



HOE NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM
MEETING HELD ON 25 JULY 2018

Present: Fleur Ball, Audrey Clarke, Ben Cooper, Sue Dunn, Hugh Janes, Joan Jackson, Debbie Jones, Jo Miller, Robin Miller, Chris Penberthy, Penny Tarrant, Karen Thurston, Chloe Wilcock, Carole Worrall, Martin Worrall, Tim Marler, Graham Lobb.

Apologies: Janice Cawthorn, Chris Clarke, Dave Curno, Sarah Gibson PWP, Barry Huxley, Dave and Pam Ward

In Attendance: Linda Gilroy, Stuart Bakewell (Westward Housing Area Manager), Cllr Sally Haydon, Cabinet Member for Customer Focus and Community Safety, Police Inspector Robin Loveridge, Jill Moore (Westward Housing Service Manager), David Ryland (Community Connections Operations Manager)

1 Penny Tarrant welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Jon Morcom for the use of the Hayward Room at the Duke of Cornwall Hotel.

2 Linda Gilroy

Linda Gilroy updated the Forum about the plans to erect a statue to Nancy Astor on the Hoe. Chris Penberthy is taking the project forward on behalf of Plymouth City Council. A website will be launched in September and anyone who is interested in the project should contact Linda Gilroy by email (gilroyl@hotmail.co.uk). Current thinking is that the statue should be in front of Elliot Terrace, but has not yet been through Planning. It will cost around £100,000 which needs to be raised, and will involve a competition for local arts students for the design. The project is working with Alexis Bowater who

crowdfunded the Merchant Seaman's monument, the committee for which is also providing help. The Astor family is aware of the planned statue.

3 Plymouth House

A panel representing various aspects of the management of Plymouth House had been convened by Chris Penberthy to discuss Hoe Neighbourhood Forum members' concerns regarding recent incidents. Residents described various incidents and their concerns regarding anti-social behaviour, open drug dealing, drug-taking, people urinating in public places, intoxication and the effect of these behaviours on visitors to Plymouth who stay in accommodation nearby.

Plymouth House managers told the meeting there are always at least three members of staff at Plymouth House and up to nine during the day, who will intervene in anti-social behaviour involving residents provided it is safe to do so. If not, the police should be called. Not all Plymouth House residents have substance abuse problems. Each person is assigned a support worker who establishes their individual needs and sets up a programme tailored to them. Staff also patrol the streets nearby to ensure the residents are not causing concerns locally.

Contact the police if someone is in immediate danger, or drug dealing is taking place. The 999 Service does not necessarily have local knowledge whereas the local Sargent and PCSOs do. If needles are found contact Plymouth City Council's Street Cleaning Team. For issues like loud music, contact Plymouth House direct.

The focus of the services involved is concentrated on where the phone calls are most numerous. Using emails (101@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk) to report incidents results in a paper trail being created and can assist with tracking persistent problems. Staff from Plymouth House would step up local patrols to identify if their residents were causing problems.

It was pointed out that if needles are left on their property, the costs of needle disposal become the onus of the local business or property owner. Some members expressed concern that Mayflower 2020 is being undermined by some of the Plymouth House residents' behaviour.

It was recognised that there were issues in the back lane, and that although £70,000 had been spent on CCTV there were problems. More bins were requested and a sharps bin in a discreet location.

Police Inspector Robin Loveridge said that Plymouth's night-time economy and the problems that can be generated by it are the same as in Bournemouth, Cardiff and Bristol. Resources have to be targeted and enforcement action is only taken when necessary. Simply moving a problem somewhere else is not the answer, although there had been an increase in rough sleeping, street drinking and begging recently. Housing the homeless is a huge drain on the Council's resources.

The discussion took place for almost an hour and highlights are reported above. Please see below for escalation procedures for the various bodies.

- 4 The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.
- 5 Please see attached report for current Planning applications.
- 6 Better Places

Chris Penberthy and Penny Tarrant had met with Cllr Mark Lowry who has responsibility for Finance and Corporate Estate for Plymouth City Council. There is no business case for borrowing £27 million this project originally required.

