

Calling all Residents  
Of



Century Tower  
Dollery Drive  
Edgbaston  
Birmingham B5

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As you may already be aware, there has been an income of £7700 allocated from the Aerial Mast funds to be used for community improvements on Century Tower.

We have received a request to provide the block with security cameras from the fund to help alleviate some of the vandalism and crime that has recently taken place on the estate.

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Can you please inform Philomena Cronin, Housing Officer of the Priory Estate whether you are happy for the funds to be spent towards this project by completing the attach form and return it by no later than 10<sup>th</sup> December 2007.

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If we do not hear from you we may assume that you have no objections and wish the work to go ahead.

Thank you!!

## EDGBASTON BUDGET 2009/10

There are three separate budgets currently in spend, or in need of spending, during this financial year.

### 1. Community Improvement Budget

There is a total of £5,618 needing to be spent across the Edgbaston ward. It is the responsibility of the HLB to make proposals on behalf of residents. The Housing Department will provide consultations and costings advice. Examples of this kind of project could include new fencing, better or new signs, parking bays etc. To date, there are no formalised suggestions.

### 2. Communication mast budgets

This is applicable in the first place, to the residents of the blocks that have this equipment sited on their roof. Consultation on spending the various amounts has to be agreed by majority of residents in each block. If there are no initiatives for the blocks concerned (including the immediate environmental) then this money can be distributed to other areas in the constituency. Jennie Carter leads the initial consultation process. Blocks affected and amounts to be spent are detailed below:

Century Tower: £7,535 ( Both O2 and Vodafone )

Wickets Tower: £1,217 ( Orange )

Windermere House: £1,947 ( T-Mobile )

Example of ' Mast Money Usage' security lighting in block, electrical wall sockets on communal landings, redecorating entrance foyer etc.

### 3. Section 106 Money, Priory Estate Only

This is a one off sum in the region of £30,000 provided for residents of this estate as compensation for the new Optima Development here which was completed in 2006. This money has now been allocated following consultation with residents, councillors and Housing Officer. The completion of the Century Tower Car Park extension took up nearly two thirds of the agreed allocation. The remainder is to be spent on trip rail

to the priority side of this estate and to create a paved area to the side of Boundary House. The contact person for this expenditure is Diane Douglas, Senior landscape Development officer, Tel: 303 4764

Stephen Smith  
15 July 2009

**MINUTES OF THE EDGBASTON HOUSING LIAISON BOARD  
MEETING MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2009**

**Present**

David Spiers	Chair
Ron Singer,	Vice Chair
Kathy Wale,	HLB member
Terry Allen,	HLB Member
Nick Reynolds,	HLB Member
Maryse Jehan,	HLB Member
Gwen Spiers,	HLB Member
Dot Allen,	HLB Member
Kath Edwards.	HLB Member
Jim Martin,	Local Housing Manager
Stephen Smith,	Housing Officer (minutes)

**Guests**

Dennis Friel, Operations Manager, MITIE  
Sid Turner, Contract Team Manager for South (Client)

**1. Apologies**

Alan Bennett  
Councillor D.Alden  
Councillor F.Robinson  
Councillor J.Hutchings

**2a. Tenants Quality Promise (TQP), MITIE and Client**

Dennis Friel and Sid Turner introduced themselves and presented a brief overview summary on MITIE's recent performance (figures for which had been provided both prior to, and at this meeting). They then took a variety of questions and comments from the meeting

**2(a)1.** Ron asked about difficulties experienced with communication with MITIE, their contractor and the

customer. Dennis responded that if there was a missed appointment they would send an SRQ ( Service Request). Sid asked for particular details when an operative could not be contacted.

2(a)2. Terry mentioned an incident when a gas fitter was sent for an electrical job. Also concerned about contractors parking in the Disabled Bays. Dennis asked Terry for more information in order to investigate.

2(a)3. Kathy raised the outstanding repairs for water tank room doors at the top of Windermere House. Concerned that although these doors had been measured up... there was no completion yet. Stephen advised he had alerted MITIE and client to this problem.

2(a)4. Kathy asked about the level of service from the Vertex call centre. Felt there was a "need for decent training." Gave an example when she had mentioned Sue Richards Involvement and vertex gave emergency priority to a kitchen door repair.

2(a)5. Terry advised the meeting that previously Nigel Banham had said members could arrange a visit to the call centre.

