

6 ESTABLISHMENT OF STOBSWELL FORUM AS A RECOGNISED NEIGHBOURHOOD REPRESENTATIVE STRUCTURE (AN45-2004)

The Committee is asked to approve Stobswell Forum as a Neighbourhood Representative Structure, with the same level of recognition applied to Community Councils. (Article II of minute of meeting of 11 November 2002 refers).

The application submitted on behalf of Stobswell Forum satisfies the following nine criteria set out in the above mentioned report.

- Stobswell Forum is constituted and has named office bearers.
- The geographic area covered by the group is similar to that which would be represented by a Stobswell Community Council, apart from the mainly industrial area south of Blackscroft and Broughty Ferry Road. The area is largely made up of the Stobswell and Baxter Park Council Ward areas. It also covers part of the East Port Ward.

Street boundaries start at the junction of Graham Street and the Kingsway, moving eastwards along the Kingsway to Old Craigie Road, then south eastward along this road to Arbroath Road, then westward along Arbroath Road to Kenilworth Avenue, south along this road to the junction with Broughty Ferry Road, westward along Broughty Ferry Road to Blackscroft, then westward to Dens Street, north up Dens Street and north up Dens Brae to Victoria Road, then north eastward along Victoria Road to Dens Road, westward to Arklay Street; then along Arklay Street to Clepington Road; then west along Clepington Road to junction of Graham Street; then north along Graham Street to the start of the area.

- Membership of Stobswell Forum is open to all persons aged 16 years and over living within the above mentioned boundaries.
- The Stobswell Forum's Management Committee is made up of 11 local people, who meet on a regular monthly basis.

A number of sub groups have been formed to address youth issues, environmental issues, and the development of an information and advice centre. Sub groups are made up of local people, supported by representatives of the relevant agencies.

- To ensure that people in the area know what the Forum is doing, open public meetings are held approximately every 2 months to feed back on progress. The "Courier" is informed of these meetings and reports appear on a regular basis in the newspaper. On average 30-40 people attend these meetings.

The Forum uses these open meetings to gauge local opinion on key issues and to allow discussion and debate to take place.

In addition to leaflets and newsletters the Forum is investigating the possibility of creating a Forum Website.

- Stobswell Forum is committed to promoting equal opportunities and social inclusion.
- Stobswell Forum has agreed to operate within the accepted standards of public behaviour set out in the code of conduct contained in Dundee City Council's Revised Scheme For The Operation of Community Councils.
- Stobswell Forum will comply with the requirements of the Accounts Commission/COSLA Code of Guidance on "Following the Public Pound".
- In satisfying the formal criteria for recognition as a Neighbourhood Representative Structure, Stobswell Forum will be able to apply for grant aid, support, information and consultation from all Council Departments along similar lines to that afforded to established Community Councils.