

20.11

17.11 The Hostel Replacement Campaign. The possibility of appealing against the decision of Manchester Council regarding fitness of the two hostels is being looked into. This would be on the basis that the Council didn't respond correctly by investigating all the facts. The deadline for this course of action is 12 March. The cost of such proceedings are being looked into. A complainant will have to stay in each hostel on the night that the summons is served. Residents from the Bishop of Middleton's shelter have reported substantial improvements recently. The Bishop of Manchester has written to Nick Beacock expressing his concern for the residents of the two shelters if the Council drag their feet on this matter. Concerning the MNS it was reported that Del, the Manager, had been suspended from duty on 17 February. There was a management committee meeting that evening and the staff went on strike, with the support and understanding of the residents. After a lengthy meeting she was re-instated though disciplinary procedures are still pending. The Residents Committee will be meeting this coming Sunday to discuss this matter. Although the MNS has been disaffiliated from CHAR, individual members of staff and residents are welcome to join. The MNS membership fee will be returned. The original proposal to the national CHAR meeting was to disaffiliate MNS if it didn't revert to planned closure by 1983 and no discrimination in company membership. This was amended to immediate withdrawal and carried 34 - 1.

111

- Bolton Council. A useful and general discussion has been held with the Chairman of the Housing Committee. They are interested in a hostel residents survey and symposium on local single homelessness. The current state of Bolton Nightcap was not known. It was reported that Selcare had moved out.

iv

10.i Health Care for the Homeless. It was noted that Manchester University has just received £250,000 for a primary care survey in inner city areas to be conducted by the Department of General Practice. GM CHAR feels that it can make some highly important contributions to this survey, but is handicapped by not having a Health Group and working through the Community Health Council for Manchester Central. One problem was that CHC tended not to follow CHAR policy; for example Liverpool CHC has regarded homelessness as a mental illness. It was agreed that we would write to the University welcoming the study and looking forward to closer liaison, and to also write to Jane Graham on the CHC asking for a reconvened meeting with Joan Armstrong, Del. Richard and herself.

v

vi

Claimants' Unions. It was reported that there are now two CUs in Manchester and suggested that we should affiliate to these. Patrick Macfall and Jane Graham will be contacted for further details.

vii

17.vii Bury Metro. The history of the Project will be in the next edition of the newsletter. Two houses were expected to be used as crashpads half a week each with unpaid but rent-free wardens, however there were no takers: The pads seemed to be used as a dumping ground by various statutory agencies, causing disillusionment with the local authority. The AGM was called to make the project more youth orientated and less "therapeutic". On general research on accommodation in Bury there seemed to be a "gap of communication" between the corporate planner and individuals within some departments. They are looking for local authority as well as housing association help in accommodation for young people after hostels to prevent sitting up.

viii

A Bed for the Night. Roger Hamilton from CVS has asked us to update this book. We did not feel qualified to inspect or recommend all the hostels mentioned in this book. However we could provide supplements on HA grants, fire hazards, homelessness, houses in multiple occupation, security of tenure and licence agreements.

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 12 March 1981 at MARC, 61 Bloom Street, Manchester 1 at 7.30 pm.

[illegible]