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**Halesowen Area Committee – 21<sup>st</sup> March 2012**

**Report of the Area Liaison Officer**

**Responses to Questions Raised at the Halesowen Area Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2011**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To inform the Committee of the written responses made to questions asked at the previous meeting.

**Background**

2. A question was asked as to why refuse from flats above the shops in Windmill Hill was allowed to be piled up on Foredraft Street Car Park for collection by refuse collectors when Council leaflets stated that bin bags would only be collected from individual properties. It was queried whether the flats could be issued with their own communal bin to prevent other people dumping their rubbish.

Officers have met with residents concerned and a solution is being considered to remove the problem in relation to where the residents from the flats above the shops leave their waste for collection.

3. Reference was made to a planning application and it was queried as to why the building for an Islamic Culture Centre and Car Park at Malt Mill Lane had still not been completed and it was stated that a car park for traders and businesses would be more appropriate. Concern was also expressed about a particular building that was not being used for its purpose and that it was being used as a mosque instead.

The questioner has been written to and been advised that the matter is the subject of an ongoing planning enforcement issue which has resulted in the serving of an enforcement notice for the cessation of the unauthorised use as an educational facility.

4. Councillor Crumpton referred to a garage at the top of Mogul Lane and complained that there were problems with cars being parked on pavements and that residents were finding it extremely difficult to get their cars out and it was requested that a report be submitted to a future meeting on the matter. In response the Head of Traffic and Transportation has indicated that the obstruction caused by the indiscriminate parking of vehicles on the footpath is illegal and as such is the responsibility of the police. The issue will be raised with the local Cradley and Foxcote Neighbourhood Police Team for further action.

With regard to the bridge at the bottom of Mogul Lane the following response has been sent to Councillor Crumpton:-

"In response to recent concerns regarding standing water on the bridge in Mogul Lane, I would advise as follows:-

Following investigation by our structures team, it appears that the gully outlets positioned on the bridge may require remedial works. The two gullies at mid centre span are side inlet gullies which have small direct outlets into the river. Equally, there are four other gullies just off the bridge that also have outlets into the river.

From inspection, vegetation may have impacted on the serviceability of the outlets and as such future works will be undertaken to jet the gullies to hopefully improve the current situation.

Further to this we will continue to monitor the impact of the works”.

### **Finance**

5. There are no direct financial implications arising from the report.

### **Law**

6. Section 111 of the Local Government Act, 1972 enables the Council to do anything that is calculated to facilitate or is conducive or incidental to the discharge of its functions.

### **Equality Impact**

7. The report takes into account the Council’s Equality and Diversity Policy and there are no direct implications for children and young people in noting the report.

### **Recommendation**

8. That the Committee notes the contents of the report.



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**Iain Newman**  
**Area Liaison Officer**

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### **List of Background Papers**

Minutes of the Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2011