

CHELSTON AND COCKINGTON WARD PARTNERSHIP MEETING

Venue: Torbay Family Church, Old Mill Road, Chelston on Tuesday 30th Nov 2004

The meeting was attended by:

Will Hood	Chairman
Pamela Macey	Secretary
Insp Mel Broad	Senior Inspector Torquay Police
Sgt. Adrian Leisk	Neighbourhood Team Sergeant
WPC Gael Hammett	Neighbourhood Beat Manager - Chelston
PC Nick Jones	Neighbourhood Beat Manager - Cockington/Livermead
Elizabeth Luxton	Chelston Tenants and Residents Association
Shirley Maldini	Chelston Tenants and Residents Association
Christina Short	Chelston Tenants and Residents Association
Irene Brindley	Chelston Tenants and Residents Association
Phil and Sandra Smith	Chelston Parks Friends' Group
Mark Chappell	Lower Chelston Residents' Association
Barbie Keegan	Lower Chelston Residents' Association
Patrick Walker	Campaign for Restoration of Walnut Road Fountain.
The Rev A Macey	Vicar of Cockington and Chairman of Governors for Sherwell Valley Primary School
Lyn Smith	Chelston Community Association and V/C Preston Primary Governors.
Ian Hancock	Head teacher Preston Primary School
Sandy Guerton-Bryan	Head teacher Cockington Primary School
Ron Ashcroft	Deputy Head teacher of Torquay Girls Grammar School
Andrew Medhurst	Business Manager of Torquay Boys' Grammar School
John Taylor	Wessex Trains
Michael Gray	Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator for Avenue Road.
Derek Stone	Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator for Grenville Ave.
Jim Bagwell	Livermead Residents/Torbay Civic Society
Julian Carnell	Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust
Olwyn Barker	Secretary of Cockington Village Residents' Association
Jill Holt	Cockington Forum
Ray Brewer	Hollicombe Action Group, (Housing)
Bob Plumb	Torbay Youth Service (Torquay)
Kerry Sims	Torbay Youth Service (Torquay)
Clive Brooks	Old Mill Road Traders Association
Mike Wade	Drug Action Team
Bill Allen	Torbay Family Church
Rev. Bob Toms	Torbay Family Church
Cllr Loretta McHugh	Ward Councillor
Cllr Jean Cope	Ward Councillor
Jayne Erskine	Performance Manager PricewaterhouseCoopers

Apologies received from:

Bob Horne - Kirsty Passmore - Peter Shepherd - Sharon Millman

- 1. Will Hood welcomed** every one to the meeting and thanked them for attending, then asked everybody present to introduce themselves.
- 2. Minutes of the last meeting.** Everybody present received and read the minutes from the previous meeting. Barbie Keegan (local resident), seconded by Mike Gray NHW coordinator proposed that the minutes of the previous meeting on Tuesday 28th September 2004 be accepted as an accurate record of what was discussed. ***All Agreed.***
- 3. Matters Arising.** (Reports)

Youth Club.

Bill Allen reported that the Torbay Family Church had met with Torbay Youth Services regarding the setting up of a local youth club. It was generally felt between both parties that because of a clash of values and the overall opinion that the venue was not the best suited for a youth club, it was decided that the idea would not be feasible at this stage.

Unfortunately it also looks like the Junior Youth club at Chelston Methodist Church is to close. In view of this the "Torbay Youth Service" is currently assessing the needs of the children in the Chelston Ward Area. They stated that they are presently looking at having Street youth workers in the area from January.

Action – The Rev A Macey is to meet with Bob Plumb from the "Torbay Youth Service" re feasibility of a youth club at the proposed new St Peter's Centre. A representation from the "Torbay Youth Service" will also be joining the "steering group" to assist the ward partnership in driving the themes of the community plan forward.

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

Michael Gray reported that this was now up and running in Avenue Road with some assistance from certain members of the LCRA. Approx 20 properties and 30 people within the Avenue Road area are now involved. Other areas are being invited to participate in this much-valued scheme. Anyone interested is asked to contact Michael Gray. Derek Stone reported no new members in the Grenville Avenue scheme. Interest should also be directed to Derek Stone.

Walnut Road Fountain.

Patrick Walker reported to the meeting that he had applied to the Scarman Trust for funding but at present they had informed him that they are over subscribed at present. This area of Walnut Road was probably originally the village green at one time. It is hoped that once the scheme is up and running and the fountain fully restored, the area will eventually also have improved lighting and seating.

Action – Patrick Walker to contact the Heritage Forum as mentioned by Julian Carnell and reapply to the Scarman Trust in the near future. Julian Carnell is to submit to the current Ward Partnership Chairman the name of a representative from the Torbay and Countryside Trust to sit on the "steering group".

Removal of Graffiti

Will Hood thanked every one for the list of sites where graffiti needs removing. This will be an ongoing project, so please keep reporting new sightings. Russell Bammens (Probation Services) has agreed that the community punishment team will remove the graffiti. Superstore chain "Focus DIY" has given 50litres of white textured paint for the task of removing the graffiti from walls. It is important however, to identify "who owns the walls". *Gerry Bennett and Ian Williams of Torbay Council have given authority to the Ward Partnership to remove graffiti from "council property" without the need to keep consulting with them each time.* Will Hood suggested that "where possible" local residents should "actively participate" in removing graffiti where they can. For example, starting with walls within their own boundaries. This he felt would set a "good example" of our community taking "more responsibility and pride" in where we all live. It could also encourage others to become involved!