2(a)6. Kathy produced a written sheet which was handed to MITIE. Kathy read out the sheet which identified her personal concerns. This included: (extract notes) "difficulty for tenants to find exact replacements for minor repairs e.g. difficulty in finding door latch to match." "Is there not a way BCC/MITIE could have supplies that tenants could directly have from them?" Kathy also added that she has "never seen a table of charges for rechargeable items... and that Vertex just state an item is "rechargeable." The points Kathy made were broadly agreed by members, and Sid and Dennis accepted these were areas that should be at least considered. They promised to get back to Kathy.

2(a)7. Gwen stated her personal view that she felt "the more fragmented an organisation became, the less likely it was to work."

2(a)8. The meeting thanked Dennis and Sid for their attendance, and members were advised that performance feedback for MITIE was likely to be a quarterly feature at

meetings.

**2b District comparison report for September 2009 + TQP  
(Sept 09 Performance Data)**

Jim went through the above performances, also providing and overview of Rent Arrear collection and the Empty (Void) Property Teams performance.

**2(b)1.** Chair advised listed target levels were fine, but their concerns are only centred around the areas where target is not being hit, and this should be highlighted. Jim replied that it was Central Governments wish to breakdown and present all figures.

**2(b)2:** Dot asked about the allocations and the difficulty facing people wanting to move to bungalows. On the same subject Terry also noted concerns about the time to re-let a flat in Boundary House. Jim responded that the forthcoming 'Choice Based Lettings' should open up access to all accommodation. Nick advised that he had seen a 'CBL' presentation and felt the information was good.

**2(b)3.** Jim advised that Mitchell Davis (Local Housing Manager for voids) could be invited to a future meeting – perhaps January or February 2010.

**2(b)4.** Kathy questioned the service standards for cleaning in high rise blocks. Advised she had attended a recent meeting with Tina Richards (and others) and had been advised that "mopping landings was only undertaken as necessary". Kathy felt that this was ambiguous.

**2(b)5.** Dot advised that she felt the "caretaker service was not so good" Jim said that he would speak to Garry Maddocks (Housing Officer – Estate Services) about this.

**2(b)6.** Ron asked for clear notification on; Duties/Time of Duties and cover arrangements for caretakers. Said he felt that the correct set up with temporary arrangements was 'not good' and "everyone should be notified on the service they should receive" Jim responded that this was a policy issue that he would take back.

**3. Minutes of Last Meeting (Reference numbers from previous minutes.)**

- **Item 6.2:** Maryse advised that it was only the Secure by Design doors that do not fit the existing frames and the pane of glass is separate from the door.
- **Item 3.9:** Terry advised the item should have read "new door" – rather than "windows"
- **Item 6.4:** Kathy advised that she had been partially misquoted. The true situation was that (extract quotes) "After twelve months of waiting for the missing tank room doors, Kathy advised to report it again to Vertex, who this time put it down as a 'one day repair' – leading to MITIE responding to secure doors that were not even in place. Kathy then spoke to Roger Davies who explained what should have happened: 'should have routine 28 days to be measured up.' Roger Davies assisted by inputting the repair correctly.

**4. Matters Arising**

**Item 6.6:** Terry advised he was still waiting for feedback on problems of reported flies at top of Boundary House.

**5. Budget**

**5.1.** Chair concerned about expenditure of the £8,700 money allocated to Century and Wickets Tower from communication masts companies. Advised he had been "told on good authority" that this money could not be carried over if it was not allocated."

**5.2.** Due to the amount of time taken on items 2(a) and 2(b) it was agreed that discussion regarding the HLB budgets would be adjourned until December meeting.

**6. City HLB**

**6.1** Chair briefly advised that he understood the issue of requesting criminal records for members was currently being re-assessed.

**7. Any Other Business**

7.1: Chair unhappy about the amount of notice given for an important meeting on the local involvement structure. The letter was dated 04/11/09 received on 05/11/09 and the meeting was for 10/11/09.

**8. Christmas Social Event**

8.1. It was questioned whether or not the available budget included Councillors that may be attending.

**Action:** Stephen to ask Jennie

**9. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

**Revision:** Start at 5.00pm, Monday 14 December 2009 at Barsham Close. Shorter meeting to be followed by Christmas Buffet.