The Armada Way plan is being rethought, and subdivisions are under consideration by each area's stakeholders. The area from San Sebastian Square to the Naval War Memorial comes within the remit of HNF.

Current plans do not now include a hotel on the Registry Office site, as other developments in Plymouth will be providing the facilities required, and HNF is therefore asked to come up with a planning statement for the site around the turn of the year.

The problem of the city centre footprint, however, remains, exacerbated by the fact that banks and insurance companies no longer require city centre locations. Current suggestions being examined include increasing the height of the buildings either side of Armada Way to six to eight storeys, to be used as a mix of private and public residential housing with community spaces on Armada Way, using Section 106 funding. Ideas are being sought by Cllr Lowry for Armada Way and the buildings on The Lido. Suggestions are also sought for small level spends for the top of the Hoe from West Hoe to The Citadel to improve the environment.

7 Any Other Business: Sue Dunn

The University had once more very kindly invited the members of Hoe Neighbourhood Forum and Hoe Conservation Area Residents' Association to a Drinks Party to be held in the Post Ceremony Reception Marquee on Plymouth Hoe, to take place on Saturday, 22nd September 2018 from 8 pm – 9.30 pm. For security reasons, entrance is by ticket only.

Tickets will be available at HCARA meetings. The last date for booking is at the HCARA meeting on 4th Sept. Please email suedunn934@gmail.com for further information.

Tickets will also be on sale for "Plymouth Hoe Over the last 150 years," a talk to be given by Chris Robinson in the Astor Room at Crown Plaza Hotel on Tuesday, 13th November 2018, 6.30 for 7.00 pm start. Tickets £7.50 will also be available from Sue at the HNF and HCARA meetings.

8 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be at 7.00 pm on **26th September** at the Hoe Bowling Club.

NB – This is a **change** to what was announced at the meeting. We were intending to meet in August but a lot of people are away and we have come to a natural break in our work programme. Let's consider this our summer recess.

The working group has, over the last few weeks, spent many hours reviewing the Aecom report, which is an excellent evidence base for our emerging Neighbourhood Plan. This has now gone back to Aecom for final editing. We hope to publish it soon. This will then inform next steps towards writing our plan.

More information about how we hope to do this will come out shortly. There will be a lot of opportunities for everybody to get involved!

Thanks go to Erica, Paul, Hilary, Carole, Debbie, Graham and Keith for their hard work.



25th July 2018 – HNF PLANNING PRESENTATION

UPDATES:

The Crescent – Student Block

Reported in the Herald – “Brightly-coloured stickers applied without permission have now been pulled down and replaced by subtler green panels following further talks between the owner and the Council, as the original panels were considered by the Council to be harmful to the appearance of the building and its surroundings.”

3 Osborne Place, Lockyer St

Application for internal alterations to improve bathroom and en-suite facilities.

No public comments were received and PCC have concluded that:
“The proposal will not cause any significant harm to the listed building's special architectural and historic interest and is therefore Granted conditional approval.”

NEW APPLICATIONS

19 St James Place West

PCC has received a Pre-Application Development Enquiry for erection of one new dwelling.

We have no details as yet but it would seem most probable that this is a proposal to build on the parking area at the rear of the building.



Escalation Policy - Plymouth House

For non-emergency reports where residents of Plymouth House are involved please call Plymouth House on 01752 660321.

All calls will be logged and passed to the management team for follow up at the earliest opportunity.

Alternatively you can email:-

jill.moore@westardhousing.org.uk Service Manager or

Sue.johns@westwardhouing.org.uk Area Manager

Please cc. chris.penberthy@plymouth.gov.uk

(Councillor Penberthy will then pass it on to the PCC Community Connections Team so that they can track stuff not going via police contact).

Please remember that the police should be contacted on 999 for emergency situations

For less urgent incidents, which require logging with the police, please call 101 or email:-

101@dc.police.uk