Barton and Watcombe Ward Partnership Meeting Watcombe Community Centre Medway Road, Torquay

21st July, 2006

Present

Trevor Hele Watcombe Com Ctr Cllr Gordon Jennings Roger Leeson, Trader Jo Spencer-Cowling, Street Warden David Harbourne, Adult Care Trust Sgnt Ian McClure Mrs Edmonds Anne Leeson Betty Cooper Mr& Mrs Worth Mr Cann Mr & Mrs Stockton Margaret Pilgrim Watcombe Com.
Tracey Cabache, Ward Part Officer
Richard Taylor, TBC
Cllr Beryl McPhail
Corrie Butler, Youth Worker
PC Miranda Doulton
Mary Sweet
Ken Cooper
Joy Warner
Liz and Jim Wills
Andy Hapgood

Apologies

Vicky Preet and Sue Hoolihan

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

3 **Urgent items**

Concerns were raised about the high levels of anti-social behaviour on the Watcombe estate. There is a lack of PCSOs. A house has been turned in to a drugs den, untaxed vehicles are common on the estate. There is a need for more foot patrols. There continues to be difficulty in contacting the police

The police responded that the new Neighbourhood Beat Manager is full time and that the new PCSO for the area would start from the 29th August.

Local residents noted that there were no representatives from either West Country Housing or Riviera Housing Trust.

RHT tenant raised concerns that it can take 20 minutes for the alarm centre to respond to a call. It was agreed that RHT and West Country Housing should be invited to a special meeting within the next few weeks. The housing corporation and a housing representative from Torbay Council should also be invited.

4. Youth Village

£56,000 has provisionally been awarded to the Youth Village Project One.

5. Older Peoples Issues

David Harbourne from the Torbay Care Trust highlighted how the new organisation is trying to improve working practices and engagement with the local community The meeting was also addressed by a GP Practice Care Support Worker.

Reaching out in to the community and linking with agencies such as RHT is essential. Concerns were raised about RHT tackling disabled facilities grants issues as they complete the renewal programme. RHTs policy of ceasing to conduct minor repairs is putting some old people in harms way and it was suggested that Robin Causley could be contacted to see if this is a problem across Torbay.

Wise Neighbours is a project that could assist community engagement. A sub-group of the Ward Partnership could investigate this issue further. It was also suggested that there could be an over 70s direct mail shot. The Forget-me-not Club could also be used as a forum.

6. Action Plans

Due to the lateness of the meeting it was agreed to hold these over to the next Ward Partnership meeting.

7 Any Other Business

It was agreed that the September meeting of the Community Partnership should be used to take stock of the consultation earlier this summer and develop next years programme of meetings.