**MINUTES OF THE EDGBASTON HOUSING LIAISON BOARD  
MEETING MONDAY 12 OCTOBER 2009**

**Present**

David Spiers	Chair
Ron Singer	Vice Chair
Alan Bennett	HLB Member
Gwen Spiers	HLB Member
Terry Allen	HLB Member
Dot Allen	HLB Member
Kathy Wale	HLB Member
Kath Edwards	HLB Member
Nick Reynolds	HLB Member
Marys� Jehan	HLB Member
Jim Martin	Local Housing Manager
Stephen Smith	Housing Officer (minutes)

**1. Apologies**

Councillor D Alden  
Councillor F Robinson  
Councillor J Hutchings

**2. Minutes of Last Meeting**

- Alan wished it to be noted that he did not feel the minutes were a fair representation of the meeting, in regard to matters involving the Roman Way Estate. Stephen asked for specific examples and when these were provided, apologised for the unintentional omissions.
- Gwen advised that she had asked about section 106 money, and this had not been referenced.
- Maryse advised there was no mention of recycling bins not being collected at Hampton and Richmond Court.

### 3. Matters Arising

3.6: Meeting advised that Councillor D.Alden has been in touch regarding McColls ramp access. 3 Month time period elapses in November 2009.

3.9: Terry reported on his continuing involvement with the Decent Homes Contract. Advised on keys to void flat in Boundary to allow contractors to fit new windows.

4.1: Alan advised 2 ASB signs still need to be fixed to Windermere House (as agreed by Mark Rodgers).

**Action: Stephen to chase Estate Services regarding this outstanding matter.**

6.2: Regarding preparation for Birmingham's Half Marathons, Terry expressed dissatisfaction with response from Jim Kelly (Head of International and local events, B.C.C). Advised he did not receive information in time, and felt they had not taken local residents access fully into account.

**Action: Gwen suggested this matter is raised at Ward Meeting.**

### 4 Budget

4.1: Ron raised concern about "a lot of money floating about."

4.2: Chair requested a report on the communication Mass Budget, especially for Century Tower.

**Action: Stephen advised would circulate the original Edgbaston Budget info overview sheet (dated 15 July 2009) to all members, and an update on project bids would be circulated at the next meeting.**

4.3: Clarification that Hampton/Richmond Courts only have external lighting in the passageway.

4.4: Nick advised he thought there was an additional £40k for 'Hollies Croft' via the Community Chest.

**Action: Nick to send Stephen details.**

4.7: Alan asked why there had not been a site meeting with John Jones for the Roman Way proposal. Stephen advised it had not been necessary because sufficient information had already been provided by them.

4.8: It was generally agreed by all members that there was a degree of uncertainty and a clear set of project proposals and remaining budgets needs to be distributed.

## 5. City Liaison Board

5.1: Chair reported back following Councillor Hutching's investigation. The CHLB remains suspended at present.

## 6. Any Other Business

6.1: Ron : Reiterated concerns about budget expenditure. Also concerns about timescale of Decent Home completion. Jim advised the kitchen improvements are an 'add-on'.

6.2: Maryse: Advised that the new 'Secure by Design' front doors do not properly fit the frames. Second pane of glass required at the top.

6.3: Alan: Advised he was putting in a complaint about MITIE. Gave a recent example of a plumbing problems which was not quickly resolved. Unhappy with response that "when the water is black-it is not an emergency!"

6.4: Kathy: Read out a statement advising members that she felt there was a "total lack of communication between MITIE and BCC." Gave a recent example when MITIE had cancelled communal repairs/replacement for tank room doors on roof which were long outstanding. After further complaints Roger Davies at Customer Services Input the repair as a "one day" – rather than routine. Kathy had two questions:

- A. Do MITIE not communicate with Housing for contact details prior cancelling a job?
- B. Do Housing Officers not complete regular block inspections anymore, to pick up on these items? Kathy quoted New Job Ref: 2580812 for Windermere and 258083 for Thirlemere. Kathy concluded by advising that it is "policy for MITIE to delete if no access".

**Action:** Jim responded that MITIE used to regularly attend HLB's and he would seek representation at the next meeting. He also advised residents to try to avoid calling the Vertex call centre at busy times if possible.

6.5: Gwen Requested details of next walkabout for the Priory Estate.

**Action:** Stephen advised he would contact her. Need to set up dates for rest of the area.

6.6: Terry: - Advised he felt it better if call centre was staffed by MITIE.

- Queried the noise disturbance from extremely early refuse collection.
- Raised a concern about residents at top of Boundary House having flies in their flats. Request investigation on roof etc.

6.7: Maryse: Further raised concerns about a recent spate of robberies in Richmond Court. Felt elderly tenants were vulnerable. Advised the block used to have a secondary communal entrance door (with intercom). Some concerns about how a letter box area in this secure foyer could work.

**Action:** Stephen to raise the issue with Technical Services Team.

## **7. Christmas Social Event**

7.1: Gwen advised that due to other previous commitments she would be unable to provide a buffet.

