



Community Forum Action Notes



Forum: Norton, Pedmore & Stourbridge East and Wollaston & Stourbridge Town

Date and time: Tuesday 25th June 2019 at 6.30 pm

Venue: St. James's Church Hall, Belfry Drive, Wollaston, DY8 3SE

Attendance: Councillors Karen Shakespeare, Colin Elcock, Steve Clark, Nicolas Barlow and Alan Hopwood

Officers/police: Simon Manson (Liaison officer), Iain Gillet (Community development worker), PC Natalie Lees and PCSO Ben Camplin
Members of the public: 17

1. Appointment of chair and vice-chair

Councillor Karen Shakespeare was appointed as chair of the forum and Councillor Alan Hopwood as vice-chair for the 2019/20 year.

2. Apologies and declarations of interest: apologies received from Councillors Les Jones and Ian Kettle.

3. Listening to you

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Action/Response</u>
Chair of Wollaston TRA referred to issue re vandalism to steps and threatening behaviour by resident on Dorset Road raised at the last meeting. He had received a response from Housing but was not satisfied.	Liaison officer to raise again with Housing.
Flats on Kingsway – problems with contractor and work carried out; no notice of works to tenants. Wollaston Farm TRA not informed and complaint submitted. Site meeting had taken place with officers and contractor.	Liaison officer to raise with Strategic Director Place and Cabinet Member

Conifer in garden on Norfolk Road – Green Care had undertaken to deal with this but no action to date

Liaison officer to raise with Green Care

Petition submitted to council about pedestrian crossing at Oldswinford Cross – resident felt that further changes would lead to worse traffic tailbacks and there was not a history of accidents involving pedestrians.

The chair was aware of the petition and agreed that changes would make hold-ups worse. It would though need to be looked at alongside other potential changes to crossings in the vicinity. She would feed back the feelings at the meeting that further changes to the lights not wanted.

Dunsley Road being used by contractors' vehicles to access Severn Trent works when correct access is from A449

Liaison officer to pass on this and other issues raised re Dunsley Road to council officers

Three fields at top of Dunsley Road not cut and footpath from road over Wollaston Ridge overgrown.

Footpath is in South Staffordshire

Request for dog bin to be moved on Dunsley Road

Drones being flown on three fields

Not a police issue unless anti-social behaviour or invasion of privacy.

Plans for building on three fields

Cllr Barlow replied that was mentioned as a site within the Black Country Core Strategy but he couldn't see it being developed.

4. Police and Communities Together

Subject

Action/Response

Main priority in area is car key burglaries.

Residents advised to take precautions e.g. set house alarms

Resources still short in area with only 2 police officers and 3 PCSOs.

Aware of antisocial behaviour in some locations e.g. police had visited the rear of Mary Stevens Hospice.

Resident raised young people drinking on three fields off Dunsley Road with purchases made from shop on estate

Reference made to promise from Ch. Supt. at last meeting that police would work with TRA and St James's Primary School to address parking outside school within 6 months of meeting. To date only a holding email received.

Enforcement of parking on pavements

Trading Standards had undertaken test purchasing here in past. Liaison officer to ask if another could be done.

PC Lees responded that the onus is on schools to deal with issue. Cllr Barlow was a governor at the school which does regularly ask parents to park sensibly; he'll raise at the next governors' meeting. The Council's enforcement car can only cover yellow zigzags outside schools. There are other potential solutions e.g. through funding by businesses; "junior PCSOs" in schools. PC Lees will phone TRA chair.

If vehicles obstructing pavement, it is a police enforcement issue; cars can park part on pavement if no obstruction. Where double yellow lines, council will enforce. PC Lees added that do need to take a practical approach e.g. in Stourbridge Old Quarter.

5. Working with you

Subject

Racecourse Lane – speeding still an issue despite measures taken. Community speed watch there was cancelled for this evening. Ward councillors had asked for double white lines along length of road. Chair had asked for review of all flashing speed signs in borough.

Action/Response

Please contact PC Lees to get involved in community speed watch.

Cllr. Clark updated on the Longlands site – ward Cllrs. meeting the developers on 27th June. Reduction in houses planned from 63 to 52 but some concerns remain. Cllr will provide an update at the next meeting.

Cllr. Clark – talking to other educational establishments and companies about keeping Stourbridge College open for education. He had asked the council's legal department to look at taking legal action against Bet for sale of Long lands site as it was given as a community asset.

Cllr Barlow was still pursuing enforcement of parking offences on Stourbridge High Street.

Chair indicated that a lot of tickets had been issued there.

Cllr Clark - rough sleepers - aware of 2 regulars in Stourbridge town centre. Do try to support all rough sleepers and get accommodation for all who want it.

Chair – had complaints of groups of children, late night parties and alleged drug taking on Fredericks Road but seems to have calmed down.

6. Funding

Applicant

Side By Side Theatre Company

Stourbridge Community Development Trust

Recommendation

£5,000.00 towards cost of electrical work

£4,905.00 towards delivery of a study programme in partnership with Ridgewood School

St. Thomas' Stourbridge PCC

£4,213.20 to purchase chairs and trolleys for the church hall.

Friends of Mary Stevens Park (and Swinford Common)

£5,000.00 towards new play equipment in the park and to be eligible for funding from the Enover Community Trust.

7. Next meeting – Thursday 5th September 2019 at Ham Dingle Primary School

Meeting ended at: 8:20 pm