
Halesowen Area Committee – 22nd November 2006

Report of the Area Liaison Officer

Responses to Questions Raised at the Halesowen Area Committee held on 12th September 2006

Purpose of Report

1. To inform the Committee of the written responses made to questions asked at the previous meeting.

Background

2. At the meeting of this Committee held on 12th September 2006, questions were raised under the Public Forum item and the responses to those questions are as follows:-
3. It was reported that a member of the public had submitted a written question complaining about the floor in the Cornbow Shopping Centre and requesting that it be made safer. Signs indicating that the floor was wet were not always given which had caused her to slip and hurt her hip and she was concerned about older people who were more fragile. The Area Liaison Officer has written to the operators of Cornbow bringing the matter to their attention and requesting remedial action to be taken.
4. A member of the public queried the timescales for the regeneration of Halesowen Town Centre and further commented that the citizens of Halesowen were fed up with the closure of shops. The Head of Policy (Executive and Support) indicated that people's views were sought as part of the consultation process and he undertook to include the comments made. A report outlining the timescales involved, together with proposals for Vale Retail, proposals surrounding the new bus station and the position of Asda with regard to a compulsory purchase order is to be considered later in the Agenda at Item No 12.
5. In respect of the query Under the Gambling Act 2005, it has been confirmed that small society lotteries will still need to be registered with the Local Authority. The Regulations and table of fees were still awaited from the Gambling Commission.
6. In relation to Minute No 29(e)(i) regarding a report clarifying the position on the Lye and Wollescote Cemetery, Stourbridge Area Committee are to consider the report at its January meeting pending further consultation on the draft report from the Diocese of Worcester, English Heritage and internally from within the Council. The same report will also be submitted to the January meeting of this Committee.

Finance

7. There are no direct financial implications arising from the report.

Law

8. Section 111 of the Local Government Act, 1972 enables the Council to do anything that is calculated to facilitate or is conducive or incidental to the discharge of its functions.

Equality Impact

9. The report takes into account the Council's Equality and Diversity Policy and whilst, there are no direct implications for children and young people in noting the report, any decision made by the relevant body in relation to the closure of Cradley Hill School will impact on those groups.
10. This report will have no specific effect on children and young people. There is no requirement for consultation with children and young people or the involvement of children and young people in noting the report.

Recommendation

11. The Committee is recommended to note the contents of the report.



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List of Background Papers

Minutes – 12th September 2006