

## CHANNEL ISLANDS & DISTRICT TENANTS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (CIDTRA)

Minutes of meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January 2006, at Rozel Court at 7pm.

**Attendance:** Paul Hennessey (Chairman); C Payne (Drew Smith); Cllr. D Harryman (S.C.C.); Podge Eldridge (Secretary); Gary Shawyer (Youth Worker); E Lang (cidtra); P.C. Goodall (Beat Officer); Ann Maylott (Maybush Housing Officer); Parmjit Thiara (Shirley/Lordshill Housing Officer); Cathie McEwing (Labour Action Team); Gary Waters (Treasurer); Sylvie O'Halloran (cidtra) and there were 15 local Residents at the meeting.

1. **Apologies:** Jo Van Tright (cidtra); Alison Holdaway (cidtra); Paul O'Donovan (T.P.U.); Val Judd, Di Brown local residents.

2. **Minutes of Previous meeting November 24<sup>th</sup>:** these were agreed as a true record and circulated on the night.

3. **Matters arising:** all of these were covered on the agenda.

4. **Treasurers report:** the treasurer was unable to be at the meeting on time but gave his report later, but I include it at this point, the association has at this time £300.00 in its account, plus £500.00 grant for the Sarnia Court Garden Project, there were no questions for Gary who was thanked by the Chairman.

5. **Maintenance Report:** There were several complaints from local residents, these included C.C.T.V., and Japanese Knotweed and some damage to cars parked all of these problems were at Rozel Court. The police and council officers present said they would look into the matters reported.

The problem of paving slabs was raised yet again (no pun intended) some have been replaced with tarmac, Ann Maylott told the meeting it was a question of money available to carry out repairs but if there were real dangerous areas she would do her best to get them repaired. She was aware that several slabs had been marked with spray paint and those were the ones identified as urgent.

Street and pathway lighting around the Estate was mentioned again by residents, the Chairman explained that he had been in touch with the City Council on many occasions and is still seeking answers as to why lights are on during the day and some not on at night.

Chris Payne said lighting around the Jersey Close Project would be improved on completion of the building and final car parking arrangements, he also reported on the drainage problems at Christmas where he called out staff to deal with flooding.

Sylvie O'Halloran said that she had concerns about several matters including, human faeces, kitchens, window replacements, car parking and dangerous pot holes in the road to the Lower Brownhill Flats where she lives. It was explained to her that some of these individual matters should be reported to the City Council through the correct procedures Council Officers present said they would investigate.

Several residents said as far as they were concerned the vandalism on the Estate was getting worse. P.C. Goodall told the meeting that reported criminal damage had gone down; he reminded residents that they must report any damage to their cars or property so the Police know where to target their efforts.

6. **Community Garden:** Sylvie O'Halloran told the meeting that date of the Official Opening will now be in the spring some time in March when the weather should be better, she also said there was no damage to the Garden, but she still had no help from the residents.

7. **Jersey Close Development:** Chris Payne from Drew Smith asked if there were any questions from the meeting, two residents asked about car parking in Lower Brownhill Road, and being disturbed by Lorries arriving to early and leaving their engines running. He explained that unfortunately he could do

little about this unless he could identify the drivers concerned because they start off from around the country, and it depended when they leave for Southampton, he said he would do what he could to stop early arrivals. He also said that the new entrance in Lower Brownhill Road would soon be open and this would stop the site deliveries via Boniface Crescent.

**8. Gary Shawyer** was introduced to give an update on his work with young people in the area funded by Swaythling Housing Association and Drew Smith, he said he was unhappy to hear that there had been some vandalism but reminded the residents that he had only been working with local youths in the area a short time and it will take time to reach them and to get them involved in activities which he is planning that do not cause trouble in the area he, like P.C. Goodall said he would like residents to pass information on incidents that happen on the Estate, because once he has the information he can find out who is responsible and work on solving why they are happening.

At this point the trouble and vandalism caused by local youths in not only this area but also Lordswood and Shirley Warren was raised, it was apparently the Anniversary of the deaths of the two local youths killed on motor bikes just off the estate in Brownhill Way. The police were in attendance but by the time the gathering broke up there were some 70 to 100 young people involved, some of these had been drinking and as they made their way home front doors were kicked and several cars damaged, also some windows were stoned. Several residents made emergency calls to the police, it seems there were too many incidents at the time for the police to handle, at this time they are still working on the case.

One resident was attacked and seriously injured after confronting the youths who kicked in his front door, he had to go to hospital for his injuries, and this could have been more serious if the gang were not stopped by other residents, at this point.

The local Beat Officer and the Youth Worker advised residents that they should not approach or challenge youths unless they are sure they are not in danger, they should always call the police to report the incident no matter how they feel. A resident suggested that next year the police ask the parents of the two youths who lost their lives to get involved to see there is no repeat of this year's event.

**At this point the meeting stopped for break for refreshments and to enable residents to pass on information and to ask questions of invited guests.**

**9. Sarnia Court Garden Project:** There is a meeting being arranged with the City Council officers responsible for Open Spaces and Landscaping to draw up options on the planting of shrubs to improve the environment outside the block where hopefully during the summer months the residents can sit and enjoy the area.

Councillor Harryman at this point reminded those present that he holds a surgery to discuss any problems that residents have, it is held on the first Wednesday of each month at 2pm in the community room in Sarnia Court and all are welcome to attend.

**10. Rozel Court Kitchen:** an application has been made to Outer Shirley Regeneration to replace the kitchen and fittings to enable residents to come to the Community Room and join in the events layed on rather than sit in their flats all day, they could prepare food for themselves and others. Councillor Harryman said he will check to see how our grant bid is going, and report back at the next meeting.

**11. Open Forum Suggestions** and any other business, as there had been many lively Debates during the meeting there were no further items raised.

**12. Date of the next meeting,** there being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and reminded them the next meeting will be on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March 2006.