

## Neighbourhood group gets off to thunderous start



Picture: Kevin Poolman

**Good companions:** Chris Bloomfield, community manager, the Rev Jon Westall, minister at the New Hope Centre, Cllr June Orton, organiser Teresa Colliass, Liz Herbert, Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator and organiser Barbara Kendall.

A THUNDERCLAP heralded the start of a new community chapter in one area of Reading when 40 residents met to discuss what they want from their neighbourhood.

Organisers Barbara Kendall and Teresa Colliass sent out leaflets to

more than 550 homes and businesses in Cardiff Road, Swansea Road, York Road and Caversham Road and beyond to invite them to a free forum meeting.

More than 40 Abbey ward electors braved a thunderstorm to

get to the New Hope Community Centre in York Road.

Miss Kendall said: "The aim is to get a community spirit going and to see what could be done to make it a more lively place to live and work in."