



Ince Central Estate

Residents Group Newsletter 18

14th February 2005

Building works at Anderton Street

Residents will be aware that work has recently commenced on the vacant plot of land between Anderton Street and Ince Green Lane.

Concerns have been expressed to the Council about the potential for contamination at this site and the safety of local residents while works are underway.

The Council has advised that planning permission for this site was granted a number of years ago, prior to the current concerns about contaminated land. They have also advised that this land does not form part of the original estate as it was not developed by the former Ince Council, and was built during a different period.

Despite this, to ensure the safety of residents, the Council has required the developer to undertake soil tests which have shown low levels of

contamination considered to be safe to human health.

Additionally, the Council has requested that the developer undertake air monitoring while clearing the site and digging foundations. This will be helpful when similar works are undertaken in other parts of the estate as it will set a standard or background level to measure other works against.

Concerns have been expressed by local residents about the way in which the building contractor is carrying out the work and these concerns have been passed on to the Council to investigate.

Residents Liaison Group

As you know, the Residents Liaison Group (RLG) meets regularly with the Council and Wigan and Leigh Housing (WALH) in order to monitor progress and represent the interests of local residents.

There has been discussion recently about how to improve

communication from the Group to all local residents other than via this newsletter. One of the ideas under consideration is to extend an invitation to residents to attend meetings to see for themselves the work being undertaken on their behalf. Unfortunately, it is not possible to extend an open invitation to everyone as, if a large number of people attended, the meeting could become unmanageable. If you are interested in attending please either fill in the slip at the end of this newsletter and return it to 2 Pryce Avenue or get in touch by telephone leaving your contact details, and we'll make arrangements for you to attend one of the meetings.

If you don't have time to attend a meeting, but are interested in what is going on, you can either see the notes of the meetings at 2 Pryce Avenue or ask us to send you a copy.

The RLG have also been discussing the possibility of forming a tenants and residents association to represent the local residents during the forthcoming period of upheaval.

A presentation has been given to them by a representative from WALH's Tenant Participation Team. The representative provided information about how setting up an association works, what funds would be available to support this and how a registered association will give access to other funds which

could be used in the locality for a range of schemes. You are likely to be consulted in the near future on whether you are keen to see an association being developed.

Temple attendance at 2 Pryce Avenue

Due to commitments within the Council, it has been necessary to vary the times that Temple will be available at 2 Pryce Avenue during February. The following sets out our attendance and availability:

Week commencing 14/2/05

No one available on site, but contactable by telephone (see number below).

Week commencing 21/2/05

Wednesday – 11.00 AM – 4.00 PM
Thursday – 11.00 AM – 5.00 PM
Friday – 9.00 AM – 2.00 PM

Week commencing 28/2/05

No one available on site, but contactable by telephone.

We will ensure that these times are displayed in the window of the office at 2 Pryce Ave and will update you on attendance through the newsletter on a regular basis

COUNSELLING SERVICE **INCE CLINIC**

An extension of the primary care counselling service has been set up at **Ince clinic**. This is mainly for the residents of Ince Central Estate who have been under significant stress for the past year or so. At present there is no waiting list for counselling, see details below.

So what is Counselling?

We can all experience unhappy times in our lives that may lead to stress and confused feelings, or other difficulties. These unhappy times may or may not be connected to specific problems.

Many people think that counselling is for people with severe mental health problems. This is not the case.

For some people it helps to talk to someone outside their immediate family or friends. If you feel like this then a counsellor may be able to help you.

Counselling can provide the time and space to work with your problems, to make sense of life, deal with specific problems, help with decision making and work through inner feelings of confusion.

The counsellor's aim is to help you find ways to help yourself. It is important that you feel you can

get along with your counsellor for counselling to work.

Counselling is not.....

Counselling will not put right your problems with family, relationships, finance, or emotions, but it can help to make these easier to deal with.

Counselling cannot change what has happened to you but may help you to live with it more easily.

Counsellors do not give advice.

Confidentiality

Counselling is private and confidential where any issues or problem can be talked about in safety. What you share in a counselling session will not be passed to any other person without your permission. There are exceptions to this but only of a very serious nature where your well being or that of another is at risk. These exceptions will be discussed with you at your first session with the counsellor.

Would it help me?

No one knows for certain. Before you begin counselling you will be asked to come to an assessment session. This session will help both yourself and the counsellor to decide if counselling could be helpful to you.

What do I do if I want to go for counselling?

You need to complete the cut off slip in the **Ince Counselling**

Information and hand this in to **Ince Clinic Reception** where they will be stored until the counsellor's next visit. You will then be contacted by the counsellor to arrange an initial assessment session.

If you no longer have the leaflets, which were sent out before Christmas, then you can pick one up from Ince Clinic or 2 Pryce Avenue

Lynne Thompson
Counselling Service Manager

Forthcoming Items and Activities:

- A briefing from the Council on the contamination, the difficulties being faced and what is being done to resolve them.
- A timeline for arriving at a decision on the contamination
- Information about the kitchen renewal programme
- Further information about the proposed pilot studies
- Arrange for visits to estates with similar contamination problems and to learn the lessons from their experience.
- Identify the processes that are required under the EPA legislation so that residents are aware of the next steps.
- Stakeholder Workshop No. 2 – Remediation design options
- Legal briefing workshop

I am interested in becoming a resident observer at Resident Liaison Group Meetings

Name
Address
Contact No.

Please return this slip to 2 Pryce Avenue

Temple Contact Details

If anyone has any comments regarding any information, Temple can be contacted at 2 Pryce Avenue at the times detailed above every Wednesday (11.00-17.00) and Thursday (10.00-15.00)
Tel 01942 239598

Alternatively, if residents need to contact Temple outside this time, they can use the freephone number 0800 328 4375 or Temple Head Office 01825 790964.