

## **Action Notes of the Gornal and Upper Gornal and Woodsetton Community Forum**

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2014 at 6.30pm**  
**at the Lower Gornal Royal British Legion, Ruiton Street, Dudley**

### **Present:**

Councillors D Branwood, K Casey, D Perks, R Scott-Dow and S Turner

### **Officers:**

J Jennings (Lead Officer) (Head of Communications and Public Affairs) and  
K Buckle (Democratic Services Officer)

Together with 28 members of the public

#### **1      Welcome and Introductions**

The Lead Officer welcomed those present and Members introduced themselves.

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#### **2      Election of Chair**

Councillor Casey was elected Chair of the Forum for the municipal year.

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#### **3      Election of Vice-Chair**

Councillor S Turner was elected Vice-Chair of the Forum for the municipal year.

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#### **4      Apologies for Absence**

Councillor A Aston.

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#### **5      Loan Shark Campaign**

Mr N Mohammed, Birmingham City Council, Trading Standards and Illegal Money Lending Team gave a verbal presentation on illegal money-lenders and loan sharks.

Mr Mohammed referred to various cases, which had been investigated and their outcomes. He also referred to the penalties involved and the number of cases dealt with by the Team to date.

Mr Mohammed referred to the advertising and campaigns to raise awareness in relation to Loan Sharks.

## 6 **Listening to you: Questions and Comments from Local Residents**

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Action</u>
Request to extend double yellow lines in Roberts Street, Lower Gornal.	Councillor D Branwood to refer to the appropriate Council Officers.
Request that the Fire Service and Police be requested to attend future meetings of the Forum.	The Lead Officer would ensure that the dates and venues of future Forums are provided to the appropriate Officers.
Concerns in relation to speeding traffic on the Ridgeway and Vale Street, Upper Gornal.	The Chair undertook to continue to monitor the situation in relation to speeding traffic as he was aware that safer routes to schools was a priority at the present time.
Failure of CENTRO to advise the residents of Parkes Hall, Upper Gornal of changes to bus routes due to road closures.	The Chair and Councillor D Perks to contact CENTRO and ascertain what consultation takes place in relation to changes to bus routes.
Problems following the recycling collection with loose green and blue bags. Could these bags be put into the black boxes to keep them secure?	The Chair and Councillor D Perks to refer the matter to the appropriate Officers.
Problems following the green waste collections with green bins obstructing pedestrians on pavements.	The Chair and Vice-Chair to refer this to the Council's Green Care service.
Trees overhanging gardens in Turner Street, Lower Gornal and a request for information on how often they were pruned by the Council.	The Vice-Chair to discuss this with the questioner following the meeting.

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## 7 **Working with you: Topics raised by Local Councillors**

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Action</u>
Councillor Scott-Dow referred to concerns by local residents in relation to the number of accidents and the possibility of further accidents on Temple Street, Lower Gornal.	The Vice-Chair advised that options were being considered in relation to Temple Street.

## 8 **Community Forum Funding**

<u>Application</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
Black Country Radio	Approved a £1,000 contribution from each ward.
Ellowes Hall and Area TRA	Deferred pending further investigations in relation to costings.
Life Centre Debt Advice	Approved a £615.00 contribution from the Upper Gornal and Woodsetton Ward.
Dudley Community Church	Refused as does not meet the local criteria.
Access in Dudley	Refused by the Gornal Ward as does not meet the local criteria.  Deferred by the Upper Gornal & Woodsetton Ward pending further information on the amount required and the purpose of the funding.
Samaritans Brierley Hill Branch	Refused by the Gornal Ward as does not meet the local criteria.  Approved a £222.60 contribution from the Upper Gornal & Woodsetton Ward.

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## 9 **Dates, Time and Venues of Future Meetings**

Noted by the Forum.

The meeting ended at 8.10pm