

## REPORT ON COMMUNITY PLAN MEETING HELD ON 25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2004

### ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR.

A meeting had been held with Jim Knight and other interested parties at the end of last November from which the attitude of we are going to beat the local problems being caused by young people with the use of the new Anti Social Behaviour Orders.

Inspector Tony Rudd was in attendance and he gave a resume on the situation from the Police point of view. He gave a categorical promise that the Police would use the new laws on ASBO's on all cases of anti social behaviour whether the offenders be young or old. Fixed penalties would be used only on those offenders who were over 16 years of age and non violent. Arrest would automatically follow any violent behaviour.

Insp. Rudd said that they were hoping to increase the number of community officers, but if they did, then they would be allocated to "area's of greatest need". I concluded from this that he meant Littlemoor, Westham etc.

### RELOCATION OF OFFENDERS.

Once again nobody who was involved with this matter came to speak to us, but we were given an update on a joint meeting that happened on 2<sup>nd</sup> February . Kevin Dey, Director of Operations for W & P Housing gave a very upbeat resume of that meeting, telling us that our previous concerns about the release of Prisoners were wrong. They were not being released into this locality in the numbers that we had been told about, in fact only 2% of offenders were released into the W & P Area this is because that they originate from this locality.

I disputed this information by telling the meeting that I had had many conversations with serving Prison Officers who told me the truth about licensed and unlicensed prisoners and how they obtained a local residence in spite of being instructed to return to their place of origin. Mr Dey seemed somewhat disconcerted with what I had to say, but he did not dispute what I said and one lady, from the Weymouth Action Group, agreed with what I said.

The rest of the meeting was taken up with matters as Litter problems, Play Strategy. Community Centres etc. One item of personal interest was a presentation of the Portland Vital Villages Initiative – Draft Action Plan, which was very comprehensive and based on a massive local response to a questionnaire. It seemed to me from reading it was that the Portlanders wanted a return to the days of the Portland Urban District Council.

from S. Embler 15 March 04