

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

Tuesday, 12th November, 2013 at 6.30 p.m.
at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Wordsley

PRESENT: -

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

Councillors Mrs Billingham, Mrs Boleyn, and Tyler.

OFFICERS:

Mr I Newman (Lead Officer to the Forum), Treasurer and Mrs L Jury – Both Directorate of Corporate Resources, together with 36 members of the public.

7. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received on behalf of Councillors Harley, Hemingsley, Jones and Mrs Simms.

8. **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.

9. **LISTENING TO YOU: QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM LOCAL RESIDENTS**

Local residents raised questions and made comments as set out below.

Nature of questions/comments

- (1) A lengthy discussion ensued relating to the Council's proposal to transfer by way of leasehold the land and buildings alongside the services currently provided at New Bradley Hall Residential Care Home, to a suitably skilled and experienced not for profit organisation. Arising from

the discussion, many concerns were raised and questions asked and responded to. A resident questioned the legal position should the not-for-profit organisation fail and it was agreed that this question be referred to the officer dealing with this issue for a written response. In response to the concerns raised by residents at the lack of consultation regarding this issue, it was agreed that Councillor Tyler would notify the relevant Cabinet Member of these concerns.

- (2) A resident complained about the poor state of the footpaths and road surface in Barton Lane. The issue was referred to the relevant Directorate for a response.
- (3) The same resident complained about the height of a line of trees in Murdoch Drive which are blocking out sunlight to many houses on Murdoch Drive and requested that this issue be addressed. The issue was referred to the relevant Directorate for a response.
- (4) A resident raised concern regarding potholes on Brettell Lane, in particular a major hole adjacent to the road prior to Harrison Road. The issue was referred to the relevant Directorate for a response.

Other issues raised and/or answered on the evening:

- Representatives of Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group gave a short presentation relating to the consultation on a new vision for urgent care in Dudley. Residents and Ward Members expressed their views and concerns in relation to the proposed re-location of the Holly Hall NHS walk-in centre to Russells Hall Hospital, particularly relating to the cost of parking at the hospital and residents were urged to get involved with the consultation process by completing the survey that was distributed at the meeting.
- Although the Police were unable to attend this evening's meeting, the crime figures for October and November were submitted. It was noted that an increase had arisen in thefts from motor vehicles across all Wards and in particular, the theft of catalytic converters. It was noted that the next PACT meeting would be held on Wednesday 11th December 2013 (Venue and time to be confirmed).

10.

WORKING WITH YOU – TOPICS RAISED BY LOCAL COUNCILLORS

No issues were raised under this item.

11. AREA GRANTS

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

AGREED:

- (1) That the Director of Corporate Resources be recommended to approve an application from Fast+Aid Charity for funding of up to £1,000 from each of the ten Community Forums to enable them to purchase an additional vehicle to provide critical or life saving care to patients in the Dudley borough whilst awaiting the arrival of the West Midlands Ambulance Service, but the funding not be released until approval is given by the other Community Forums.
- (2) That the Director of Corporate Resources be recommended to approve an application from Wordsley Wasps (under 18's) Football Team for funding of up to £300 to pay for resources over and above those that can be met from the monthly running costs eg. hiring of astro turf pitches, referee fees, replacement shirts and footballs, and the club be advised that in line with the guidelines for considering funding applications, no further applications for funding be submitted by any Wordsley Wasps teams within the next three years.
- (3) That the Director of Corporate Resources be recommended to approve the application from Dudley MBC – Environmental Management Division for funding of up to £2,102.44 to enable them to purchase and erect two Christmas trees located at Wordsley (Mere Education Centre) and Wall Heath (Enville Road), and meet associated energy costs of lighting the two trees and energy costs to light an existing live tree at Townsend Place, Kingswinford, and that the Environmental Management Division be requested to explore the feasibility of planting live trees in Wordsley and Wall Heath, in agreed locations, for future years.
- (4) (i) That the Director of Corporate Resources be recommended to approve an application from Unit3sixty CIC for funding of up to £5,000 from each of the ten Community Forums to match fund capital equipment and revenue to provide membership packages to residents to attend an indoor recreation centre, to include a skate park, subject to planning permission and to the submission of further information on the overall funding of the project.

- (ii) That a further report be submitted to the Community Forum, in due course, following the receipt of the additional information referred to above and prior to any funding being released by the Director or Corporate Resources.
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12. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Noted that the next meeting of the Community Forum would be held on Tuesday 4th February, 2014 at 6.30pm at St Mary's Parish Church Hall, The Village, Kingswinford.

The meeting ended at 8.40pm.