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**Halesowen Area Committee – 24<sup>th</sup> January 2007**

**Report of the Area Liaison Officer**

**Responses to Questions Raised at the Halesowen Area Committee held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2006**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To inform the Committee of the action taken in response to issues raised at the previous meeting.

**Background**

2. Huntingtree Park  
Issues were raised in relation to the condition of pathways, the relocation of recycling bins and the provision of lighting and other items to address anti-social behaviour issues. There has also been subsequent correspondence with representatives from the Friends of the Park Group. Some repair work was undertaken to the pathways in December and repair work to damaged parts of the fence has been commissioned. The recycling bins are due to be removed. Officers will be liaising with the Friends of the Park Group with the intention of producing an agreed action and business plan.
3. Foredraft Street  
Part of Foredraft Street, which is a well-used thoroughfare on to Windmill Hill, is unadopted and residents are concerned about the condition of the carriageway. A deposit was paid to the former Halesowen Borough Council in 1967 by the builders of some of the houses fronting the unadopted part of the street, in respect of the legislation at that time covering private street works expenses. It appears that payment was never applied and the cost of bringing the carriageway up to adoptable standards is significantly more than the current value of the original payment. This is an extremely complicated matter and officers are currently considering a number of legal and other issues, which are likely to take some time to resolve.
4. Walkways linking Foredraft, Spring and Talbot Streets  
Local residents raised concerns about the condition of these walkways, which are all public footpaths maintained by the Council, but from limited budgets. There were also complaints about anti-social behaviour and the lack of lighting. Officers are considering the issues, which will not be easy to address and will report back in due course.
5. Alma Street/Beeches Street  
Councillor Turner referred to proposals for Alma and Beecher Street one way and 20 mph speed limits for the surrounding Fatherless Barn estate. However, at this time there are no such proposals in preparation. It is therefore recommend that these and any other traffic management issues affecting the estate should be considered as part of the wider issues resulting from the A458 traffic management study currently in progress.

## **Finance**

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

## **Law**

7. 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**

8. 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.
9. 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**

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



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**Mike Williams, Area Liaison Officer**

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### **List of Background Papers**

Minutes – 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2006