

Consultation Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> July 2011

Sean McEneaney and Hazel Grant attended as guests at the (Billingham) Northern Area Partnership Board:

14 residents attended and asked a number of questions and offered comments.

- I have been told by some people who attend Parkside that they don't want to travel to Thornaby
- Will the cost of transport increase with the longer journey?
- Can the numbers be accommodated at Halcyon
- When the Alma site was sold was all the money used to upgrade Halcyon?
- Is there any of that funding left?
- Why not let the people who attend the Centre now just stay there?
- Would the staff have the same employer or would they be the subject of TUPE transfer?
- If a new PFI initiative is agreed in the future will there be any possibility of the service returning to Billingham?
- I met with Hazel and Councillor Jim Beall last Friday and after an hour I changed my view from being against it to appreciating the reasons for the proposal and also the value to our older people. I have personal experience of a change similar to this and I have to say that although resistive initially I now have no problem that for my family it was the best thing that could happen.
- We are increasingly having to provide care for people with dementia and it is an accepted fact that people with this condition need space and room to walk around. Parkside does not afford them that basic requirement but Halcyon has worked with people with mental health issues and achieved remarkable results.
- I have to say that having gone into this proposal in more depth I am changing my view and I want to support it
- I take my mother to Sainsbury's every week and my experience is that the journey is as much a part of the day out as the shopping. I can see clients travelling from Billingham to Thornaby enjoying the trip.
- I was also sceptical when I listened to the presentation last week but now I have no problem in supporting the proposal.
- I would like to see the Halcyon Centre and Parkside for myself. Can we do that?
- Can we visit the centres and then vote on the proposal.