 Councillor Gilbey noted that the figures displayed in table 4.5.2 did not match the data shown on the map. It was confirmed that the Head of Tenancy services would check with Tom Scanlon and have these results amended before Housing & New Homes Committee.
- 5.5 **RESOLVED-** That the report be noted.

6 FEEDBACK FROM TENANT AND RESIDENT ASSOCIATIONS ON THEIR COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- 6.1 The Resident Involvement Manager requested an update from all Associations present.
- 6.2 Tony Brown confirmed that they had arranged weekly coffee mornings for tenants and monthly knitting club.
- 6.3 Julie Fosberry stated that they had held a successful community day which included having stalls, bouncy castles and an owl display.
- 6.4 Muriel Briault expressed that the bins are always overflowing and this has been causes problems with the birds. The Head of Tenancy services explained that the Council have encouraged tenants to call CityClean to pick up unwanted rubbish for a small fee.
- 6.5 Councillor Meadows suggested getting gates to protect the property. The Head of Tenancy services agrees with Councillor Meadows and will look into finding a solution to protect the area.

7 CITY WIDE REPORTS

- 7.1 **RESOLVED-** That the minutes and reports of the various Citywide groups be noted.

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 8.1 The Resident Involvement Manager suggested having an additional “blue page” in future agendas that would detail social activities and events in other communities.

The meeting concluded at 16:10

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of