

NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY STATEMENT

APPENDIX 1

Saltwells Neighbourhood

1) Bowling Green

Planning and installation of Multi Use Games Area

Currently in progress *i.e. **The scheme is in progress, not the installation***, the plan and model of MUGA has been decided on, the site was originally intended to be on Netherbrook School's grounds but there is currently some dispute as to whether this will go ahead as planned.

Partners are Police, Birmingham Foundation and Bowling Green TRA

Half Term Activities

In partnership with Groundwork Black Country, Bowling Green TRA has a programme of activities for 8-14yrs Children running all week including two trips (Walsall lights and one other tbc). There will also be a Christmas party at Regis Hall which should be free. Funding was drawn in from the Lottery Fund. Neighbourhood Management has been present at two of the planning meetings and provided assistance on the first morning of the scheme.

Racist/Hate Crimes

In Partnership with Dudley Centre for Equality and Diversity we have conducted questionnaires and are in the process of publishing a report detailing findings.

Partners have been Police and Housing.

Due to the relatively high number of racist incidents in the patch, the Neighbourhood Manager has been working closely with the Centre for Equality and Diversity in Dudley, in order to support victims and families in the area.

We have managed to ensure more effective support from, and raised awareness among partners as to the level of this issue. There have been several outcomes, including closer monitoring of individual cases which has deterred perpetrators in some cases. One family was rehoused with the support of the Netherton Police Team and Housing Officers. If an alleged racist incident is reported back to Neighbourhood Management, the response is actioned within one working day. Bowling Green TRA has, *on occasion*, provided us with intelligence and made us aware of previously unreported incidents.

Supporting Individuals

Neighbourhood Management has been directly involved in sourcing placements and college courses for several individuals in the area over the past six months. We have been supported by both Dudley and Halesowen Colleges and Connexions (sic).

2) Saltwells

Multi Use Games Area

Planning approval is pending on the installation but final plans for the model used are now available and a public meeting will be held next week. There are several objectors.

Friends of Saltwells House

This is stalled due to the sale of Saltwells House

BMX Track and Youth Shelter

Both of these have been installed and have been very successful in attracting young people to a focal point. They seem much keener to engage in other activities with us now. Partners are Police, Councillor Cotterill and Saltwells TRA

3) Cradley Park Estate

Following on from Keiran McMahon, who set up a group to tackle Anti Social Behaviour on the estate, we have successfully worked with the police and Neighbourhood Learning Centre in order to keep the situation balanced and under control. Partners are, Paul Sherwood and Trevor Wilde.

4) Darby End

Several residents from BME backgrounds are being worked with on an individual basis with a view to engage them more fully to capacity build on an individual basis.

Neighbourhood Management has been present on one Estate Walkabout and at one TRA Meeting. *Note that the Darby End estate is not part of the Neighbourhood Manager's patch*, but due to the close proximity and shared issues with the patch, support has been given to individuals on the estate with regard to anti-social behaviour problems and the EMO has regular contact with Neighbourhood Management.

Music Technology

Neighbourhood Manager and Campbell Productions have worked closely to set up a one-day music project which includes a session in a professional recording studio. The project is set up but is in dire need of referrals in order to maintain its impetus. Partners are Mr. A. Clarke and Mr. K.S.Bhamra.

Please note, any mention of activities and work done by other agencies is not meant to infer anything other than to bring attention to the work done by these organisations.

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6) Woodside Community Association

Marked its 40th Anniversary in September 2006 with a celebration at Woodside Community Centre which was attended by the Mayor of Dudley. The Association held its AGM in November & Tom Keys was re-elected as Chair. The Community

Association faces challenges throughout 2007 now that Highgate School has been confirmed as a site for a Children's Centre. There will be extensive building work on the site, whilst maintaining the existing groups & community centre users – either in the Community Centre & the adjacent school premises. The Community Association is very supportive of this new initiative in the area whilst ensuring the community does not miss out on what are excellent facilities both at the existing Community Centre & the future Children's & Community Centre.

7) Holly Hall Tenants & Residents Association

Holly Hall TRA has had an interesting year – the Chair & Vice Chair stood down for personal reasons & Jean Homer was elected as Chair – a role which she has taken to very well over the past 12 months. John Doughty has recently returned to support the TRA in a participatory role – taking over from Jessica Mole who was thanked by the TRA for her support. The TRA has also supported the fledgling Friends of Woodside Park – involving local young people in creating a 'wish list' in what they would like to see in their local park.

8) Working Together in Holly Hall & Woodside

The inaugural public meeting of Working Together in Holly Hall & Woodside was held in November at Woodside Community Centre. This followed an initial meeting which was attended by Dudley MBC officers from Neighbourhood Management, Housing, Trading Standards, Community Safety etc, the police team from Neighbourhood 14 & interested community representatives. This meeting decided on leafleting all the residents in police Neighbourhood 14 inviting them to the first public meeting. It also asked if they would be interested in joining a TRA, Community Association, Neighbourhood Watch, Community Forum, Community Association or getting involved in youth work.

The first public meeting was very well attended & was not without incident – at the end of the meeting the following were decided on as the local communities' priorities:

1. Problems with the local scrap yard
2. Lack of youth provision
3. Car parking on the pavements on Stourbridge Road
4. Cover for the housing manager
5. Parking by the entrance to Highgate School on Bradford Road
6. Traffic & poor lighting on Avenue Road

The above priorities have been allocated a lead person to report back to local residents at the next meeting on Tuesday 12th December at 6.30 pm.

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