



10 February 2020

Dear Member

Clydesdale Local Housing Forum

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Clydesdale Local Housing Forum.

Date: Tuesday 18 February 2020
Time: 2.00 p.m.
Venue: Memorial Hall, St Leonard Street, Lanark

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Minute of Previous Meeting
3. Matters Arising
4. Local Updates: Rigside
LanTRA
Sheltered Housing
5. Update from Tenant Participation Co-ordination Group
6. Housing Update: Rent Management Policy Consultation
7. Any other Competent Business
8. Date and Time of Next Meeting: Tuesday 24 March 2020 at 2.00 p.m.
Memorial Hall, Lanark (Main Hall)

If you need this information in another language or format, please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs.

Phone: 0303 123 1015
Email: equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk



Clydesdale Local Housing Forum Meeting

Working in association with Housing and Technical Resources

Tuesday 21 January 2020
Held in Memorial Hall, Lanark

Present
Mr E Archer
Mrs L Chapman
Mrs M A Patrick
Mrs J Ramage
Mrs G H Steven
Ms T K Durie
Mr D Muldoon
Councillor C McClymont
Councillor R Lockhart
Jacqueline McLeish, SLC

Apologies
Mr W Hamilton
Mr I Mitchell
Mr A Patrick
Mrs M Lindsay
Councillor P Corbett
Councillor E Logan
Councillor I McAllan
Councillor J Marrs
Councillor C McGavigan
Councillor A Allison
Stephen Connor, TIS

1. Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

- 1.1 Previous minute was approved by M A Patrick and seconded by E Archer.
- 1.2 J McLeish advised that individual surveys will take place this calendar year within the Cruden properties which will include owner/occupiers.
- 1.3 Noted that the plaque has been erected at Springbank Cemetery, but there is an issue with the spelling on the plaque – this is currently being resolved.
- 1.4 Smyllum Walkabout - J McLeish asked M A Patrick group what their views were on frequency of these walkabouts etc. M A Patrick to discuss at the next LANTRA group meeting and provide an update of the March meeting of the Forum.
- 1.5 J Ramage noted a good return of rent surveys.
- 1.6 Noted that the community hall in Rigside has now been repaired.
- 1.7 Discussion took place on void properties and flooring left by outgoing tenant. J McLeish advised that all flooring must be removed at termination of tenancy as this may cause an obstruction when void works are taking place.
- 1.8 J McLeish advised that Committee approval has been given to test the market in relation to void properties in Rigside, Douglas Water and Glespin.
- 1.9 J McLeish noted that the land at Stuart Terrace will be advertised on the Property Bulletin across the Council in January, we will then test marketing this site however it will state that planning permission will be considered at a later date.

2. Local Updates

2.1 Rigside

No representatives present from Rigside as One O'clock Club Burns Supper takes place today.

Noted that the Rigside Village book has now been published.

2.2 LanTRA

M A Patrick provided an update as follows:

- Noted there is still an issue with boy racers. Councillor McClymont advised that this requires to be reported to the police and a note of registrations provided.
- Noted that the pavements in St Nicholas Road have been re-surfaced, but not the roads or in shot car parks.
- J McLeish advised that works are scheduled to commence at Melvinhall car parks from 29 March.
- Rent Setting Conversation Café was well attended.
- D Lowe and C Mitchell to attend future meeting, also Police and Fire & Rescue.
- No update on Community Safety Funding.
- No update on dog poo.
- Next meeting will take place on 20 February.

2.3 Sheltered Housing

- G Steven noted that a St Andrews Day celebration was held on 27 November 2019 which was well attended.
- Christmas Party was held on 17 December 2019 which was also well attended.
- A Burns celebration will be held on 23 January 2020 and also a concern on 30 January 2020.

3. Tenant Participation Co-ordination Group

J McLeish provided an update on behalf of Stephen Connor:

South Lanarkshire Tenant's Development Support Project Update

Tenant Participation Co-ordination Group

The TPCG met on 28th November to discuss the Rent Management Policy ahead of it going out to consultation in the New Year. Additionally the TPCG agreed the scope for the next scrutiny exercise which will focus on access to the Benefits are Changing Team (BACT). The exercise will focus on how the BACT are referred cases and additionally what specific information is sought within interviews.

Budget Scrutiny Group/Panel

The Budget Scrutiny Group (BSG) met on 19th November with Ross McKie (accountant) to allow the council the opportunity to provide the Quarter 2 financial information report. The Project presented the information in the updated agreed reporting format which illustrates the data in chart/graph form. The report will be updated each quarter to clearly

demonstrate the council's progress towards its agreed annual targets (incl. benchmarking against previous years quarters). The BSG met again on 2nd December to discuss the feedback from the annual budget and rent setting consultation at local housing forums as

well as agree the format and delivery of the (tenant-led *Conversation Café* closing event. Feedback at the session will be compiled into a report and supplement a report to the Housing and Technical Resources Committee in February.

Larkhall Youth Housing Forum

The Larkhall Youth Housing Forum sessions have taken place throughout September-November and were a massive success. The first session focused on '*What is social housing and who is it for?*' and '*What does it take to run a house?*' The idea being to identify what the younger generations perceptions of social housing are as well as giving them an idea of supply and demand for social housing in the Larkhall area. The second session focused on '*What makes a thriving Larkhall community?*' and also '*the younger generation are engaged in housing services and help to influence decision making*'. The idea behind the second session was to identify what the younger generation of Larkhall are passionate about in terms of their local community and how we can best establish meaningful participation moving forward to allow us to work in partnership to deliver priorities. A case study will be compiled and circulated by the South Lanarkshire Tenants Development Support Project.

4. Housing Update

4.1 J McLeish provided a breakdown of void properties within the rural areas, as follows:

Rigside - 26
Douglas - 1
Douglas Water - 9
Glespin - 10

Noted that Home Start Officers are helping people to sustain their tenancies and ensuring they have everything they need within their property.

4.2 J McLeish circulated and discussed performance for Quarter 3 (16 September – 8 December 2019). E Archer noted the rise in rent arrears. J McLeish advised that these figures were before UC is deducted. There is a huge focus on rent collection with Housing Officers and Team Leaders. Noted that fewer evictions are being carried out and prevention is more of a focus. Noted that Housing Officers have a patch to monitor and manage.

4.3 J McLeish advised that Donald Gray is retiring from South Lanarkshire Council at end of March. A review has taken place of Area Housing Managers and following this Sharon Egan will be moving to the East Kilbride office. Gillian McCusker will be taking over the AHM post at the Lanark office. Gillian will be attending the next Forum meeting. J McLeish advised that she retires in March.

4.4 Noted that there are two newbuild projects – one at Law, which includes amenity housing and the other is in Biggar.

5. A O C B

5.1 J McLeish advised that Alison Graham, Repairs Manager will attend the March meeting of the Forum.

5.2 T Durie noted that parking spaces are not been used at Honeybank Crescent. Cars are being parked on the pavements. J McLeish noted that signage cannot be enforced as it is a public road. If there are obstructions then this can be reported to the police. Scottish Government are currently considering legislation in this regard.

T Durie also noted there is an abandoned car. J McLeish advised to report to either the police or Environmental Health.

6. Date of Next Meeting and Venue

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 18 February 2020 at 2.00 p.m. in the Memorial Hall, St Leonard Street, Lanark.

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