

## Senior Citizens Forum



### **Tuesday 28 January 2020 Babington Court, Rothley**

**Attendees:** Mrs Greaves - Aingarth, Mr Mason- Arnold Smith House, Mrs Crowson – Beresford Court, Mrs Whitten – Beresford Court, Mr Cadman – Martin Court, Mrs Wright – Riversdale Court, Mrs Brutnall – St Pauls Court, Mrs Hamps – Babington Court, Mr Carter – St Pauls Court, Mr Fryer – Fielding Court, Mr Hudson – Fielding Court, Mr & Mrs Breed – Dudley Court,

**Officers:** Hameed Miah, Sally Ramalho, Sarah Pole

**Apologies:** Mrs Braker, Mr Hyman, Mrs Jacobson

Item		
1 1.1	<p><b><u>Welcome and Introductions</u></b></p> <p>Sally welcomed everyone to the forum and members introduced themselves.</p>	
2	<p><b><u>Twilight Games</u></b></p> <p>Sally explained that Samantha Chamberlain is looking for volunteers to train to deliver armchair exercises to resident groups. The training is free and will be held on Wednesday 26 February 2020 at the Council Offices from 09.30 until 2.30. Also, in March Samantha will be organising a one-off Twilight Games competition event that members are encouraged to enter. A leaflet with further information was handed out and anyone interested should contact Samantha on 01509 632534 or email <a href="mailto:Samantha.chamberlain@charnwood.gov.uk">Samantha.chamberlain@charnwood.gov.uk</a>.</p>	
3	<p><b><u>Furniture Budget</u></b></p> <p>Sally explained that there were still funds available in the furniture budget and possible considerations were Aingarth furniture for the conservatory, cushions for the dining chairs at Babington, cushions for Dudley Court and tub chairs for Fielding Court. Sally advised that these items are rechargeable, apart from the conservatory furniture at Aingarth, and tenants</p>	

	<p>would be consulted with before any items were ordered where there was a significant cost involved.</p> <p>The air freshener contract needs renewing and Sally said that she intended to extend the contract with the current company – but it was an opportunity to assess if there are currently the right amount of units in the correct locations – a subject which could be discussed at the next round of Court meetings.</p>	
4	<p><b><u>Service Charges</u></b></p> <p>Sally explained that service charges are calculated on the previous year's expenditure. Historically large furniture purchases have been spread over 12 months but as this had made some of the increases too high for some tenants this has now been changed to 36 months. Those tenants that have incurred the yearly cost in this current financial year will have their service charges recalculated over three years and will have any overpayments credited to their rent accounts and the remaining charge will have the charges then spread over the next 2 financial years, to make the payments more manageable and fairer. A letter will be sent out giving more details. Sally will also attend some Court meetings to explain the process more fully and answer any queries. Sally explained that the service charge is divided between the number of flats in a court whether void or not.</p>	
5	<p><b><u>Performance</u></b></p> <p>Members were all given copies of monthly performance sheets indicating the percentage of targets met.</p> <p>Sally explained that the support plans were kept up to date on an annual basis by the wardens so ensure the level of need matched the service provided. Team leaders pick random samples of support plans to ensure the required standard is being met.</p> <p>Sally explained that the figures were for Warden Services use only to ensure a high standard of service is provided and was not a statutory requirement.</p>	
6	<p><b><u>Assistive Technology Pilot Project</u></b></p> <p>Sally explained that Warden Services had been working with County Hall on a project looking at assistive technology that could help people with dementia. 50 volunteers are required for the pilot project which provides equipment that monitors a person's activities which is then sent to a relative or carer's phone app to analyse. The pilot is due to start in February and Sally will provide contact details for referrals when it is available – Sally pointed out that they do not have to be living in sheltered accommodation to</p>	

	be considered but the person's family must be willing to look at the data on a system called MySense.	
7	<p><b><u>2025 Digital Switchover</u></b></p> <p>All analogue lines will be obsolete from 2025, so the current alarm systems will need upgrading. Sally explained that there are 3 main options under consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replace speech box only</li> <li>• New cabling – which will ensure future needs are met</li> <li>• Full new system</li> </ul> <p>7.2</p> <p>Tunstall have been asked to quote for all options and a pilot scheme will be carried out at Dudley Court in Sileby.</p>	
	<p><b><u>Next meeting</u></b></p> <p>Next meeting will be on Wednesday 18 March – venue yet to be decided.</p>	