

**ACTION NOTES OF THE MEETING OF GORNAL/UPPER GORNAL AND
WOODSETTON COMMUNITY FORUM**

HELD AT 6.30PM ON WEDNESDAY 29TH JANUARY 2014

AT THE UPPER GORNAL METHODIST CHURCH, KENT STREET, SPILLS MEADOW,
DUDLEY

PRESENT:-

Councillor Casey (Chair)
Councillor Branwood (Vice-Chair)
Councillors Mrs Ameson, A Aston, S Turner and Wright

Officers:-

Mr D Lowndes (Lead Officer to the Committee) (Assistant Director Culture and Leisure) – (Directorate of the Urban Environment) and Mrs K Buckle (Directorate of Corporate Resources).

Together with eighteen members of the public

17 INTRODUCTIONS BY THE CHAIR

The Chair welcomed those present to the meeting and Members introduced themselves.

18 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 question/comment.

- 1 A member of the East Street Residents Group, Lower Gornal handed in a Petition demanding for their central heating systems to be updated. It was also requested that double glazing be installed to properties due to the majority of residents suffering with health problems and being elderly. The same representative handed letters to the Ward Councillors.
- 2 A request for a pedestrian crossing outside the Pensioners Club in Upper Gornal. Councillor A Aston advised that a traffic survey on the area was to be undertaken and he would make enquiries as to when this would take place. Councillor Mrs Ameson also advised that she was to attend a site visit with the Council's Group Engineer, Mr P Vangeersdaele.

- 3 Complaints were made of speeding traffic on the Ridgeway, Upper Gornal requesting that speed restrictions be put in place.

Councillor A Aston undertook to investigate the possibility of introducing 20 mile per hour restrictions in the area.

- 4 Concerns were raised in relation to the lack of parking facilities in Lake Street, Upper Gornal which was causing inappropriate parking causing difficulties with passing traffic and in particular buses. It was requested that consideration be given to making Lake Street a one way circular.

Councillor S Turner outlined the difficulties to local residents should parking restrictions be put in place and undertook to refer the matter to the appropriate Council Officer for the future consideration of a Traffic Regulation Order.

- 5 A resident referred to problems with badgers in Tenacre Close, Upper Gornal and the Lead Officer to the Forum undertook to advise the resident of any assistance that the Council could provide in dealing with the problem.
- 6 A request that the alleyway directly opposite the Parkes Hall Centre, Eve Lane be cleared.
- 7 A request that dog fouling signs be erected in Flavell Street, Upper Gornal and that enforcement officers parole the area.
- 8 A request that the triangle of land in Clarence Street, Upper Gornal be cleared. The Chair and Councillor A Aston undertook to investigate who owned the land and also any action could be taken against the landowner.

19 WORKING WITH YOU: TOPICS RAISED BY LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Following concerns raised by Councillor Wright, the Vice-Chair confirmed that installation of a Closed Circuit Television camera in Gornal Village would be linked to the live monitoring centre in Sedgley and the camera would be fully compliant with the legal requirements for such monitoring equipment.

20 COMMUNITY FORUM FUNDING

A report of the Lead Officer was submitted on three applications for funding.

AGREED TO RECOMMEND

1. That the Director of Corporate Resources approve the following:-

- (a) A grant in the sum of £5,000 to Upper Gornal Methodist Church previously approved by the North Dudley Area Committee with that funding still being available be re-affirmed together with a further grant of £5,000 from the Forum towards the cost of the provision of wheelchair and mobility access and the provision of off road disabled car parking spaces in order for the project to proceed.
 - (b) A grant in the sum of £3,300 from Upper Gornal Brownies towards the cost of activities planned to commemorate the 100th year of the Brownies.
2. That the Director of Corporate Resources refuse the application received from Age Concern for the sum of £1,700 to fund the redecoration of the Day Centre in Sedgley.
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21 DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting of the Community Forum would be held on Tuesday, 18th March, 2014 at 6.30 pm at the Parkes Hall Social Club, Parkes Hall Road, Dudley.

The meeting ended at 7.20pm