

New Beginnings

FOR KNUTTON, LOWER MILEHOUSE AND CROSS HEATH



Issue 3,
August 2006



INFORMATION DAY

Following the announcement that RENEW North Staffordshire has been awarded £67.5 million for its programme, over the next two years, detailed work is underway to develop proposals to invest the money allocated to Knutton and Cross Heath.

RENEW funding of £6.6m has been identified for Knutton and Cross Heath and there will be significant additional investment committed by RENEW's partner agencies in the area.

RENEW has carried out economic appraisals of all masterplans that were developed within the Areas of Major Intervention.

In the case of the Knutton and Cross Heath Draft Masterplan, the appraisal process allowed RENEW and its key partners to take another look at the plan to ensure that proposals are put together that are achievable within the timescales and budgets available.

A refreshed masterplan has now been prepared and will be presented to residents at an **Information Day in September**. All households will receive a letter shortly, providing full details of the event.

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LEADING THE DEVELOPMENT

Eighteen local residents from all different parts of Knutton, Cross Heath and Lower Milehouse have been working with RENEW for the last few months to give a local voice in the selection of the Lead Developer in the Area of Major Intervention (AMI). The lead developer will be responsible for building new homes in the area throughout the regeneration programme. The same process has been followed in each of the AMIs in North Staffordshire.

The Lead Developer Selection Panel was formed in April and has had a series of training sessions to enable the members to evaluate the submissions made by three shortlisted developers. The panel raised over thirty community issues that they wanted the developers to address in their submissions.



The Panel has made it clear that they wish to continue to meet after the selection process ends in August to ensure that there is an on-going relationship between the Developer and the community at large.

WARDENS ALREADY MAKING AN IMPACT!

Dear Editor

I wish to write to you about the Neighbourhood Wardens of Knutton Cross Heath who are on the scene thanks to initial funding by RENEW. It is something we should have had years ago.

For one thing their presence means that less rubbish is being seen dumped around the neighbourhood. This in turn leads to things like mess not being left around empty properties and less anti-social behaviour. Their walking around makes the streets seem much quieter, with less bad language. I hope this reassurance will last for many years to come.

A Lawton

Resident



Pictured are Wardens Mark and Jo discussing the Masterplan at the NMP

Editor's Note:

After negotiations between the Borough Council and the NMP, funding has been secured for the Wardens to continue their patrolling until at least 2008.

If you would like to have an input to the Warden service, why not join the Steering Group? For more information contact 742515.

HAVE YOUR SAY!

We would very much like to have residents involved in producing this regular newsletter and would be delighted to receive contributions from YOU, our readers. If you would like to make a contribution to the next edition, please contact Laurence Reardon on 611033.

New Beginnings

Congratulations go to two residents who each receive a digital camera for both coming up with 'New Beginnings' as the new title for this newsletter. Several suggestions were received which were put to the vote by a panel consisting of residents and partner agencies. Tina Dunn of Malham Road (pictured) and Janet Robson of Meadow Lane received their prizes at the May Community Forum and Neighbourhood Management Board meetings. Both have promised to snap some telling photos of the area to be included in future issues.



Street Reps - make your street part of the grapevine

Our neighbourhood has around 2,600 properties, with 6,000 people living here. Trying to keep in touch with everyone isn't always easy. Word of mouth is a common source for finding out what is going on in the area. So why not become a part of the "grapevine" to spread reliable and accurate information to as many people as possible.

There are about 80 streets in our neighbourhood, and our aim is to have at least one person from each street to receive information from the Neighbourhood Management Team about things happening where you live. There is also room for two-way traffic – so that local views and opinions can be fed back to the right people.

If there was at least one person for each street in the neighbourhood it would give a better chance for all residents to find out the latest news on RENEW and other issues.

