

CROSSPOOL FORUM – OPEN MEETING
Thurs 12th February. '15 – postponed from 29th January
Bullet Points

Attendance 43: Crosspool residents, Cllrs Ann Murphy & Rob Frost, guest speakers & members of the Forum Management Committee.

Apologies were received from Cllr. Geoff Smith & Forum webmaster Robin Byles.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

Ian Hague welcomed everyone – Thursday 29th had seen a heavy blizzard so had made holding a meeting impossible!

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Angela Southward - the Forum bank balance is "pretty healthy" with Festival Street Market stallholders money coming in, despite insurance & calendar printing costs going out. We have broken even on the calendar – two left to sell.

POLICE REPORT

PCSO Gary Hizam said there have been 12 cases of "interference with motor vehicles", 7 actual break-in burglaries to houses & 12 shed/garage break-ins – in the last 6 months around Crosspool. The stolen items from one house-break were recovered in a dumped vehicle after a resident's noting the car reg. no. – This is well worth doing!

Our PC Louise Atha will be no longer on duty round the neighbourhood, but may still attend Open meetings. The old Lydgate Lane police box has re-opened –see new flagpole with union flag!

Queries on dog walking through Crookes Cemetery – bylaws say this is illegal - & grass verge parking was brought up. Gary will look into the dog walking & the Ryegate Centre is being proactive about its staff parking on Tipton Crescent. Rd verges – please report any to them.

There is a Neighbourhood Watch Meeting at Stephen Hill on 22nd April, (7-9pm) – guest speakers.

AMEY (Streets Ahead) UPDATE

Claire Tideswell said the winter weather had been challenging but they hope to get the lights, tree, & pavements done by March, & then Sandygate Rd will start in late Feb.

In Broomhill work has just started on making an extra lane for vehicles turning up Crookes. She took notes on worries about resurfaced roads having the wrong camber (Moorview Close). The collapse of the plastic barriers round the light standard holes in recent high winds, potholes in un-repaired roads (still report these to Amey). The Cairns Rd light problems – Npower & a circuit fault. Reported but not cleared out gullies (Sandygate Rd/Moorbank) & grit bins.

Black brook Road is a different scope of works & will be totally redone – lights, pavements & highway. The Council is holding a Winter Review, so issues with e.g. grit bins should be sent in to Cllr. Ann Murphy.

FIRST BUS COMPANY UPDATE

Andy Metcalfe & Paul Moorhouse (new 51 route manager) hoped we had noticed an improvement in the service recently – despite the snow. On "punctuality & reliability" they have "reached 90% in the last 10 days". Lessons learnt from October will be taken into consideration in any changes in late April '15. There were still complaints from the floor but also some compliments – the service did surprisingly well during the snow. The "real time system" (electronic displays) still appears to have some problems, & Andy will look at a website "Travel disruptions" to ensure up-to-date information is posted. Both intend to visit Lodge Moor & Vernon terrace to observe how the buses run.

EVENTS:

1/ Festival Week; Well Dressing (theme 'Joy') Fri 26th June; Fayre Sat 4th July;

Street market; Open Gardens – more wanted please – to take part, tele: Lindsey on 2301041;

Folk Evening; Under 18s photography competition, etc – watch this space!

Festival Meeting Sun 15th Feb, St Columba's 4pm – do come along.

2/ Car Boot sales – Saturday 6th June & 5th September

((Note the Crosspool Tavern will be closed for re-decorating for a week mid-April))

3/ Nominations please:-

- A. for a local charity considered worthy of receiving funding from our Festival Week.
- B. someone considered to have made a significant difference with in our community to receive our Community Award.(- all to Ian Hague or Steve Reynolds) crosspoolforum@fsmail.net

Local Business:

Tom Cocker (Cocker & Carr Estate Agents) introduced himself and hoped residents would pop in to meet him & colleague Georgina.

Councillors' Q&As:

The Jet petrol station is re-submitting its application (with revisions) in a three weeks' time.
(There is no public convenience as part of their plans)

AOB:

1. **National Libraries Day;** BCL (Broomhill Community Library) marked this on Sat 7th Jan with an official opening by the Mayor, attendance by a local councillor & 'Victorian Visitors' in costume; there were displays from 1850s-1950s, Victorian bakes , talks & activities – all reported in the 'Telegraph' issue 12th Feb.
2. **Crosspool Calendar** 2015 – keep snapping please! Photos of non-winter scenes in particular will be needed.
3. **Hagg Lane** Allotments Society – Debbie Kerry wrote to thank the Forum for its donation to replace their vandalized allotment hut.
4. **Section 106** Planning Grant money; due to the re-development of Moor View Farm some £13,000 will become available for local community projects. Grant application forms for bids will be available via the website shortly.
5. **Chester Zoo** family day out; (22nd May) – about 5 places still available.
6. **Westminster (Parliament)** visit (20th March) – 20 places available – contact Ian Hague or Steve Reynolds ASAP about these.
7. **Maundy Thursday** (2nd April) HM The Queen will be at Sheffield Cathedral presenting her Maundy purses.

Next Open Meeting will be on Friday April 24th.