

Red Hall 3 Way Meeting on 10/10/08
Red Hall Community Centre

Present

Cllr Geoff Walker	Tom Cowan (RHCA)
Norma Graham (RHRA & CC)	Doreen Slater (RHRA)
Frank Greenwell RHRA	Wilma Cowan (RHCA & RHRA)
John Herdman (DBC)	Nathan Hopkins Groundwork
Rosi Thornton (CDW)	

Guest Speaker: John Herdman Environmental Crimes Action Team DBC

John Herdman explained the nature of his team and the type of work they do for the Council's Environmental Crime Enforcement section. They are currently a small team but they are kept very busy and include the Dog Warden Andy Wood. Anti-social behaviour issues are dealt with by the Uniformed Wardens during the late afternoon and evening and the team can be reached on the following telephone number: **UNIFORMED WARDENS: 01325-346831 or 07816 820048**

John and the Environmental Crime Action Team deal with the following issues:

- Litter in parks and streets
- Litter dropped from vehicles – please give time, date & car registration
- Town Centre problems during lunch times
- Household waste put out at wrong day time or being illegally dumped
- Commercial waste removal from shops & businesses – enforcement
- Fly tipping and waste dumping which carries heavy fines
- Licensed waste carriers are monitored to make sure they work correctly
- Graffiti removal in conjunction with Groundwork
- Support for communities with litter picks
- Fly posting of leaflets & posters – illegal, always followed up & removed
- Abandoned shopping trolleys – Supermarkets have responsibility to help
- Dog waste & fouling – Council's 'Dish the Dirt' campaign is leading to a high level of prosecutions and the introduction of a 'Dog Control Order'
- Original fine of £50 is to be raised and a future consultation is due next year about a dog ban to be introduced in churchyards, schools and playgrounds
- Removal of stray, abandoned and dangerous dogs is now handled by the Council and they are taken to a pound at Hundens Lane depot first
- Abandoned vehicles and untaxed vehicles after a month's expiry date
- Nuisance vehicles – repairs to vehicles on the side of the road
- Selling cars on the side of the road, such as those regularly seen on the corridor area of North Road. This problem has been successfully tackled
- Littering outside of shop fronts eg. sandwich & fast food shops like Greggs
- Motorcycle nuisance is a large area of work and is often tackled with ongoing support from both the Police and the Community Wardens. It's important for every incident to be reported to help with prosecutions.

Other people who can help with problems in the Red Hall area are:
Natalie Atkins – Housing & regular Estate Walkabouts
Peter Burns – Street Scene
Becky Waring – Groundwork Street Champions

Groundwork Report from Nathan Hopkins

Nathan reported back on a number of projects that Groundwork are involved with on Red Hall

- Graffiti Removal packs are now available for local residents who can use these for treating small scale damage, as part of the Street Champions Programme. Larger problem areas need to be dealt with through John Herdman and Street Scene. Training can be given in using the packs if needed, please contact **Nathan on 01325-353791**
- Virgin Cable Boxes art project idea. Nathan & Rosi from the Community Partnership have been looking at the idea of a community art project to improve the dark green telephone cable boxes on the estate, which are often the target for graffiti. The Arts Development Team of the council would also like to get involved with this project if it gets going. Nathan showed a slide presentation of his research into this idea which has been done with local artists in Brisbane, Australia and asked the group for comments. It was agreed that the standard of the artwork was very high and attractive and the group would like to look at following up the idea for the following year. Local people on the estate will be involved in choosing the artists involved and in setting the themes for the painted box designs
- Tom & Wilma will keep the slideshow on a Red Hall laptop to help other local groups of all ages see what the idea involves and what the cable boxes could look like in the future.
- Nathan will approach Virgin Media to get their support for the cable boxes project long term and to fund the cost of the painted boxes to be coated with an anti-graffiti seal to preserve the finished designs once they are completed.
- Rosi will research funding for the project to cover the costs involved including the paint, the artists prizes and the publicity and promotion of the project from start to finish. It was agreed to look at the idea of having a arts trail, postcards or a leaflet about the cable boxes once they are painted if the project goes ahead.
- Multi-Use Games Area – Nathan explained that this process has taken a lot longer than planned due to the recent dig and it's findings, the time involved in local consultation about moving the play areas around and the search for more funding to get all the improvements that local people have asked for, including suitable lighting for the Muga. The plans are being looked at now and Nathan offered to talk to local people about the project if they either contact him by telephone or by popping in to the Thursday Tea & Toast sessions at the Community Centre. The Muga should be in place next year.

Red Hall Community Centre Association

Tom & Wilma reported that the Community Association has a full programme of activities each week, but would like to see more things on offer for the community over the weekends. They asked if this is something that members of the Community Partnership could give support with in the future. Some of the new local members of the Partnership were looking at the idea of holding regular table top sales if this is allowed? Wilma explained that the Licensing Section of the Council have rules about the types of fundraising activities that can take place in community centres and this has already been looked at. The cost of a license would be £30 a year for a small number of events and this has to be investigated again before anything new can be organized to take place in the centre. Rosi agreed to look at this further and report back at a future meeting.

Red Hall Community Partnership

The Partnership is supporting the cable boxes art project with Groundwork and Rosi is also helping Lianne and the Parent and Toddlers Group with fundraising applications. The Tool Library is still going well and funding is being looked for to allow all the Tool Libraries across the town to survive after the current funding runs out at the end of March next year. The Red Hall Reveller is due to have another edition before Christmas and Rosi is currently talking to Phil Maven to see if he is willing to take organize and edit the community newsletter project back on board. Can all groups with news and articles for the next edition of the reveler please email them to Rosi in the meantime while arrangements are being discussed.

Red Hall Residents Association

Members of the Residents Association mentioned that their meetings this year have been well attended by representatives from the Council but they would like to have more active members from local residents. They would also like better feedback from the Countryside Team about the progress of the Nature Reserve and the dangers involved in the entrance, which is sited right on the curve of Coombe Drive. Many local people fear this could lead to accidents with young people who ride bikes and use skateboards at speed on the nature reserve path and don't always stop at the edge of the road.

They also reported some damage to the area including some of the fencing, paths and gate. Finally, local fishermen would like to know what plans are being put in place to stock the fishing ponds with the correct type of fish. Nathan explained that his work brings him into close contact with the Countryside Team and he will pass these concerns on and Rosi will send a copy of the notes from the meeting to Rob George and Phil Roxby.