

**Action Notes of the meeting of the Belle Vale, Hayley Green
and Cradley South Community Forum**

Wednesday, 2nd July, 2014 at 6.30 p.m.
at Earls High School, Furnace Lane, Halesowen

PRESENT:-

Councillors I Cooper, A Goddard, R James, D Russell, H Turner and K Turner

OFFICERS:-

A Webb (Lead Officer to the Forum) - Head of Sport and Physical Activity and R Sanders (Assistant Principal Officer - Democratic Services)

together with 17 members of the public

1 **Election of Chair for the 2014/15 municipal year**

Councillor Russell was elected Chair of the Forum for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.

2 **Appointment Of Vice-Chair for the 2014/15 municipal year**

Councillor Goddard was elected Vice Chair of the Forum for the 2014/15 Municipal year.

3 **Welcome**

Chair welcomed everyone present to the meeting.

4. **Listening To You**

Questions and comments from local residents were made and responded to as follows :

Subject

Action

High Leasowes/Richmond Street

Wall at High Leasowes and Richmond Street considered to require immediate attention

Referred to the Directorate of the Urban Environment for attention.

A456 Highway

Routine closure of one lane on each carrageway for length of A456 from the motorway junction to the junction with the B4183 during week days for grass cutting causing traffic jams along Highway, thus deterring motorists from entering Halesowen Town Centre. The member of the public who raised the issue and the Members of the Forum who entered into the discussion were concerned at the impact on trade for businesses in Halesowen.

Referred to the Directorate of the Urban Environment for attention and for the Chair to take up. Chair to refer back to the member of the public who raised the issue.

5.

Working for You

The following issues were raised:

Maypole Public House

Petition of some 600 signatures opposing change of use of premises from public house to convenience store referred to by the Vice-Chair

Petition to be submitted to Development Control section of Directorate of the Urban Environment.

Wheelie Bins

Cllr K Turner stated that when black wheelie bins had been emptied they were sometimes left in dangerous positions. He also referred to risk assessments he had asked for but which were awaited regarding the optimum number of wheelie bins that could be emptied per day.

Referred to the Directorate of the Urban Environment for attention.

Assurance requested by Councillor James that when additional staff had been employed to undertake 'dipping activity' (i.e. to pull out sharps from black bags), these staff were being employed on a temporary basis

Referred to Directorate of the urban Environment

Community Forum Funding

Application

Recommendations

St Margaret's Church, Hasbury

Defer until the next meeting of the Forum in order to enable recommendation of Halesowen North and South Community Forum to be taken into consideration.

Highfield Park Allotment Association

Award of £3500 from this Community Forum to be made and that the Association be recommended to seek the residue requested of £2500 from the Community First fund for Belle Vale.

Dudley Community Church

Refuse application on the grounds that the Community Church is not situated within the areas of Belle Vale or Hayley Green and Cradley South Wards

West Mercia Scouts 23rd World Scout Jamboree

Approve a grant of £3,750 in total, on the basis of £625 for each Scout (6 in total) attending the Jamboree

Samaritans

Approve a contribution of £445.20 towards the application.

Cocoa - Welcome to Dudley Project

Application deferred until the next meeting in order to ascertain the outcome of the Project's endeavours to secure funding from other streams, including the Dudley Council for Voluntary Services..

Hasbury Community Association

Approve grant for the residue of the funding requested with the payment of the entire amount of £5,000 to be made immediately on completion of the necessary Lease agreement.

Life Centre Debt Advice

Deferred to enable a scoping exercise to be undertaken to confirm the benefits of the application on people in Halesowen.

First Halesowen Scout Group

Further to the approval of the grant of £5,000 to the first Halesowen Scout Group, towards the cost of acquiring a new mini bus, the Leader of the Scout Group attended the meeting and thanked the Forum for its assistance in raising the requisite amount, reporting that the mini bus had now been purchased.

The meeting ended at 7.50 pm

CHAIR