**Action:** Member agreed to holding the Christmas Buffet on the back of the December HLB on 14 December. It was further agreed to ask Jennie Carter to organise the approved caterers.

## **8. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

6.00pm, Monday 9 November 2009 at Barsham Close

**MINUTES OF THE EDGBASTON HOUSING LIAISON BOARD  
MEETING MONDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2009**

**Present**

David Spiers, Chair  
Gwen Spiers, HLB Member  
Terry Allen, HLB Member  
Dot Allen, HLB Member  
Kath Edwards, HLB Member  
Alan Bennett, HLB Member  
Nick Reynolds, HLB Member  
Kathy Wale, HLB Member  
Ron Singer, HLB Member  
Maryse Jehan, HLB Member  
Councillor J Hutchings  
Jennie Carter, Tenant Participation Officer  
Stephen Smith, Housing Officer (Minutes).

**1. Apologies**

Councillor F Robinson  
Councillor D Alden  
Jim Martin

**2. Minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2009**

- Correction: Apologies should have referenced Jim Martin.
- 6.1: ASB signs; should have reference for Priory Estate as well as Windermere House.
- 6.2: Should have referenced Kathy Wale and Alan Bennett, regarding the block cleaning.
- 4.5: Jennie confirmed that the communication mast budgets are to be targeted in the first instance, to residents of Century and Wickets Tower.

### 3. Matters arising

3.6. Regarding McColls: it was noted that Councillor Deirdre Alden had received message that "McColls planning application had been mislaid."

3.9 Terry updated meeting on progress with Decent Homes project. The plumbing problem in Boundary House was one of several issues raised on a 'wish list' passed to the client/contractors at a recent Design Team Meeting. Terry and Roger Howling (also from Boundary House) are now on the invitation list for these regular meetings. Stephen advised that he was looking for similar volunteers from Century and Wickets Tower and if anybody had any suggestions to contact him.

Terry also advised that he was seeking classification on the balcony doors (to be improved?). He was also meeting with fire prevention Officers.

6.3 to 6.8. Stephen advised the meeting that he would be setting up a separate meeting with Maryse to discuss in detail her various concerns regarding Hampton and Richmond Court.

**Action: Visit arranged for 1 October 2009**

### 4. Budgets

4.1. The matter of ASB signs for Hampton and Richmond Court and the Priory Estate were again raised.

4.2. The request for increased external street lighting in Wyatt Close to improve clarity of CCTV images was discussed, however this type of lighting is best raised by Councillors at Ward Committee.

4.3. Ron asked about increased external block lighting for Hampton and Richmond Court.

4.4. Chair raised concern about the ability to spend the most money budget within the financial year.

4.5. Chair asked about the roller-shutter doors for the bin rooms at Century and Wickets.

**Actions:**

- Jennie and Stephen to investigate the ASB signs
- Stephen to meet with John Jones on site at Priory Estate to discuss options to replace/dismantle high wall R/O Hollies Croft, and re-painting road lines.
- Jennie to issue proposal leaflets to Century and Wickets Tower regarding mast expenditure.

**5. City Liaison Board**

5.1. Chair asked for update on this. Fell that local HLB's were becoming isolated as a result of the CHLB suspension. A letter to all HLB members (dated 2 July 2009) from Councillor Lines was referenced.

**Actions:** Councillor James Hutchings agreed to see if he could find more information.

**6. Any Other Business**

6.1 Maryse advised there were now 2 cat houses in the communal rear garden. Increase in food being left and this was attracting further cats.

6.2. Terry concerned about the estates insulation on the day of Birmingham half marathon. Matter to be brought to attention at the next Ward Meeting.

6.3. Kath concerned about increase in Gangs on the estate, especially around Hollies Croft. Local PC Debbie Curry updated. Ask Police to attend the next Ward Meeting.

6.4. Kathy asked if anyone had heard about Phil Brookes 'recycling'?

6.5. Chair raised concerns about a six week delay for new bins and the annual tree pruning at Sir Harry's and Pershore Road.

6.6. Stephen distributed information regarding the Departments plan to bring back 'Rent free' weeks (by slight increases in the remaining weeks).

6.7. Stephen advised on the Martineau Gardens project and their recent interest in developing a plot of land on the Priory Estate. Information passed to the Chair and Gwen, who already knew about the Garden.

