

# NOTES OF A SHELTERED HOUSING FORUM MEETING MONDAY 14 JANUARY 2008

## **Present: -**

Tony Bodgin	ECC	Ann Day	Flowerpot
Steve Deakin	ECC	Viv Phelps	Shilhay
Steve Warran	ECC	Philip Tait	Grandisson Ct
Bryony Stevens	ECC	Bet Sluman	Carpenter Clse
Yvonne Trude	Senior Warden	Josie Welham	Aldens
Cllr Dilys Baldwin	Portfolio Holder for Housing	S Banwell	Southlands
Joan Smith	Rennes House	Teresa Burrow	Toronto House
Pat Brosnan	Payne Court	Miss J Martins	Nelson Close
Sheila Mcleod	York House	Anne Selley	Globefield
Margaret Winham	York House	Gladys Tyrrell	Globefield
		Phil Cuttell	Southlands

## **Apologies: -**

Stella Bath, Mrs Knight, Mrs Staddon and Mrs Browning.

## **Introduction**

The meeting was opened with a general introduction from Tony Bodgin

## **Dates for 2008 Meetings**

The group agreed to the following dates for this year. They are: -

**21 April 2008**

**21 July 2008**

**27 October 2008**

There may also be a special meeting organised for sometime in December.

## **Housing Strategy Review**

Bryony Stevens presented a summary of the Exeter City Council revised Housing Strategy 2007 – 2012 to the group. A copy of the summary is included with these minutes.

## **Sheltered Housing Improvement Programme**

Devon County Council's Supporting People Team (SP) has extended the Council's existing sheltered housing contract for a further two years until March 2010.

The SP team have recently engaged a team of consultants to review the existing support services to older people across Devon. The review may mean fundamental changes to the existing service in the future. The review is examining the level of need from older people across all tenures together with the supply of existing services. The consultants have set out a range of options for consideration.

The figures show an aging population with people over the age of 65 due to increase dramatically over the next 10-20 years. Many of these will have support needs. Yet 25% of people living in sheltered accommodation do not need the warden service/support.

The report gives 6 recommendations ranging between the status quo (i.e. leaving the sheltered housing service as it is) to giving people their own budget in order for them to purchase their own support. Whatever is decided, it is clear that things will not stay as they are at present.

In response to this work the council are currently looking at the sheltered housing service and the actual schemes where people live to see if they are fit for purpose for the longer term. It wants to reinvigorate the Older Persons Review Group to look at these issues and make recommendations for change.

In response to a request from the Head of Housing six tenants put their names forward as volunteers prepared to look at these issues with officers – during the day – over a long period of time.

The recent survey, which was carried out regarding the future of the guest and common rooms, has been completed and we will be inviting Juliet Lesser to the next meeting to present the results of the Survey to the group.

### **Visit to North Somerset**

North Somerset Homes have been in contact with us to discuss the possibility of initiating a reciprocal visit with them. They are looking to start up a Sheltered Housing Forum and would like to meet with Sheltered Tenants who are already part of such a scheme.

There are no guarantees that the event will happen but the group was in agreement that if possible they would be interested in attending such an event.

It was explained to the group that if there was a lot of interest it may be necessary to restrict numbers in some way.

### **TALC Representative Election**

Due to recent Sheltered Housing Forum retirements, it has become necessary to hold elections for vacated posts on both the Tenant and Leaseholder Committee (TALC) and also for the Devon Tenants Forum (DTF).

Two representatives put themselves forward for the one vacancy on the TALC.

The two nominees left the room and voting took place by show of hands.

Pat Brosnan of Payne Court was duly elected.

### **Devon Tenants Forum Representative Election**

Phil Cuttell of Southlands was elected onto the DTF unopposed.

### **Articles for Newsletter**

If anyone has any articles they would like to see included in an edition of 'CHATTERBOX' or has any ideas for articles they would like to see included please get in touch with Steve Deakin on 265698.

**Next Meeting:** Monday 21 April 2008 - Buckerell Lodge Hotel - 2.00 pm start.

**Anyone requiring a taxi should phone ZCARS on Exeter 422888**

Agenda items to Steve Deakin on 265698