

**Action Notes of the Amblecote, Cradley and Wollescote and Lye and Stourbridge
North Community Forum**

**Wednesday 10th September, 2014 at 6.30pm
at Lye Community Centre, Cross Walks, Lye**

Present:

Councillor C Perks (Chair)
Councillor G Partridge (Vice-Chair)
Councillors P Bradley, T Crumpton, M Hanif and P Lowe

Officers:

A Grove (Lead Officer - Head of Youth Service) and K Griffiths (Democratic Services Officer)

Together with 5 members of the public

10 **Welcome and Introductions**

The Lead Officer welcomed those present. The local Councillors and members of the public introduced themselves.

11 **Apologies for Absence**

Councillors R Body, T Herbert and P Martin.

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

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Action</u>
Reference was made to the missing gates at the entrance of Homer Hill Park. It was noted that the builders involved in developing the Extra Care Housing on the former Cradley High School site were responsible for removing them. A request was made to replace the gates as a matter of urgency.	Referred for a written response.
Concern about the poor condition of Cross Walks, particularly as many residents use Lye Community Centre. Request to either resurface the road or for pot holes to be repaired.	Referred for a written response.

Reference was made to residents in Clinic Drive “dumping” refuse bags in the Street, despite being issued with wheelie bins.

Councillor Hanif responded and assured the Forum that the matter was being dealt with.

Problems with rubbish generated by shops in Grange Road, with particular mention to wooden pallets being stacked up outside Pedmore Wines.

Referred for a written response.

Issue relating to overgrown brambles on both sides of the railway bridge in Brook Street and requesting the Council to tidy up the area.

Referred for a written response.

Councillor Lowe responded and indicated that the Rail Authority had been contacted on two separate occasions regarding the overgrown brambles. He suggested that voluntary clean up group could be used to maintain the area.

Concerns were raised in relation to blocked drains in Grange Road.

Referred for a written response.

A resident reported on ongoing promotional activities concerning national health and well-being related projects.

A presentation to be given at the next meeting of the Forum.

13 **Face the People Consultation**

Mr A Winning (ASBU Development Manager) referred to the “Face the People” event to be held at the Netherton Arts Centre on 16th September, 2014 from 7 pm – 9 pm. Representatives from the Police, Council and Probation Service would be in attendance to answer residents’ queries in relation to crime, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse.

14 **Working with you: Topics raised by Local Councillors**

Subject

Action

Councillor Perks, on behalf of her constituents, referred to issues raised concerning the lack of public parking at Wollescote Park, which was raised at the Community Forum held on 2nd July, 2014. She indicated that residents had received a response, however, expressed concern that the matter had not been resolved.

Noted.

Councillor Partridge referred to the “Face the People” event referred to above and encouraged local people to attend. Noted.

Councillors Partridge and Lowe referred to a meeting to be held on 1st October, 2014 for residents of the Borough concerning council tenants to be held at the Copthorne Hotel and encouraged local people to attend. Noted.

Councillor Lowe referred to a number of current initiatives aimed to engage the public to participate in issues affecting the Borough and indicated that further suggestions from the public would be welcomed. Noted.

Councillor Hanif referred to general issues affecting the area of the Community Forum, with particular reference to fly tipping, drainage problems and the poor condition of roads. Noted.

Councillor Hanif referred to the lack of car parking on the New Farm Estate and that the Council was working with residents to resolve the issue. Noted.

Councillor Crumpton referred to a community art event taking place at St Peters Church in Cradley and asked for any suggestions as to ways to increase local knowledge in relation to issues and possible solutions to reduce grooming and child sexual exploitation. Noted.

15 **Community Forum Funding**

It was noted that due to limited funding being available, and in the interests of fairness, a maximum of £1,000 would be considered for future applications. Larger amounts would be considered in exceptional circumstances.

Application

Midland Film and Art

Recommendation

Approved £995.00 to fund creative work with adults with learning difficulties.

16 **Other Business**

The Lead Officer referred to the Gibbs Road development in Lye and indicated that any ideas for a new name would be welcomed. A decision would be made after September.

Members suggested a number of topics for discussion at future meetings including Safeguarding Children and aspects of highways maintenance and drainage. Officers would be invited accordingly.

Members referred to the Cradley Day event taking place on Saturday 4th October, 2014 at Cradley Sports and Social Club between 10 am to 3 pm and encouraged attendance. It was noted that Cradley Library would also be running ancestry sessions on the same day.

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

Future meetings noted as follows:-

Wednesday 12th November, 2014 (Providence Methodist Church)

Wednesday 4th February, 2015 (Amblecote Church Hall)

Wednesday 25th March, 2015 (Lye Community Centre)

The meeting ended at 7.15pm