6.8. Jennie distributed Resident Skills Audit questionnaire and asked members to complete and return.

6.9. It was agreed to put "Christmas Social Event" on the next meetings agenda.

#### **7. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

6.00pm, 12 October 2009, at Barsham Close

Future Meeting Dates confirmed:

9 November 2009

14 December 2009

MINUTES OF THE EDGABASTON HOUSING LIASION BOARD MEETING  
MONDAY 20 JULY 2009 AT BARSHAM CLOSE

**Present:**

David Spiers	Chair
Gwen Spiers	HLB Member
Terry Allen	HLB Member
Dot Allen	HLB Member
Kath Edwards	HLB Member
Alan Bennett	HLB Member
Nick Reynolds	HLB Member
Kathy Wale	HLB Member
Maryse Jerhan	HLB Member
Cllr J Hutchings	
Paul Morris	Housing Officer for Edgbaston
Crystal Connolly	Assistant Housing Officer Minutes

**1. Apologises:**

Ron Singer  
Cllr Fergus

**2. Minutes of last meeting:**

3.2 Stephen Smith contacted Support Officer regarding Boundary House disabled parking there is only 1 emergency and 1 disabled.

Action : Paul Morris to go out and access parking situation.

Gwen Spiers raised concerns with McColls (passed around email from Stephen Smith and response from Ian Tingling). Chair adds he was under the impression that planning permission had been granted.

Gwen Spiers raised youth on motorbike had not been seen since police had intervened. Terry Allen added that he had seen the youth on the motorbike today.

Terry Allen raised plumbing in Boundary.

6.5 Century parking restrictions. Chair says all work is completed.

## Budget

### General Community Budgets

Ideas: Alan Bennett requested Roman Way low rise flats has no Perspex on upper floor to prevent dirt and snow ice

Action: Get Price for work. Also get same quote for priory out of Community Improvement Budget.

Dot Allen suggested play area for the children ( discussion took place )

Parking bays at boundary House

Action: Get quote on work

Kathy Wales enquired about Windermere House money (£618) to carry over from last year. Kathy showed minutes from meeting in which in stated that Cllr Lines had agreed this.

Aerial money from Century and Wickets to be spent on priory.

Need clarification on whether block budget has to be spent on block or ca be spent on surrounding area.

Request made for Proposal leaflets from Jenny Carter. Request made that we see all responses

106 money for shrubs and repaving. Thomas Vale to erect scaffolding on Boundary House. Terry Allen suggested that we suspend 106 works for shrubs and repaving until work on windows is complete. Can we suspend works?

### 5. City Liaison Board

Cllr suggest suspending city liaison board. Chair raises concerns that if we do suspend city liaison board then areas will not be able to sure information with each other. (Discussion took place)

Terry Allen asks if Sheltered Liaison Board has gone.

### Matters a rising

Terry Allen inquired as to whether balcony door will be done on decent homes. Is it council or tenants restorability?

### Any Other Business:

7.0 Date and Time of next meeting

6.00pm, 20 July 2009 at Barsham Close

MINUTES OF THE EDGBASTON HOUSING LIAISON BOARD MEETING

MONDAY 22 JUNE 2009 AT BARSHAM CLOSE

**Present:**

David Spiers      Chair  
Gwen Spiers      HLB Member  
Terry Alan        HLB Member  
Dot Alan          HLB Member  
Kath Edwards     HLB Member  
Cllr J Hutchings  
Stephen Smith    Housing Officer for Edgbaston  
Crystal Connolly Assistant Housing Officer (Minutes)

**1. Apologises:**

Alan Bennett  
Nick Reynolds  
Ron Singer  
Cllr Deidre Aldan  
Cllr F Robinson  
Kathy Wale

**2. Minutes of last meeting:**

Minutes agreed.

**3.0 Matters arising:**

Suggestion that Dot Alan became HLB member, all agreed motion passed.

3.1 Next police meeting 1 July at 10am

3.2 Stephen Smith (S.S) to contact John Jones for **disabled parking at Boundary**.  
Discussion took place regarding positioning of bays.

Action: *S.S confirmed he would investigate, but needed more details first.*

**3.3 Decent Homes:**

S.S advised: Thomas Vale to carry out windows work and other improvements on all three high rise blocks on Priory Estate. Programmed to be completed around Christmas 2010

3.4 T.A gave thanks to Phil Cronin with regards to foyer ceiling tiles at Boundary House, great job done

### 3.5 Event day parking:

Cricket season concerns with regards to lack of barrier. Parking is really bad on match days.

During tennis tournament there appears to be much stricter restrictions. Should be the same on cricket match days. Tennis gets independent security. Who is responsible for parking and traffic on match day. Long discussion took place in relation to parking.

