

NOTES OF THE SENIOR CITIZENS FORUM
HELD ON 14TH AUGUST 2007
AT THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION, WIGSTON

Present :

Approximately 53 Senior Citizens
Councillors Helen Loydall, Jill Gore, Jeffrey Kaufman, Liz Connell
Kate Faulkner, Lesley Thornton, Dot Sandy, Roy Smith and Joyce McColl

Apologies:

Councillor Linda Broadley, Graham Lamb and Peter Valentine

1. Welcome

Lesley welcomed everyone to the Forum and reminded them that the Young at Heart day was taking place on the 26th of September and not to forget to send in their booking forms.

Kate had asked Lesley to inform everyone that if they wanted to go on the Steam Train journey that the trip was now fully booked, Kate also asked Lesley to announce that there were still tickets left for the production 'Starlight Express' which was taking place at the Nottingham Concert Hall on the 12th of September, a matinee performance.

Lesley then introduced John Haynes the Senior Enforcement Officer from Leicestershire County Council who had come along to talk to everyone about 'Trading Standards'. John introduced himself and handed round an information pack to everyone and took them through the contents which were :-

- 'How to Stop Unwanted Telephone Sales Calls'
- A Mailing Preference Service Registration form which supports peoples' rights to choose the mail they wish to receive.
- A leaflet about Doorstep Crime and also some cards for placing in peoples windows which read "Doorstep Sellers BEWARE! – You are not welcome here, Police and Trading Standards will be notified". John advised everyone that he had place more than one card in each pack so that they could pass them to family and friends and said that it was a good idea to give them to young people too because it helped not to advertise that an elderly person lived at the address.
- A sheet showing useful emergency contact details for various services.
- Two leaflets entitled 'Top Ten Cons and How to Avoid Them' and 'How to Recognise a Scam.'

John had also brought along other booklets, fridge magnets and pens which he asked everyone to help themselves to at the end of his presentation. Quite a lengthy question and answer session followed. Lesley thanked John for his very informative talk

2. Lesley then introduced everyone to Alison Albins from the Green Gym which was based at Aylestone Lane Allotments. Alison explained how the Green Gym worked and tried to encourage everyone to visit the site and to hopefully join in with the activities that occurred. She explained that it wasn't hard work and that it was more like a social gathering where people could have fun, do a little exercise and learn about gardening and hopefully taking home their own produce. Alison said that the project was supported by the Council and if they wanted to know any more about the project or wanted a leaflet to contact Helen Gregory, the Countryside and Biodiversity Officer based at the Council Offices.

At the end of her presentation, Alison announced that she was leaving the project to move on to pastures new and introduced Shika Devi who would be there to assist anyone interested in visiting the Allotments and joining in.

3. Tea was served at approximately 3.05 p.m.

4. At approximately 3.20 p.m. Lesley introduced Jade Roberts who had come from Boots the Chemist to advise people about sun protection and hydration. Jade explained to everyone about protection levels and what products were on the market for people to purchase and advised that they must make sure that the products had a 'Five Star Factor' printed on them. Jade had brought along a variety of samples of sun protection and moisturisers and gave an explanation about each product which were exhibited at the rear of the concert room with some information leaflets for people to take away with them.

5. At approximately 3.45 p.m. Adrian Thorpe (Forward Plans Manager) and Kirstie Rea (Senior Forward Planning Officer) gave a short presentation concerning the Town Centre Action Plans. After the presentation, Adrian advised everyone that he had brought along a booklet for them to take away with them and asked them if they would fill in the comments form and return it to the Council no later than Friday the 24th of August. He also said that they were quite welcome to ask questions when his presentation was complete.

Lesley thanked everyone for attending and the Forum ended at approximately 4.45 p.m.