

Summary of the meeting in housing department 5 and 8 the 27.06 2018 regarding complaints about turmoil and vandalism.

Colored text is complementary information, among these initiatives, is set in motion in the end of September.

PRESENT

In the panel:

From Ringkøbing-Skjern Boligforening: Managing director Bo Lodbjerg
Caretaker Per Simonsen
Resident contact person Winnie Højgaard Clausen

From Ringkøbing-Skjern municipality: SSP-employee Flemming Pedersen
SSP-employee Torben Sandsberg
Culture employee Rune Dahlager

From the police: Prevention employee Preben Bo

About 35 residents from housing department 5 and 8 participated, including board members from each section.

Bo Lodbjerg welcomed and told that the meeting was summoned on the initiative of Winnie Højgaard Clausen, because there have been complaints from some of the residents about noise, turmoil and vandalism. Partly to Winnie and partly on the facebook page quite recently. He added that the administration has only received a few complaints in that periode of time.

Winnie Højgaard Clausen added that the meeting was summoned on the initiative to take care of any problems in advance.

Afterwards the residents got to bring objection. There was presented the following problems and solutions. (Not every contribution is given an account of. Only those who pointed out specific problems and solutions. The contribution is not given an account of word for word but as a summary.)

PROBLEMS/CHALLENGES

Bo Lodbjerg: Unfortunately, you live in a building where sound travel.

Resident: Previously I have been very pleased to live in Damtoften. However, after my bike was stolen and someone threw eggs at my window I am not. How can we help the kids that clearly are bored?

Resident: There is many complaints on our facebook page. Some more serious. I think there is a need to draw attention on where you can bring your complaint if you experience any problems. To

specify whom, you should call and when you can get hold on them.

You can always contact the SSP for help and guidance.

Flemming Pedersen: 24 42 24 40

Torben Sandsberg: 24 89 92 40

In case of serious incidents the police can be contacted: 96 14 14 48

Resident: *(To the police)* If we see someone doing vandalism or similar, what should we do?

Resident: There are some major problems I number 23. For example, one resident had a water damage cause to the apartment above. The resident would not let the caretaker in to fix the problem. Now two families have moved away from that stairwell, because they could not live with the situation as it was. What can Ringkøbing-Skjern Boligforening do in such a situation?

Ringkøbing-Skjern Boligforening may lock oneself into an apartment to shut down a serious damage. If the residents do not live in accordance with the domestic routine regulation, Ringkøbing-Skjern Boligforening can give notice to terminate the lease arrangement. Unfortunately, this have been necessary in certain cases.

Resident: As a board member, I will not pretend to be a police officer. That is not my job. Many residents have moved away from Damtoften. Out in the city, you say Damtoften is not a nice place to live.

Resident: When you complain about other residents, you get harassed. *(Added, the problem has been taken care of)*

Resident: How do we gather those who did not show up tonight? It is hard to start of a dialog with a closed door.

Winnie have along with Rune Dahlager, arranged a culturally dinner night for residents with other ethnic origin. Only 5 residents participated.

Per Simonsen: If we do not get the 8-9-year old now, it will develop a problem when they become 15-16 years old. Just when we have grated the flowerbeds, I see these little boys stamp and ride on their bicycle through the flowerbeds.

Resident: How do we get a football team started up?

Resident: How is the distribution of Danes and new Danes in the departments?

Resident: I know more residents who do not dare to go out in the evening. I think we can be a bit more neighborly and friendlier against each other.

Resident: We have a cultural gap as residents. We may need to get better to contacting our neighbors.

Resident: As a new resident in Damtoften I expected a questionnaire on what I think about moving here. That is something I have missed.

Ringkøbing-Skjern Boligforening have embraced the request and are now working on a questionnaire with this in mind.

Ejvind Hansen: Is there more criminality in Damtoften than elsewhere?

Resident: I think there is too much vandalism out here and too many residents who throw trash on the footpaths and around the buildings. Should we have a private corps of watchmen established?

Winnie Højgaard Clausen: On a Saturday evening at 23'o'clock I have been called here because I was told there was turmoil. However, the only thing I met was a bunch of young people who enjoyed themselves and had fun. There was no one who made any trouble. They just played rounders.

ANSWERS / SOLUTIONS

Bo Lodbjerg (regarding complaints): Any complaints needs to be addressed to Ringkøbing-Skjern Boligforening.

