
Halesowen Area Committee – 10th November 2010

Report of the Area Liaison Officer

Responses to Questions Raised at the Halesowen Area Committee held on 9th September 2010

Purpose of Report

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

Background

2. Complaints were made about underage drinking, consumption of drugs and general anti social behaviour occurring in the early hours of the morning on Friday and Saturday evenings in the park on Barrack Lane. The park was situated at the back of residents' homes and residents were regularly disturbed by the noise resulting in loss of sleep. A resident pointed out that the park was the Council's responsibility and a commitment had been given that a gate would be erected but no action had been taken as yet. Officers have reported that there are some railing repairs due to be carried out along the boundary of Homer Hill Park and properties in West Road. The only gates that are currently locked at the end of the working day are the "old school gate" at the top of Homer Hill Road, and the vehicle gate, which leads onto Slade Road. This is to prevent unauthorised vehicle access and to deter potential traveller issues following the demolition of Cradley High School. There are a number of pedestrian access points around the park. Some have gates and some do not. Therefore to "lock down" the park is impossible. The police are aware of the problem and are undertaking proactive and forceful policing of the area and the Anti Social Behaviour Unit will be carrying out random visits with a view to informing the police of any problems.
3. At the Committee meeting held on 7th July 2010 a petition was submitted by Councillor K Turner on behalf of residents of Hayley Green requesting the reinstatement of the 006 bus service or a similar circular area service. A letter was sent to Centro and following a number of complaints and a Petition regarding the removal of the 006 service by its operator, Diamond Bus, Centro have been able to agree with National Express that from 25th July, the 244 service be reversed to reinstate a service serving the south side of Hagley Road.

Finance

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

Law

5. 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

6. 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

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



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List of Background Papers

Minutes of the Committee held on 9th September 2010