

Action Notes of the Kingswinford North and Wall Heath, Kingswinford South and Wordsley Community Forum

Tuesday 3rd February, 2015 at 6.30pm
at St Mary's Church Hall, The Village, Kingswinford

Present:

Councillor Miller – Chair
Councillor Billingham – Vice Chair

Councillors D Blood, P Brothwood, P Harley, D Hemingsley, N Neale, and D Tyler

Officers:

J Butler (Lead Officer) Directorate of the Environment, Economy and Housing
L Jury (Democratic Services Officer)

Together with 6 members of the public

23 **Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair welcomed those present and Members and Officers introduced themselves.

24 **Apology for Absence**

Councillor G Simms.

25 **Listening to you: Questions and Comments from Local Residents**

Subject

Action

A resident commented on the delay in transferring New Bradley Hall (NBH) from local authority care to the Black Country Housing Group and requested clarification as to when the transfer would take place. A letter that had been sent in error to residents and carers at the home was also presented.

It was noted that completion was expected within the next few weeks. With regards to the letters sent in error, it was noted that members would investigate the situation and ensure that a written apology would be sent to all concerned immediately.

Referring to NBH, members requested that an update on the situation be sent to members for information.

Appreciation of the Christmas lights displayed in the three wards last year was noted.

A resident requested an update on the situation with regards to the quarry in Wall Heath.

A resident requested information on any proposed celebrations for Black Country Day to be held in Wall Heath.

A resident and members reported on the poor condition of the carriageway surface at Bells Lane and members requested an up-to-date programme of proposed highway resurfacing.

Councillor Tyler stated that he would request that an update be sent to Members.

In response, members requested that an application from the Directorate of Environment, Economy and Housing for funding towards lights/trees for this Christmas be submitted to the July meeting for early consideration.

An update was given at the meeting and it was noted that the closure of the quarry by the end of April this year was on course.

Councillor Harley advised that a cross-party Action Group had been formed to give support and advice with regards to proposed activities. With regards to Wall Heath, it was noted that a Party in the Park was planned to take place in July which was being organised by the licensee of the Horse and Jockey Public House.

Fifteen events were planned to take place over the two weekends and any community groups interested in joining in the celebrations were requested to contact organisers.

Lead Officer to request the Chief Officer Environmental Services to send Members of the Forum the future highway maintenance programme.

A resident requested an update on the proposed plans to develop a convenience store on the Ashwood public house car park and the disused derelict shops at Sandringham Road.

Councillor Hemingsley reported that he had met with the proposed developers and confirmed that due to the economic climate, there were no plans to build a convenience store and members confirmed that they were not aware of any formal plans having been submitted. Councillor Brothwood also commented on a meeting to be held with residents within the next six weeks.

With regards to the shops at Sandringham Road, no resolution as yet was noted.

A resident requested an update on the residential home development in Pensnett that had been suspended.

Councillor Harley reported that he had meet with the developer and viewed the plans for a home which would cater for dementia patients. Issues with regards to a legal dispute were currently being resolved and progress should be seen shortly.

A resident again raised concern regarding traffic congestion on the A491.

Concern noted.

A resident requested an update on the proposed Wordsley festival.

Councillor Hemingsley reported that a meeting of the Friends of Wordsley Park was scheduled so an update with regards to the festival would be given at the next Forum meeting.

Subject

Action

Councillor Brothwood reported that he had personally removed 100 plus black refuse sacks from Marshall Crescent, Wordsley Hospital site due to local residents' concerns. The situation had arisen as parking problems had restricted access of refuse vehicles.

Lead Officer to contact Chief Officer Environmental Services and suggest that smaller vehicles be used to collect waste to prevent this situation arising in the future.

27 **Community Forum Funding**

Application

1st Wordsley Boys Brigade.

Recommendation

Approve, plus an additional £174.03, totalling £2,000 on condition that the applicant submits details confirming the proposed expenditure of the additional money in line with Council guidelines to the Lead Officer.

Kingswinford Community Association.

Approve, £1362 for the provision of CCTV cameras.

28 **Dates, Time and Venues of Future Meetings**

Future meeting dates noted as follows:-

Tuesday 24th March, 2015 – St Mary's Church Hall, The Village, Kingswinford, DY6 8AY.

The meeting ended at 8.00pm