**BOROUGH OF KETTERING**

**TENANTS' FORUM**

**Meeting held - 8th December 2011**

**Present:** Cllr Derek Zanger (Chair),Cllr Keli Watts,

Cllr Duncan Bain, Cllr Maggie Don, Cllr Michael Brown

**Tenant Representatives**: Martyn Lund

Lynne Lund

Brian Kimpton

 Josephine Copson

 Trevor Nash

 Sandra Nash

 Colin Medlycott (chair)

 Moira Brown

 Grahame Holman

 Brent Woodford

 Jim French

 Barry Woodcock

 Lisa Durham

 Lorrain Dams

 Stephen Panther

Gordon Grummett

Linda Porter

Colin Rowe

**Also Present:** Linda Nash (Housing)

 Nigel Richards (Housing)

 Leona Mantle (Housing)

Paul France (Housing)

Neal Gibson (Housing)

 David Pope (Committee Administrator)

 Paul Davies (Fire Safety Officer)

**11.TF.67** **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Neil Bradley, Sam Winchester, Susan Milne, Brian Eldridge, Cllr June Derbyshire and Cllr Jenny Henson

**11.TF.68** **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

 None

**11.TF.69** **VISITORS RIGHT TO SPEAK**

 None

**11.TF.70** **MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th November 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**11.TF.71** **MATTERS ARISING**

None

**11.TF.72** **MATTERS RAISED BY TENANT REPRESENTATIVES**

 No updates from last meeting

**11.TF.73 FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT**

Paul Davies attended the meeting and gave a presentation relating to fire risk assessment on general needs blocks with communal areas. Examples were given of the best examples of fire safety and the worst, including sources of ignition in communal corridors or stairs, inappropriate storage of waste and damaged fire doors.

John Conway advised the forum that the council was looking to adopt a communal area fire policy across all stock. A draft of the policy would be presented to a future forum for the views of tenants. It was noted that a schedule of works would be in place by the time Paul Davies leaves the council with an annual programme of fire risk assessments taking place, validated externally every couple of years.

**11.TF.74 ESTATE INSPECTION FEEDBACK**

Paul France gave a presentation to the forum regarding the recent estate inspections. The works and improvements carried out on the Highfield Road estate following analysis of inspection sheets were outlined in detail. These included brush clearance, graffiti removal, fence and gate repairs and the installation of dog fouling bins. The success of the front door paint pack pilot was noted along with further improvements scheduled for 2012 and inspections in January and April. Members commented how residents had said how nice the area looked and that they wished to keep the area in that condition.

It was further noted that Highfield Road had been seen as a test bed and the council would be looking at rolling out this standard of estate inspection throughout the borough.

**11.TF.75 FEEDBACK FROM TENANTS**

 Connect

It was noted that the latest edition was ready and the next edition was due to commence.

Tenants’ Forum Monitoring Group

Colin Medlycott advised the forum that the name of the group be changed to Tenants’ Overview and Scrutiny Panel. The Chair asked members of the forum their opinion and it was unanimously agreed to amend the name.

 East Midlands Tenant Participation Forum

Brent Woodford spoke to the forum regarding the East Midlands Tenant Participation Forum which was held in Melton Mowbray in November. The aims of the forum and a description of the workshops attended were provided. Issues and problems facing housing were provided to the forum, including a shortfall of properties nationally by 2025. The aim of the forum was to raise tenant participation across the region and also to encourage more effective communication, consultation and participation.

**11.TF.76** **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

John Conway gave current void figures for council properties and provided the forum with the Annual report for 2010/11.

Colin Medlycott provided the forum with the receipt regarding the donation of the prize fund from a quiz at the East Midlands Tenant Participation Forum to the Salvation Army.

**11.TF.77** **PRIZE DRAW**

 Josephine Copson won the prize draw.

**11.TF.78** **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the next meeting would take place on 12th January 2012.

*(The meeting started at 6.30pm and ended at 8.07pm)*

Signed......................................................................

*djp*