

**ACTION NOTES OF THE MEETING OF KINGSWINFORD NORTH AND
WALL HEATH/KINGSWINFORD SOUTH AND WORDSLEY COMMUNITY
FORUM**

Tuesday, 23rd April, 2013 at 6.30 p.m.
at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Wordsley

PRESENT: -

Councillor D Blood (Chair)
Councillor P Miller (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Mrs Billingham, Boleyn, Harley, Hemingsley, J Jones, Mrs
Simms and Tyler

OFFICERS:

Mr I Newman (Lead Officer to the Forum), Treasurer and Mrs L Jury – Both
Directorate of Corporate Resources

together with 20 Members of the public

1. **INTRODUCTIONS BY THE CHAIR**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Kingswinford North and Wall Heath/ Kingswinford South and Wordsley Community Forum and in his remarks, commented on the purpose of the new Community Forums set up by the Council. Following the making of other general announcements the Chair introduced other council officers present.

2. **LISTENING TO YOU: QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM LOCAL RESIDENTS**

A number of questions and comments were raised by local residents in relation to the following:-

Nature of questions/comments

Referred to

- (1) A resident raised concern regarding the problems they were having parking outside their property due to other car users parking outside when using local shops and the nearby public house and it was questioned whether a residents parking only scheme could be introduced. It was noted that this was an issue that had been raised with the Council

Director of the Urban Environment for a written response.

previously.

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| (2) | Campaigners raised the issue of the future of New Bradley Hall, in particular the lack of consultation with Adult Services/ Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services regarding future plans. The date of the next meeting was requested. Councillor Harley also requested that a copy of the plan that had been submitted previously to the Cabinet Member be forwarded to him to discuss with the Shadow Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services. | Director of Adult, Community and Housing Services for a written response. |
| (3) | A resident raised an issue regarding the unsightly shop fronts in Sandringham Place, off Bells Lane and questioned whether they could be restored. | Director of the Urban Environment for a written response. |
| (4) | A resident raised a query regarding road signs damaged by contractors on Madeley Road and Sunnymead Road. The Sunnymead Road sign had now been repaired but when will the sign on Madeley Road be restored? | Director of the Urban Environment for a written response. |
| (5) | A Resident raised concern regarding the escalating amount of rubbish on the Borough's main roads, especially Duncan Edwards Way. It was questioned whether the Community Payback scheme could be used to resolve the issue? | Director of the Urban Environment for a written response. |
| (6) | In response to the question raised regarding litter, a Youth Worker from the Authority, in attendance at the meeting, reported that she was looking for support from the Forum, such as a skip and other equipment, to organise a litter pick in the area. | Director of the Urban Environment for a written response.

Please copy all correspondence to Councillor Boleyn. |

Other Issues Raised:-

- A query was raised regarding the lack of Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators and it was questioned whether the Police would be informing residents that they should no longer be claiming from their insurance if co-ordinators were no longer in the scheme. In response, Councillor Tyler reported that he would raise the issue of resurrecting Neighbourhood Watch schemes at his next meeting with Chief Superintendent Johnson.
- Noted that the PACT meeting scheduled for this evening had been cancelled. PC Ravenscroft presented the crime figures for March/April 2013 for the area, noting that crime levels had reduced since February. It was also noted that the next PACT meeting was scheduled for 23rd May 2013 at 6.30pm in the Kingswinford Community Centre, DY6 8AP.
- A resident raised concern regarding youths congregating and using offensive language, which was disturbing residents, at the back of Tythebarn Drive on the old Dawley Brook railway line.
- David Stenson, Governor of the Dudley Group of Hospitals National Health Service Foundation, gave a short presentation and left leaflets regarding Healthwatch in Dudley and reported that he would be attending the Forums in the future if anyone wished to raise questions relating to healthcare in the Borough.
- Concern was raised regarding the possible increase in traffic on the A491 when the new Tesco opened in Stourbridge Town Centre. Advertising of the Community Forums was also raised.

3.

WORKING WITH YOU – TOPICS RAISED BY LOCAL COUNCILLORS

- Councillors Boleyn and Tyler referred to the meeting they had attended with the Wall Heath and Kingswinford War Memorials Research Group who were seeking information regarding men from the area who had died in the 1st and 2nd World Wars. The group were aiming to publish a detailed Book of Remembrance of the village and its people.
- Councillor Tyler referred to his appointment as Armed Forces Champion for Dudley Council and the remit of the role. It was noted that the scheme entitling veterans to half price leisure facilities in the borough had now been extended to all armed forces and their families. In his role, Councillor Tyler would be visiting military establishment within the borough and should anyone require any further information with regard to the armed forces, they were asked to contact him.

- Councillor Mrs Sims reported that she had just acquired bin bags for two streets in Wordsley who had not received any and had been told by the Council that they had missed the cut off date to receive any bags. It was noted that this was not the case and Councillor Mrs Sims requested that if any resident had been affected by this, to contact their Ward Councillor.
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5. AREA GRANTS

The Lead Officer verbally reported that no applications had been submitted for this round of funding from the Forum and the application submitted to the last meeting, from 4 US Project for the sum of £3,552, which had been deferred for further information, had now been approved.

6. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

To note that the date of the next meeting of the Forum would be determined at Annual Council on 16th May 2013.

The meeting ended at 8.10pm.