### 3.6 McColls:

Gwen Spiers raised concerns of disabled access to McColls super market. Planning permission has been given but no further progress. Chair raised concerns with rubbish from shop. T.A advised that due to lease manager keeps changing. Cllr Hutchings suggested contacting Economic Development for both these matters

Action: S.S to pursue

### 3.7 Hollies Croft markings:

Concerns raised there is no stop signs for Hollies Croft car park entrance.

Action:

*S.S advised that this was not Highways but could be considered under budget expenditure.*

### 3.8 Drains:

Kathy raised that drains should be cleaned on Hollies Croft back of pub. Gwen Spiers approached manager who said that it was councils responsibility

### 3.9 Plumbing in high rise:

T.A says there is a serious water problem due to water tanks being on roof. Also raised concerns saying blockage is just being plunged to floor below. T.A has requested plastic not metal pipes as he feels this may ease the problem.

Chair says that same has happened at Century and Wickets. Chair requested that letter is sent out in relation to waste disposal.

Action: *S.S confirm he will check with decent homes when plumbing work is on programme for and send letter in relation to waste disposal*

#### **4.0 Budget:**

4.1 Chair raised budget. S.S relayed message from Jennie Carter, for members to start spending budget, and asked for good ideas on who to send the money

4.2 D.A says she would like remembrance garden for with money for Holliers Croft

4.3 Section 106 money to spend on outside of Boundary House landscaping. T.A suggests that rest of money should be for outside such as parking.

4.4 D.A suggested the idea of a visual entry system Boundary House.

4.5 Chair asked what is left of aerial budget, that aerial budget can be spent on estate

4.6 Chair suggests ramps and roller shutters for Century and Wickers like Boundary house.

4.7 T.A also confirms that roller system is useful but is concerned about shop people doing rubbish in public bin.

4.8 Chair requests update on budget for next meeting would like confirmation on how much they have to spend.

Action. S.S suggested sending budget summary sheet with next minutes

#### **5.0 City HLB:**

Chair reported the city board is still suspended due to concerns about CBI check. Chair says that no feedback on CBI check.

#### **6.0 Any Other Business:**

6.1 Kathy says she would like flowers out by Foster Way Dollery Drive by maisonette

6.2 Gwen Spiers enquired if anyone attends Safer Estates from Belgrave rd Edmund road police station. Gwen Spiers enquires as to why sergeant keeps changing. T.A advised police sergeant is to change again and new PSCO Anthony, to take current PSCOs place. Gwen Spiers concerned that there is no consistent representative for police in the area.

6.3 Gwen Spiers raises concerns with children from Wilmeote Court H.A Midland Heart several complainants to police. T.A confirms that the police have said that they can not confiscate bike. T.A suggested unmarked police car to come to Boundary. Police say that plan is in action with respect to the issues. Long discussion took place in relation to the above problem.

6.4 Cllr enquired as to where Phil Cronin had gone to. S.S advised that office staffing had been re-structured. Phil now covers a different area.

#### **6.5 Century Parking Restrictions:**

Cllr enquired about the progress of the Century Tower car parking extension and movement of an existing lamp post. S.S advised lamp post still to be moved contract due for completion soon.

#### **6.6 Birmingham New build:**

Cllr Hutchings promoted "Birmingham Municipal Housing Trust" plans to build 133 affordable houses in south and west Birmingham with intentions of building a further 500. Chair asks if housing is just going to be sheltered and elderly Cllr advises that there will be a mix of properties available. General discussion took place.

#### **6.7 Estate Walkabout:**

Gwen Spiers request next walkabout S.S confirm Monday 29 June meet at Century Tower at 10.00am.

#### **7.0 Date and Time of next meeting**

6.00pm, 29 July 2009 at Barsham Close

**Minutes of Edgbaston HLB held on 18 May 2009  
at 18:00 hrs at Barsham Close**

**Present**

Nick Reynolds	
Mitchel Dave	Local Housing Manager Empty Property Team
Rosemary Bellizia	Local Housing Manager Accessing Needs
Mark Rodgers	Housing department
David Spiers	Priory Estate
Terry Allen	Boundary House, Priory Estate
Kath Edwards	Priory Estate
Gwen Spiers	176a Bristol Road
Kathy Wale	Roman Way Estate
Philomena Cronin	
Ron Singer	

**1. Apologies**

Jennie Carter  
Dot Allen  
Allan Bennett  
Cllr J Hutchings  
Cllr D Alden  
Cllr F Robinson  
Vivienne Marriot  
Maryse Jehan

**2. Minutes of Last Meeting**

Amendments. AOB. Allan Bennett had stated he would like the broken Perspex in communal doors being replaced with Perspex.