Bo Lodbjerg (answer regarding difficulties in number 23): If a resident violates the housing rules, then the rental agreement will be terminated. However, it is a very long process.

Winnie Højgaard Clausen (regarding complaints): Bo, Per and myself are not the police. However, if a resident has a specific problem and the name on the person who is the cause, feel free to contact us.

The premise that Ringkøbing-Skjern Boligforening has something to relate to, regarding if you feel unsafe or displeased is that we are aware of the situation.

Preben Bo (For the question regarding, what you may do as a civil if you witness vandalism): If it is happening in public, you may record a video on your phone and then turn to us.

Flemming Pedersen (to several of the comments submitted): A dialogue is the way forward.

Flemming Pedersen (For the question regarding, what you should do if you witness children fight or steel each other's bikes): We can help you, if it is not something, the parents can handle themselves. Just call us. We also offer activities if there are children who are bored.

Resident: There are many sports clubs in town, where young people can get involved.

Rune Dahlager: (For the comment regarding difficulties with establishing contact with the new Dane residents): In my point of view, the language is the problem and maybe the culture. We Danes are those who are the majority. That is why we need to be spacious.

Winnie Højgaard Clausen: We do have Tarek as an interpreter. If you have any problems, please call me. Then Tarek and I can come and talk with the people involved.

Winnie can be contacted on: 24 45 10 90, or mail: whc@rsbolig.dk and with a private message on the Facebook page for the residents in Damtoften.

Flemming Pedersen: You must keep being open and talk with each other.

Rune Dahlager (For the questions regarding, how the new Danes would react if you as a resident would raise your voice to their children who are making trouble): You just must do that. Perhaps you could make a parent gathering so that we can break down prejudice and barriers? However, you must be prepared that it takes time to get in touch. We Danes are a majority, so we must take the initiative.

Torben Sandsberg: (For the proposal regarding sports clubs): In fact, much is already being done to bring the youngsters into sports clubs. Almost all young new Danes go for some kind of sport.

Resident: I have run a gymnastics team for new Dane girls and it was a big success.

Ejvind Hansen: A housing association on Sjælland have made a mini-department for groups of young people. They were given a small amount of money for activities and events.

There has been a follow up on this initiative, so there is now a board for young people with an adult who is in charge. This board is expected to start during the autumn.

Winnie Højgaard Clausen (For the proposal regarding starting a football team for the young people): We can do that.

Rune Dahlager (For the comment that it is difficult to establish contact with the new Dane neighbors): If people from another culture say no to an invitation, it may be because of a culturally conditioned courtesy with an expectation of being asked again.

Bo Lodbjerg (For the question of the distribution between Danish and New Danes tenants in the departments): About half of the households are of other ethnic origin. However, if you count heads, there are probably most new Danes.

(For the question regarding the municipalities right to assign): The municipality has a right of access to every fourth vacant apartment. Nevertheless, many of the new residents come because they choose to live here.

Winnie Højgaard Clausen (For the comment that many do not dare to go out in the evening): If I get to know who it is, I would like to talk to them.

Preben Bo: We have a mobile police station. We could come with it for a couple of days. Then people can come and talk to us. An initiative to get in touch with new Dane residents could also be that Ringkøbing-Skjern Boligforening arranges a children's birthday party once a month for all children who have birthday in this month.

Resident: How about making a sports club just for the children in Damtoften?

Winnie Højgaard Clausen: Could anyone be in the mood for a cozy gathering one stairwell at the time or a building, where Tarek is participating? If so, there would have to be some volunteers to help arrange it because I do not have enough working hours for it all. If you are interested, then sign up to me and we will get something arranged.

Preben Bo (For the question regarding, if there is more crime in Damtoften): No, it is no different here than what you could expect. For the last ½ year, we have had 23 incidents in the daily report. That is not more than you could expect.

Torben Sandsberg: Ejvind Hansens proposal about a sports cub could be a great idea. To get something arranged for the kids. It does not have to be that expensive.

Resident: Could the older kids, who are bored, be drawn in to arrange something for the younger children?

Flemming Pedersen: It is incredibly important to get a hold on the young people and ask them what they want.

When the board for the young people is up and running during the autumn, it is exactly what we expect to happen.