

Brierley Hill Area Committee – 28th June, 2012

Report of the Brierley Hill Area Liaison Officer

Matters raised at the Brierley Hill Area Committee on 8th March, 2012

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To update Committee on a number of issues raised at the 8th March, 2012, Brierley Hill Area Committee that relate to services provided by the Council.

BACKGROUND

2. The Council provides a number of services that have considerable impact on local communities.
3. Requests for service and information are received at Area Committee on a regular basis from both members and the general public, relating to a range of services. Few enquiries can be answered immediately, with many prompting further investigation, feasibility studies and public consultation, prior to being reported back to Committee.

FINANCE

5. There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report.

LAW

6. Anti-Social Behaviour Orders are largely governed by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.
7. Provisions relating to Highways including trees thereon are contained in the Highways Act 1980.

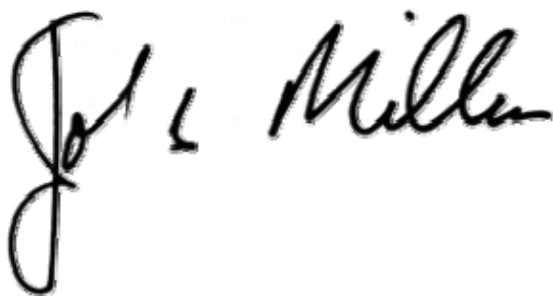
8. Provisions relating to the Council's Housing stock are contained in the Housing Act 1985.
9. Section 51 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 places a duty on the Council as Waste Disposal Authority for its areas to provides places where its residents may deposit their household waste free of charge.
10. Traffic Regulation Orders are made under Section 1 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.
11. The Traffic Calming Act 1992 amends the Highways Act 1980 to allow works to be carried out to promote safety and to preserve or improve the environment.
12. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 authorises the Council to do anything which is calculated to facilitate or is conducive or incidental to the exercise of any of its functions.
13. Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 allows the Council to do anything that it considers is likely to promote or improve the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of its area.

EQUALITY IMPACT

14. This report is consistent with the Council's Equality and Diversity policy. There is no direct effect on children or young people.

RECOMMENDATION

15. The Committee is recommended to note the contents of this report.



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Brierley Hill Area Committee Liaison Officer

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Background papers: Progress on matters raised (appendix 1)

**PROGRESS REPORT ON MATTERS RAISED AT THE BRIERLEY HILL AREA
COMMITTEE ON THE 8TH MARCH 2012**

PETITIONS Minute 37 (b)

Issue:

Objecting to proposals for double yellow lines surrounding the Park Tavern Public House in Kingswinford. It was reported that the first named Petitioner had been advised that the concerns had been noted and Officer recommendations regarding the public highway would be decided upon in due course.

Response:

A report on the Wordsley and Kingswinford Traffic Regulation Orders will be presented to Area Committee.

PUBLIC FORUM

Issue - Minute 39 (a)

In response to a written question regarding concerns in relation to the flats in Beech Road, Kingswinford being in a state of disrepair which had resulted in anti social behaviour at the site, the Area Liaison Officer advised that he would refer the matter to the Directorate of Adult, Community and Housing Services who would submit a response to the questioner.

Councillor P Harley further reported on the position advising of the possible recommendations in relation to the Beech Road shops and requesting that a report be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee in relation to the up to date position

Response:

A report on the Beech Road shops will be presented to Area Committee.

Issue - Minute 39 (a) continued

Councillor P Harley also raised an issue in relation to the derelict shops in Sandringham Place, Wordsley suggesting that a report in relation to the Council's proposals regarding these shops should also be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee

Response:

A report on the Sandringham Place shops will be presented to Area Committee.

Issue - Minute 39 (g)

In relation to the erection of the Round Oak Steel Workers Memorial, the Area Liaison Officer advised that the Borough Artist was continuing to investigate funding options as sponsorship was required for the cost of the provision of the Memorial and agreed to provide details of the up to date position in relation to funding to a future meeting of the Committee.

Response:

The Borough Artist identified three local firms who have offered some help 'in kind' with the project by offering steel and assisting with specialist cutting and fabrication work.

Contact was also made to other potential sponsors but without success.

There is no actual funding available for the project, either for detailed design fees, fabrication fees, or for money for foundations, planning permissions, transport etc. The original estimated cost of this project was in the region of £50k to £70k depending on the size of the sculpture. This could be reduced significantly if the help referred to above still stands.

The Borough Artist also contacted the Arts Council to assess their interest in the project but initial feedback appears that this is unlikely to be supported financially.

Consequently, the development of the project has stalled given that funding is required in order to make meaningful progress.

WARD ISSUES

Minute 42

In relation to the shops situated at Sandringham Road, Wordsley, this site was not council owned, however Officers were working to promote the site and the council's Corporate Property Department were investigating potential use of the site and a report on this would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

Response:

A report on the Sandringham Place shops will be presented to Area Committee.

Minute 42 continued

In relation to the shops situated at Beech Road, Kingswinford, this site was council owned and the Housing Services of the Directorate of Adult, Community and Housing Services were currently investigating options in relation to the site and a report would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee in relation to the site

Response:

A report on the Beech Road shops will be presented to Area Committee.