

**ACTION NOTES OF THE MEETING OF KINGSWINFORD NORTH AND
WALL HEATH/KINGSWINFORD SOUTH AND WORDSLEY COMMUNITY
FORUM**

Tuesday, 10th September, 2013 at 6.30 p.m.
at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Wordsley

PRESENT: -

Councillor D Blood (Chair)
Councillor P Miller (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Mrs L Boleyn, D Hemingsley, J Jones, Mrs G Simms, and
D Tyler.

OFFICERS:

Mr I Newman (Lead Officer to the Forum), Treasurer, Mrs L Jury – Both
Directorate of Corporate Resources, Mrs K Cox – Dudley Contact Centre.

together with Stuart Connelly, Steve Cooper, Andy Webb (in an observation
capacity only)

12 members of the public

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received on behalf of
Councillors Mrs Billingham and Harley.

2. **INTRODUCTIONS BY THE CHAIR**

The Chair welcomed those present to the meeting of the Kingswinford
North and Wall Heath/ Kingswinford South and Wordsley Community
Forum.

3. 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) A resident raised concern regarding shrubbery and trees on Cooknell Drive which was planted when the estate was first built but is not being maintained. The overgrown shrubbery and trees are now creating a danger for motorists trying to gain access to the estate. As the shrubbery is overhanging parts of the pavements, this is also causing a problem for pedestrians. There is also an issue with rats and badgers. Can this please be attended to.
- (2) A resident requested an update on the situation pertaining to the vacant shops on Sandringham Road which had been raised at the previous Forum.
- (3) A resident also requested an update on the situation pertaining to the drains outside the shops on Sandringham Road which had been raised at the previous Forum. The blockage is now so severe that residents are concerned that flooding will occur in heavy rain and requested that the drains be cleaned.
- (4) A resident requested an update on a query submitted to the previous forum with respect to funding to Wordsley Carnival. A verbal update was given to this query at the meeting.

Other issues raised and/or answered on the evening:

- Mr D Stenson, Governor of Dudley Group of Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust gave a verbal update to the meeting pertaining to forthcoming health meetings to which the public were invited to attend and details relating to the Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group, the major challenges facing A&E departments this winter and an update on the situation at Russells Hall Hospital following the hospitals recent review were noted.
- A resident raised a query on behalf of local youths that concrete ramps be installed on Wordsley Park for use by BMX bikes. A verbal response to this request was given in which it was noted that previous requests for BMX and skateboarding parks had been considered by the Council but objections from local residents had been submitted to the 23 in-door and out-door sites that had be proposed.
- A resident complained that the Forum's were still not being widely advertised throughout the local area and they were unable to access details of forthcoming Community Forums on the Council's website. In response, the advertising of the Forums was discussed and the resident in question was given an address to contact if problems with access to the website continued.
- As the Police were unable to attend this evening's meeting, the Chair submitted the crime figures for July and August. It was noted that there had been an increase in overall crime on the three areas but this had been anticipated as there is usually a seasonal increase at this time of year but in comparison with last year's figures, overall crime levels had decreased.
- Residents raised queries in relation to the new 'wheelie bins' and collection times especially as some collections had been missed. In reply it was noted that there had been some confusion with relation to new collection dates but residents were reassured that these issues would be addressed once the system was fully implemented.

4.

WORKING WITH YOU – TOPICS RAISED BY LOCAL COUNCILLORS

- Councillor Boleyn made reference to the recent arson attacks that had occurred in Wall Heath and it was noted that a person had been arrested in connection with the attacks within 5 hours of the incidents occurring. Thanks were expressed to the Police and the Fire Service for their swift action.

5. AREA GRANTS

The Lead Officer gave a verbal update stating that no applications had been received since the last meeting.

6. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Noted that the next meeting of the Community Forum would be on Tuesday 12th November, 2013 at 6.30pm at a venue to be confirmed.

The meeting ended at 7.35pm.