

## **BRIERLEY HILL AREA COMMITTEE**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2005 at 7.00 pm  
At the Wordsley School,  
Brierley Hill Road, Stourbridge

### **PRESENT:-**

Councillor Mrs Wilson (Chairman)  
Councillors Blood, Debney, Ms Foster, Ms Harris, Harley, Islam, Ms Jordan,  
Miller, Ms Patrick, Mrs Pearce, Southall and Tomkinson

### **OFFICERS**

Mr Lowson (Area Liaison Officer), Chief Executives Directorate, Assistant Director of the Urban Environment (Economic Regeneration), Senior Solicitor (Directorate of Law and Property), Principal Engineer (Traffic and Transportation, Directorate of the Urban Environment), Nature Conservation Policy Officer (Directorate of the Urban Environment), Town Centre Manager (Directorate of the Urban Environment), Education Youth Officers (Directorate of Education and Lifelong Learning), and Ms K Smith (Directorate of Law and Property).

There were approximately 30 members of the public in attendance.

---

65

### **MINUTES**

#### **RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting of the committee held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2005, be approved as a correct record and signed.

---

66

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received on behalf of Councillors Burt and Tyler.

---

67

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Debney, Southall and Mrs Wilson declared a Personal Interest in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct in agenda item 5a (Kingswinford Skate Park) in view of their being members of the Development Control Committee.

Councillor Debney declared a Personal Interest in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct in agenda item 8 (Capital Allocations) in view of being a member of Wordsley Festival Committee.

---

68

## YOUTH ISSUES

### Kingswinford Skate Park

Members of the committee were unhappy that no written report had been received and therefore, deferred the item insisting that a written report be submitted to the next meeting of the area committee.

### Young People's "have a say day" Feedback from Conference

Ben Millward, member of the United Kingdom's Young People's Parliament gave a verbal presentation on feedback from the recently held "Have a Say Day" conference.

The conference had been conducted in a series of work shops, covering the topics of education, health, personal safety, social activities and equality. Ben Millward summarised the view points expressed and conclusions reached at each respective work shop.

The Chairman, and Members of the Committee thanked Ben Millward for the excellent presentation and proffered their future support for work with young people in the future.

---

69

## PUBLIC FORUM

The following question was raised and responded to :-

- 1 A member of the public raised concerns over the proposed Inclusion Strategy Policy document and amendments made to it with apparent lack of consultation with parents.

The Area Liaison Officer responded that the Inclusion Strategy document would be submitted to the Cabinet on the 20<sup>th</sup> April 2005 for consideration before being submitted to Council.

70

## APPLICATIONS IN RESPECT OF LAND AND PROPERTY OWNED BY THE COUNCIL

---

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted regarding land and property within the Committee's area.

On consideration of the report it was

## RESOLVED

- 1) That the Cabinet Member for Housing be recommended to declare the land, to the rear of 19 Brook Street Wordsley, surplus to requirements to be sold as part of a joint disposal and/or development of the larger site for residential development use, as shown on the plan attached to the report submitted, upon the terms and conditions to be agreed by the Director of Law and Property.
- 

71

## CAPITAL ALLOCATIONS

A verbal report of the Area Liaison Officer was submitted on applications received for funding from the capital allocation of the Committee.

Upon consideration of the recommendations of the Capital Allocations Working Group it was

## RESOLVED

1. That application no. 9/04 submitted by Kingswinford Childminders Support Group for £1000 for the purchase of toys for a toy library be refused, on the grounds that it does not meet the necessary criteria for a capital allocation in terms of being of public benefit.
2. That application no. 10/04 submitted by St. Mary's Church of England for £5000 towards a total cost of £92,375 for the renovation and restoration of it's Community Hall be approved.
3. That application no. 11/04 submitted by Hearts Undergoing Support (HUGS) for £2000 for the purchase of a laptop computer and printer, projector and blood pressure monitor be approved.
4. That application no. 12/04 submitted by Nine Locks Community Association for £10,000 towards the total cost of the installation of a CCTV system be approved subject to conditions, namely that the Capital Allocation fund will meet half the cost of the installation, up to a maximum of £7000.
5. That application no. 13/04 submitted by Fens Pool Community Centre for £7000 to purchase new lighting and a new fitted kitchen be approved.
6. That application no. 14/04 submitted by Dudley Dyslexia Association for £2000 to purchase two computers be deferred pending further information to be provided by the organisation at a future meeting of the working group.

7. That application no. 15/04 submitted by Brierley Hill Methodist Church for £3500 towards a total cost of £7220 for the purchase of a new sound system and hearing loop be deferred, pending further information on what community groups actually use the church hall.
8. That application no. 16/04 submitted by Wordsley Festival Group for £5000 to purchase radio communications equipment be approved, subject to the group disclosing to the Liaison Officer the sum of the 'small donations' requested in return for the borrowing of the equipment over the next 12 months.

---

72

#### DECLARATION OF BARROW HILL LOCAL NATURE RESERVE

A report of the Director of the Urban Environment was submitted seeking support for the declaration of Barrow Hill as a Local Nature Reserve as indicated on the plan attached to the report submitted.

#### RESOLVED

1. That, the Cabinet Member for Leisure be advised of the Committees support for the declaration of Barrow Hill as a Local Nature Reserve, as indicated on the plan attached to the report submitted.
2. That, the Cabinet Member for Leisure be advised of the Committees support for efforts to secure external funding for Local Nature Reserve management and enhancement.

---

73

#### HIGHWAYS MINOR WORKS CAPITAL PROGRAMME FOR 2005/2006

A report of the Director of the Urban Environment was submitted on the proposed programme of works for Local Safety Schemes, Pedestrian Crossings and Safer Routes to School within the Brierley Hill Area.

#### RESOLVED

That the Cabinet Member for Transportation be advised of the Committee's support for the introduction of the proposed Local Safety Schemes, Pedestrian Crossings and Safer Routes to Schools initiatives, as set out in Appendices A, B and C of the report submitted.

---

74

#### ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Councillor Tomkinson, Debney and other Members of the Committee raised concerns over the illegal use of motorcycles on open land such as that at Fens Pool, Barrow Hill and Lawnswood. It was also noted that there had also been incidents of youths riding motorcycles in King George VI Park.

Members of the public commented on the lack of apparent police response to these incidents when reported and expressed the view that it would be useful to have a named police contact when calling.

Councillor Islam reported that the two Police Community Support Officers had been withdrawn from the Hawbush Estate and this had had the effect of increasing the number of anti social behaviour incidents on the estate. It was requested that the police look at re-instating at least one of the officers.

The Area Liaison Officer confirmed that West Midlands Police would be invited to attend the next meeting of the area committee to discuss these and other anti social issues.

---

75

#### DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

It was noted that dates and venues of future meetings of the Committee would be advised when determined.

The meeting ended at 8:30 pm.

CHAIRMAN