

**ACTION NOTES OF THE MEETING OF NORTON/PEDMORE AND
STOURBRIDGE EAST/WOLLASTON AND STOURBRIDGE TOWN COMMUNITY
FORUM**

Held at 6.30pm on Thursday 18th April, 2013
at the Wollaston Suite, Stourbridge Town Hall, Crown Centre, Crown Lane,
Stourbridge

PRESENT:-

Councillor Attwood (Chair)
Councillor C Wilson (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Elcock, Hale, Jones, Kettle, Marrey, Rogers and Sykes

OFFICERS:-

Mrs S Holmyard (Lead Officer to the Forum), (Assistant Director of Planning and Environmental Health) - (Directorate of the Urban Environment) and Miss H Shepherd – Directorate of Corporate Resources

Together with 12 members of the public

1 **INTRODUCTIONS BY THE CHAIR**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Norton, Pedmore and Stourbridge East, Wollaston and Stourbridge Town Community Forum and in his remarks commented on the purpose of the new Community Forums set up by the Council. Following the making of other general announcements the local councillors and Council Officers introduced themselves.

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

A number of questions and comments were raised by local residents in relation to the following:-

Nature of questions/comments

Referred to

- (1) Maintenance of the trees and hedgerows surrounding the Oldswinford Cricket Club, and the need to protect and strengthen the barrier between the club and residential properties. Confirmation was required of the contract established between Dudley MBC Greencare and the Cricket Club for maintenance works and the control the Council had to reinforce contractual arrangements.

Director of the Urban Environment

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| (2) | Request as to why Oldswinford Cricket Club had not been requested to pay the six-year rent arrears for a storage-shipping container and old cricket nets that were situated at the club. | Treasurer |
| (3) | Bowling Greens at Wollescote Hall Park and the fairness of the charging policy. | Director of the Urban Environment |
| (4) | Parking permits/bays for residents in Union Street, Stourbridge. | Director of the Urban Environment |

Other Issues raised to which responses were given at the meeting:-

- Publicity of Community Forums – It was suggested that the Forum meetings be advertised through the Tenants and Residents Associations and the Neighbourhood Watch contacts.
- An update was given and a discussion was had on the traffic issues at Red Hill/Glasshouse Hill, Stourbridge and the legality issues relating to the ownership of the collapsed wall at Red Hill, Stourbridge.
- A representative from NHS Health Exchange wanted to raise awareness of the free health service, Health Trainer scheme that is currently available at Mary Stevens Park Healthy Hub.

4 WORKING WITH YOU - TOPICS RAISED BY LOCAL COUNCILLORS

- Councillor Mrs Rogers requested that parking issues at Oldswinford Cricket Club be investigated to prevent people from overflowing on to the football pitch and asked if a similar procedure as to what the football club currently did could be considered.
- Members discussed whether it was appropriate for a police officer to attend forum meetings to present a statistic report. It was considered that the forum meetings should remain public focused and residents and Members could attend PACT meetings to be updated on police issues.

5 COMMUNITY FORUM FUNDING

A report of the Lead Officer was submitted on an application for funding.

AGREED TO RECOMMEND:-

That the Director of Corporate Resources approve the making of a grant in the sum of £5,000 to Stourbridge and District Scout Council in the Norton Ward for the replacement of old and damaged furniture.

6 DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Noted that the date and time of the next meeting of the Community Forum would be determined at Annual Council on 16th May, 2013.

The meeting ended at 8.25 pm.