

ACTION NOTES OF THE MEETING OF AMBLECOTE, CRADLEY AND WOLLESCOTE, LYE AND STOURBRIDGE NORTH COMMUNITY FORUM

Held at 6.30pm on Tuesday 10th September, 2013
At Lye Community Centre, Cross Walks, Lye

PRESENT:-

Councillor Herbert (Chair)
Councillor Perks (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Body, Crumpton, Hanif, Lowe, Partridge, and Mrs Walker.

OFFICERS:-

Miss J Porter (Lead Officer to the Forum - Director of Children's Services)
and Mrs K Taylor (Directorate of Corporate Resources)

TORCH REPRESENTATIVE

Catherine Ludwig (Directorate of Corporate Resources)

Together with 5 members of the public.

9 **APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence from the meeting was submitted on behalf of Councillor Mrs Martin.

10 **INTRODUCTIONS BY THE CHAIR**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Forum. Following the making of other general announcements the local councillors and members of the public introduced themselves.

11 **LISTENING TO YOU - QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM LOCAL RESIDENTS**

Local residents raised questions and made comments as set out below. These issues would be referred to the relevant Directorate or appropriate body for a response:-

Nature of questions/comments

- (1) Concerns regarding the amount of litter on the streets in Lye, and repairs needed to the road outside the Lye Community Centre, Cross Walks, Lye.

- (1a) A resident referred to the parking in High Street, Lye, where there were too many loading spaces and not enough parking for disabled and customers. He suggested that the area behind the Post Office would be an ideal solution for additional parking. Councillor Hanif stated that work was being undertaken in Lower High Street to realign the parking bays to enable additional parking.
- (2) Ongoing problems concerning the parking near Chapelhouse Lane and Wychbury Medical Practice. This matter had been raised at the last Forum meeting. The Lead Officer undertook to ensure a response would be forwarded to the resident.
- (3) Reference was made to areas that required litter picking, in particular, Balds Lane, Crabbe Street and King Street in Lye.
- (3b) A number of issues were raised in regard to Crabbe Street, Lye, in particular:-
 - A grit box was filled with clothing.
 - Property no. 4/4A Crabbe Street - the windows had been boarded up for a number of weeks, it was believed to be a council property, and the front garden had not been maintained.
 - There is green open space which was being used to leave household rubbish
- (4) Concerns were raised in regard to the number of potholes in Denton Road, Wollescote.
- (5) The surface at the top of Drummond Road, Wollescote required attention, as it was unsafe for cyclists.

Other issues raised :-

- Concerns were raised in regard to the number of burglaries in the Lye area.
- Congratulations were given in relation to Wollescote Park being awarded a green flag, however there were some health and safety concerns in relation to the car park. Councillor Lowe stated that it was anticipated that there would be a significant investment to parks in the borough, and that the issue of parking would be addressed.
- A resident commented on the number of weeds within the Withymoor area.
- A resident was responded to by Councillors in respect of clarification sought on the appointment of the Chief Executive, Dudley MBC as a member of the Clinical Commissioning Group.

- Councillor Partridge referred to the need of tarmac paths in the Cradley area.
- Councillor Partridge referred to a horticultural show taking place on Saturday 14th September, 2013 at 7.30pm at the Labour Club.
- Councillor Crumpton referred to two events taking place on Saturday 14th September, 2013 – a table top sale at Providence Church, and a festival at St Peters Church.
- Councillor Crumpton further reported on a successful event by Providence, which saw a large number of children and their parents receiving free school meals and a cinema ticket. He also stated that they provided a meal for the elderly on Tuesdays, and how volunteers were needed.
- Councillor Crumpton referred to the first meeting of the Friends of Cradley Library Group.
- Councillor Body referred to an event at the Miner’s Club, which raised £500 for local children, and due to the success of the event this would become a regular event.
- Councillor Walker reported that there would be a tabletop sale on Saturday 14th September, 2013 at Amblecote Church.
- Councillor Perks stated that cycle barriers had now been installed at Corbett’s gate.
- Councillor Lowe stated that it was apparent that surgeries had become much busier following contentious issues such as anti social behaviour and the introduction of the bedroom tax.
- Councillor Lowe referred to the consultation in regard to the council tax reduction scheme for April 2014.
- Councillor Hanif referred to a successful charity match that had raised more than £800, and due its success it would become a regular event.

13 AREA GRANTS

A report of the Lead Officer was submitted on an application approved under delegated powers, and the remaining balances for the Forum.

RESOLVED

That the action of the Lead Officer, in consultation with members of the forum, in recommending approval to the Director of Corporate Resources of an application in the sum of £1630.32 from Lye and Stourbridge North Neighbourhood Police Team towards the purchase of a variety of sports equipment, be noted.

14 DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Community Forum would be on Tuesday 12th November, 2013, starting at 6.30pm at Providence Methodist Church, Windmill Hill, Colley Lane.

The meeting ended at 7.20. pm