It was noted that steps would need "power washing" but Sgt Adrian Leisk informed the meeting that this was possible, as it had been successfully achieved in other areas of the Bay.

4. Community Safety.

Mark Chappell on behalf of the LCRA rose what they see as a major concern of car parking at the bottom of Walnut Road near to the junction of Avenue Road. He read out a letter from Stagecoach supporting their concern and the need for action over frequent blocked access.

Will Hood asked Mark that a copy of the letter be given to the Police.

Insp Mel Broad reported that there was a moratorium over new yellow lines at the moment pending the council taking over responsibility for parking and traffic wardens from 1st April 2005. From which point all monies raised by fines will go to the council to help with roads and safety.

Concerns were expressed about emergency vehicle access in Grenville Road because of car parking at night. However it was pointed out by WPC Gael Hammett that this "was not" illegal parking.

Action – *Concerns regarding parking to be taken to local Police surgeries.*

PC Nick Jones raised concerns regarding school crossing patrols. At present there are no crossing facilities at all at Preston School off Old Paignton Road. Ian Hancock, head teacher, supported this concern for pupil safety especially as Preston was one of the few schools with only one entrance point.

Action – *Nick Jones with support from the ward councillors to approach the Highway Agency to install lights and/or traffic calming facilities urgently.*

5. Environment

Torquay Train Station

John Taylor from Wessex Trains reported that Wessex Trains were working in conjunction with Torbay Council and had submitted a bid to refurbish the

station buildings in conjunction with the Local Transport Plan. Hopefully the result of the bid would be known in December.

He informed the meeting that there were plans to have a new ticket office on the up side of the station and that it was also hoped to lease parts of the building. Concerns were expressed about the steps and bridge linking the platforms, which are filthy. It has become a public right of way. There is a question of whether to close it during the night hours. At present it is unknown who is responsible for lighting at the rear of the station. PC Nick Jones sought permission to have the present wooden panels painted. John Taylor agreed! Funding issues will also have to be looked into!

Action *Will Hood will make a beginning at forming a sub-committee to look into this project. John Taylor and Will Hood will establish contact with each other prior to the next meeting to discuss issues of progressing the project further. Nick Jones will also co-ordinate with the heads of Cockington Primary and Preston Primary School regarding the painting of murals.*

Hollicombe Development

Ray Brewer reported that it had been announced in March that 148 houses would be built on the old gas works site. This had raised worries over access of cars etc. The Torbay Local Plan made provision for 50 houses but apparently this was uneconomic for the developers. Ray Brewer felt that this area should be developed into a public open space. Jim Bagwell had received a letter from Second Site Property that they are reviewing their application. Will Hood proposed that he responds to the letter and that they contact local representatives at a separate meeting so becoming part of the solution to the present stalemate!

Action *- Will Hood will contact Second Site Property to establish whether or not they intend to proceed with their plans for the area!*

Preston School

Concerns were expressed about the safety of the environment for Pupils at Preston School in view of the play site nearby and the public footpath by the school boundary. Julian Carnell from Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust spoke about the newly formed Environment Forum and its input into the Community Plan which itself was being continually updated.

Action *– That environment would be on the next agenda and that someone from the Environment Forum would always attend our meetings. This issue will be addressed again at the next meeting.*

6. Education.

Senior schools are now learning of the importance and responsibilities of citizenship. Issues of known anti-social behaviour from pupils of a school to be taken up with the senior management of that school or raised at the police surgeries.

Action *– Ron Ashcroft from Torquay Grammar School for Girls will now be on the “steering group” to represent the theme of Education. A sub-committee will also be formed by all local schools within the ward area to*

ensure full representation and this would also ensure that “all views” from each school would be expressed at each Ward Partnership Meeting.

7. Health and Social Care

Unfortunately no one was present from any of the local GP surgeries.

Action – *re invite reps from GP surgeries to our next meeting!*

Drug and Alcohol Awareness

There followed a wide ranging debate on the value of drug and alcohol awareness education and the “Frank Campaign” amongst others. Mike Wade from the Drug Action Team was concerned that it appeared that their work was not appearing to have an impact on the wider community – need for a higher profile? Or publicity blitz in the area? Jim Bagwell (Livermead resident) raised the question that would a lot of posters in the area not send out the wrong subliminal message?

This again supported the work of Youth street workers.

Action – *Revisit this area on next agenda. Will Hood to establish contact with Drug Action Team to attempt to identify a representative to sit on the “steering group”.*

8. Any other business

Phil Smith – will thank the parks dept. for stopping dogs in the park

Bob Toms – Old Mill Road Christmas Activities on Sat. December 4th.

Lyn Smith – that Senior Citizens’ issues be on the next agenda.

Cockington Village Residents Association has been awarded a lottery grant re recording and presenting Cockington and its history. Details of relevant local past history would be much appreciated.

NHW – some of the details on the back of Watch Word are now out of date.

Open Government Legislation – these minutes would be on the web at

www.torbay.gov.uk/lsp

It was agreed by a vote of 17 for, 4 against and 12 abstentions that these meetings should take place at two monthly intervals.

9. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 1st February 2005

7pm – 9pm.

**Venue – St Peter’s Church Hall, Queensway.
(Opposite Haywain Public House)**

The meeting closed with thanks to Torbay Family church for their hospitality in letting us use their meeting room.