**3. Matters Arising**

Mark Rodgers announced the result of ballot. There was one nomination for chair and one for vice chair. David Spiers was elected as the chair. Ron Singer as Vice Chair.

The nominations for the members was also agreed with

a show of hands.

Kathy Wale, Nick Reynolds, Gwen Spiers, Kath Edwards, Terry Allen to be members. Other members to be co-opted when they next attend a meeting.

Gwen Spiers stated there was still an ongoing problem on the Priory Estate with rubbish being dumped this time it was near to 31 Foster Way. It has been removed by the Estate Assistant.

Terry Allen informed the group that Sergeant Moore had been moved from the Priory, however had been replaced by Sergeant Terry Taylor.

Also, following the recent meeting with Dianne Douglas to discuss the details of the section 106 proposal. Terry wanted to know when the work would begin.

Stephen Smith to contact Dianne Douglas

Mark stated that Cllr Hutchings had contacted him to arrange a meeting with Tony Bailey, the Ward Support Office, and Housing to progress the proposal for community chest funding to enhance the Priory Estate.

Terry also reminded the group that residents needed two disabled parking bays next to Boundary House and requested that the markings on the road were improved.

David Spiers also stressed that road markings and speed bumps were needed in Hollies Croft.

Kathy Wale expressed her opinion that it had been a useful experience going with John Jamieson on an audit of the blocks. She would like some feedback regarding her proposals

Stephen Smith to contact John James for a quote.

Also Kathy enquired about the amount of Ariel mast funding for new financial year.

Garry Maddocks to check with John Jamieson

Nick Reynolds stated they are still waiting for ASB signs to be put up in the blocks.

Jennie Carter to confirm.

Terry Allen in concerned that children youths from the nearby Optima estate are playing outside Boundary House, using bikes throwing stones etc and not stopping this behaviour when asked to. Gwen

Garry Maddocks to chase.

confirmed that optima residents have had a newsletter from Optima but had not stopped this behaviour.

Philomena Cronin had stated that she had contacted Optima H.O and someone from Optima would attend Boundary House Police meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> May 2009

Sue Clinton to invite Optima to Edgbaston Safer Estates.

#### **4 Checks on Applications and Transfers**

Mark Rodgers introduced Mitchell Davies the Local Housing Manager , Empty Properties Team and Rosemary Bellizia Local Housing Manager , Accessing Needs Team.

Rosemary explained the new Housing Allocations Scheme which had been introduced in January 2009. This Policy operates within the legal framework set by the government but is a Birmingham City Council Housing Department Policy, introduced after consultation with the Housing Liaison Boards and Councillors.

Members then asked questions which Rosemary answered.

Mitchell then explained the policy for letting properties and how further checks were made to establish eligibility before letting a property. He also outlined the 'Leave It Clean' scheme and the 'Choice Based Lettings' Scheme.

Mark also explained that checks are made by the Estate Management Team when they complete a welcome visit within 20 days of the tenancy start date to check the tenants details.

Mitchell then answered members questions.

#### **5. City Housing Liaison Board feedback**

David Spiers informed the group that the City Housing Liaison Board had voted against Criminal Records Bureau checks being carried out on members and therefore at the present time the City Board was

suspended.

However Mark assured the board that local HLBs are continuing as usual.

**6. A.O.B**

David informed the group that the cricket season was due to begin on 26 May 2009 causing serious parking and congestion problems on the Priory Estate

He thanked Mark Rodgers on behalf of the group for all his hard work

Terry enquired if there was any progress on the ramp to McColls shop and what were the contractors Thomas Vale were to carry out on Boundary House.

Philomena to check with development department  
Stephen Smith to check with Decent Homes.

Nick Reynolds congratulated Gwen and Kathy on their performance in 'Bridges to the Future.'

**7. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

22<sup>nd</sup> June 2009 at 6pm Barsham Close

**Minutes of Edgbaston HLB held on 9 March 2009  
at 18:00 hrs at The Church of the Redeemer**

**Present**

Terry Allen	Boundary House
Dot Allen	Boundary House
Simon Moore	Police sergeant, Edward Road Police Station
Kathy Wale	R.W.R.G
Nick Reynolds	R.W.R.G
Chris Hoare	B.S.W.G
Philomena Cronin	BCC
Kath Edwards	Priory Estate
Gwen Spiers	Priory Estate
David Spiers	Priory Estate
Mark Rodgers	BCC
Phil Brook	Environmental Services

**1. Apologies**

Cllr D Alden  
Cllr J Hutchingson  
Cllr F Robinson  
Allan Bennett  
Ron Singer  
Jennie Carter

**2. Minutes of Last Meeting**

Agreed

**3. Matters Arising**

Kathy Wale confirmed that Ron Bowley had telephoned her and made a commitment that the ASB signs would be put up on the estate at the beginning of April.