In the past 3 months, 25 Volunteers have signed up as Street Reps. They have had an initial induction and will now receive regular information to pass on to people in their street. The streets so far covered are listed:-

Albermarle Road – Jenny Elson, Dana Saad and William Eaton
Charter Road – Claire Lawton and Tony Cashmore
Church Lane – David Roberts and Pam Kirkbride
Cotswold Avenue – Annemarie Jamieson
Derwent Place – Dawn Heeks
Downham Road – Terry Vernon
Gort Road – Heather Evans
Knutton Lane – Robin Searle
Liverpool Road – Linda Tipping
Lower Milehouse Lane – Sue Fowell
Malham Road – Peter Cotton
Meadow Avenue – Margaret Taylor
Orton Road – Rachael Malkin
Pentland Grove – Nickey Hawryszczuk
Poplar Avenue – Dorothy Harrison
Poplar Close – Joyce Amos
Poplar Court – Rose Edwards
Robertson Drive – Billy Ahman
Rogers Avenue – Danny Bloor
St Bernard's Road – Ann Lawton and Lisa Kirkbride
Wilmot Drive – Elizabeth Gleaves

MEET A STREET REP

Dawn Heeks has lived in her home in Derwent Place for the last 7 years but she has lived in the Neighbourhood for most of her life. Now that all her children have left school she feels that she has time to find out more about the RENEW programme as well as matters affecting the whole neighbourhood. This is why she has agreed to become a Street Rep, receiving monthly updates about what is the latest news and passing the information onto her neighbours.



Since becoming a Street Rep she has been invited to attend the NMP's Environment and Housing Theme Group and residents associations' meetings. In addition she sits on RENEW's local Preferred Developer's Community Selection Panel. Dawn says that this appears to be the start of an exciting time for the whole neighbourhood.

Her one wish is that all the communities of Knutton, Cross Heath and Lower Milehouse are brought closer together by the shared desire for a better future.

If you want to get your street included on the grapevine, please contact Laurence at the NMP.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS

In 2004, RENEW North Staffordshire and Aspire Housing joined forces to provide £500,000 over a two year period for environmental improvements in Knutton & Cross Heath. Residents suggested a wide range of ideas and a project group was formed to evaluate and approve the proposals. A total of 29 projects were approved by the group, of which 26 are now complete.

Of the three projects that are still to be completed: Significant progress has been made on the two off-street parking schemes requested by residents of Pennine Way (9 new parking spaces) and Cotswold Avenue (10 new parking spaces). The residents of John Street and Nash Street in Knutton requested lockable alley gates, to be installed at either end of the alley that runs between their streets. An alley-gating association has now been formed by the residents, the association will take ownership of the gates and maintain them once they have been installed.

The Meadow Lane substation project (pictured), which provided new railings and landscaping, has won a Silver award in the Borough Council's Community Garden Britain in Bloom Competition.

"Congratulations to the residents of the Meadows."



Before



After

USEFUL CONTACTS

Knutton Cross Heath Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder –
Laurence Reardon or Emma Slater - **01782 611033**

website www.knuttoncrossheath.info
for queries contact Emma Slater eslater@nmtpathfinder.co.uk

Aspire Housing - Dan Gray or Vicky Riley - 01782 635200.

Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council Helen Beech **01782 717717**
helen.beech@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk

Neighbourhood Wardens 01782 742515 nwarden@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk

RENEW North Staffordshire Helpline - 01782 232024

The **Residents' Friend** service offers you independent information and advice about the Housing Market Renewal Programme.

To contact **Emily Tomkinson**, the Residents' Friend, telephone **01782 408787** or drop in

Tuesdays	CDA, Lower Milehouse	9.30 am - 12.30 pm
	Ramsey Road Community Centre	1.30 pm - 4.00 pm
Fridays	Knutton Community Centre	11.30 am - 1.30 pm

Home visits are also available on request.

This newsletter can be provided in alternative formats on request.

Please telephone us on 01782 611033.



Knutton Cross Heath
NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT
look forward to the future...



English Partnerships
The National Regeneration Agency

