

Action Notes of the Kingswinford North and Wall Heath, Kingswinford South and Wordsley Community Forum

Tuesday 24th March, 2015 at 6.30pm
at St Mary's Church Hall, The Village, Kingswinford

Present:

Councillor Miller – Chair
Councillor Billingham – Vice Chair
Councillors D Blood, P Brothwood, P Harley, D Hemingsley, N Neale, G Simms and D Tyler

Officers:

S Norman (Chief Executive), M Holloway (Lead Officer) Directorate of the Urban Environment and L Jury (Democratic Services Officer)

Together with 8 members of the public.

29 Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed those present and Members and Officers introduced themselves.

30 Listening to you: Questions and Comments from Local Residents

Subject

Action

A resident commented on a water leak on the pavement adjacent to Wyncroft Care Home, on Moss Grove, Kingswinford. It was noted that water had been leaking for 18 months and was causing a hazard for pedestrians and motorists especially in freezing weather.

Lead Officer to investigate and reply to the resident directly.

A resident referred to the possibility of installing a pedestrian crossing outside the surgery on Moss Grove, Kingswinford.

Councillor Tyler reported that this issue had been previously investigated and rejected due to the proximity of other crossing facilities in the immediate area. The lack of parking facilities for the surgery and the sorting office next door was also acknowledged.

A resident commented on the poor condition of the carriageway surface at Bells Lane and requested an update on any proposal to resurface the highway. It was noted that this issue had been raised at previous Forum meetings.

Lead Officer to obtain an up-to-date programme of highway resurfacing proposals and report back to the resident directly.

A resident requested an update on the residential home development in Pensnett.

Councillor Harley reported that he was aware that a long legal dispute had held up progress but the developer was hopeful to start work on the care home shortly.

A resident again raised concern regarding traffic congestion on the A491.

Concern noted.

31 Working with you: Topics raised by Local Councillors

Subject

Action

Councillor Brothwood reported that he was liaising with the broker for the Co-operative Stores with regards to the proposed development of a store on the Ashwood Public House car park. It was noted that a public meeting was to take place shortly and local residents should be encouraged to attend to express their views.

Councillor Simms made reference to the general parking problems around the borough.

Councillor Tyler reported that the Christmas tree in Wall Heath had been vandalised once again.

32 Community Forum Funding

The Lead Officer presented to the Forum, an update on the success of the Winter Warmth initiative that had been presented to this Forum in November 2014 and noted the expression of thanks from the Team to the Forum for their support on the initiative and a letter of thanks from Unit3sixty Indoor Skatepark in Stourbridge who had received funding from four Forums. It was noted that the skatepark had opened in November 2014 and had proved a great success, offering a first class facility to the Youth of Dudley and the wider community in general.

Application

Recommendation

Our Lady of Lourdes Bowling Club

Approve £3,686.40 for the purchase of two indoor bowling mats.

With regards to applications for funding, Members requested that the funding application form be amended to include a statement requesting that a representative from the organisation applying for funding attend the Forum meeting where their application was to be presented to answer any questions Members may wish to raise. Councillor Tyler agreed to raise this issue at the next Chair/Vice-Chair Community Forum meeting. It was also noted that Forum venues would also be reviewed.

33 Dates, Time and Venues of Future Meetings

It was reported that meetings of the Community Forum would be held on the following dates subject to Council approval on 21st May, 2015:

- 23rd June 2015 (venue to be confirmed)
- 8th September 2015 (venue to be confirmed)
- 10th November 2015 (venue to be confirmed)
- 2nd February 2016 (venue to be confirmed)
- 22nd March 2106 (venue to be confirmed)

The meeting ended at 7:05pm.