Terry Allen thanked Mark as environmental bins are now being emptied regularly however still a problem with rubbish at the rear of the shops although Paul Franks has contacted the shop keepers.

PC to contact Paul Franks to check what further action could be taken.

#### 4. Guest Speaker Phil Brook Environmental Services

Phil introduced himself as the Council's Waste Minimalisation Officer – extending recycling facilities to all including those living in high and low rise flats. Blue (paper) and green (bottles and plastics) bins being put near to blocks. They have to be situated where they can be used easily, by the entrance or where other waste is collected. Brumcan black bins to be replaced by these new bins in the Edgbaston area, including Roman Way and Boundary House, if not done so at the end of the summer residents should contact Phil Brook tel:303 1935

Phil was asked about the bins blowing over and rubbish blowing around especially when they are empty. Dot suggested that weights are put into the bins.

Phil Brook stated this would be considered.

Chris informed the group that there was an ongoing problem on the waterworks estate with black bags being piled up by the refuse collectors on a Friday but not being collected.

Phil Brook to speak  
to Lawrence Turner  
Montague street  
depot

Gwen stated there was an ongoing unique problem on the priory estate because of having two different refuse collection centres, Montague street and Lifford Lane better co-ordination and more enforcement action against landlords needed.

#### 4a Guest Speaker Sergeant. Moore Edward Road

Sergeant Moore introduced himself as neighbourhood sergeant for the Priory and Benmore estates in charge of a team of 5 constables and 5 PSCOS he stated they were working with BASBU and taking action against young perpetrators of Anti Social Behaviour especially on the Benmore estate. Police have also reduced vehicle crime in the area. Also involved in getting squatters evicted from the firebird pub and 314 – 318 Pershore Road which is delaying development of the cricket ground.

Sergeant Moore invited the group to police 6 weekly tasking meeting next one 14 April 2009 at 7.00pm at Edward Road Church Centre

Sergeant Moore also he stated he was planning to restart Boundary House Police Liaison meetings and would ask an officer to contact Terry Allen.

Srt Moore also assured the group that he would include the rear of the shops in Hollies Croft in the local patrol plan.

#### 5. Section 106 Funding – Priory Estate

Newsletter should have read 'Priory estate' and 'Boundary house'. There was a discussion regarding details of the suggested options for spending £16,000 of the section 106 funding around the Priory Estate.

It was confirmed that bollards referred to in point 2 would be concrete bollards near to Boundary house to prevent cars driving over the grassed area.

PC to arrange site meeting with Dianne Douglas to confirm proposals.

The group did not think benches would be appropriate and asked if movable garden furniture would meet criteria to 'enhance' the area.

Terry Allen welcomed the proposal to renew the planting bed by Boundary house. Dave Spiers suggested any monies left over from Section 106 funding should be used to enhance the area at the front of the shops, new trip rail etc.

Phil Cronin stated the provisional start date for work to commence in Century tower car park is now 20 April 2009 and residents will receive a newsletter beforehand.

#### 6. Community Improvement Budget and aerial income spend

Mark Rodgers fed back to the group of the budget spend.

Community improvement budget

£1,500 to be carried forward

**7. Venues for future meetings**

It was agreed that efforts had been unsuccessful to encourage residents from the Waterworks estate to attend meetings. Meetings to be held at Barsham Close with possibility of Roman Way in the future.

Jenny Carter to confirm Chris would be able to use a taxi.

Dave Spiers informed the group the meeting of 20 April would be election of members.

Jenny Carter to confirm

**8. A.O.B**

Kath Edwards told the group that McColls shop still did not have disabled areas.

Phil Cronin to contact development Department.

Gwen Spiers asked if there would be any more done about the problem of match day parking on the priory estate. Sergeant Moore stated that would be with the council Highways Department.

Kathy Wale asked if tarmacing on Roman Way could be renewed especially on garage sites.

Garry Maddocks to arrange site visit with Nick and C.W.O

Kathy Also queried when the follow up ASB session would be

Mark to arrange her next meeting.

**9. Date and time of next meeting**

20<sup>th</sup> April 2009 6:00pm Barsham Close