

**Action Notes of the Netherton, Woodside and St Andrews/Quarry Bank and
Dudley Wood Community Forum**

**Tuesday 16th June, 2015 at 6.30pm
at Quarry Bank Community Centre, Sheffield Street, Quarry Bank**

Present:-

Councillor Q Zada (Chair)
Councillor B Cotterill (Vice-Chair)
Councillors J Cowell, W Duckworth, D Sparks and E Taylor

Officers:-

A Tromans - Lead Officer to the Forum (Information Systems Manager, ICT Services) and K Griffiths - Democratic Services Officer (Directorate of Resources and Transformation)

Together with 4 members of the public

1 **Election of Chair**

Councillor Zada was elected Chair of the Forum for the municipal year.

2 **Election of Vice-Chair**

Councillor Cotterill was elected Vice-Chair of the Forum for the municipal year.

3 **Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Following general announcements, the Councillors and Council officers introduced themselves.

4 **Listening to you – Questions and Comments by Local Residents**

Subject

Action

General reference was made to the lack of consideration by motorists speeding in residential streets and off-road parking causing obstruction in the Dudley Wood area. Particular mention was made to a recent major incident in the area.

At the request of the resident, further details were provided following the meeting.

Lead Officer to pursue issue.

In referring to the Council reorganisation and staff departures, it was reported that Councillors and outside organisational groups no longer had key officer contact details and queried whether a

Lead Officer to pursue issue.

document could be provided outlining a list of useful telephone numbers.

Reference was made to a large tree in the rear garden of an elderly tenant causing a potential public hazard to areas adjoining No. 85 Darby End Road, Netherton. It was acknowledged that immediate action may not be taken due to nesting birds, however it was requested that an inspection be undertaken and a possible date be given for any necessary work to be carried out.

Referred for a written response.

5 **Working with you: Topics raised by Local Councillors**

Subject

Action

Councillor J Cowell referred to vehicles speeding along the Robin Hood Road and queried whether Highways could investigate the issue.

Referred for consideration and action.

Councillor B Cotterill referred to vehicles parking on pavements causing obstruction on the Quarry Bank High Street and queried whether a series of railings could be installed.

Referred for consideration and action.

Councillor B Cotterill referred to the barrier at the rear of Heath Road and indicated that he would pursue the issue personally.

Noted.

Councillor W Duckworth referred to a serious accident at the junction of Church Road and Marriott Road which highlighted the issue of timing of the traffic lights at the junction. Councillor E Taylor requested that the light sequence be altered to extend the period when both sets of traffic lights were on red to avoid collisions if drivers jumped the lights.

Referred for consideration and action.

Councillor W Duckworth indicated that work had commenced to the crossing at St Peters Road and Cole Street.

Noted.

6 Community Forum – Love Your Local Community Funding

Application

Recommendation

Wallheath Prince Albert Football Club

Refuse as it did not meet local guidelines. The Football Club were aware of alternative funding schemes available.

Age Alliance

Withdrawn – Alternative funding sources were being considered.

Woodhouse Court Residential Association

Quarry Bank and Dudley Wood Ward – approval of £300 to support events.

Quarry Bank Musical Theatre Society

Quarry Bank and Dudley Wood Ward – approval of £2,080 to provide a vinyl floor covering for the group when performing at Brierley Hill Civic Hall.

Teds Pets Supplies

Approve £2,000, to be funded from the Netherton, Woodside and St Andrews Ward from the High Street Innovation/Empty Shops Grant, to refurbish the property to improve the external appearance.

It was noted that any improvements made must be in accordance with all planning and building regulations and legislation.

Black Country Festival

Noted – A decision of the Leader, in consultation with Group Leaders, that a sum of £1,000 from each ward be allocated from the Community Forum funding budget in 2015/16 to fund activities and events in connection with the Black Country Festival.

A lengthy debate was carried out in relation to the process for Black Country Festival activities and what the ring-fenced funding would be used for, who decides how the funds were spent and what events were being funded this year. Members also requested that a list be circulated to Members of the Forum including specific events in the Netherton, Woodside and St Andrew's and Quarry Bank and Dudley Wood Wards that were supported by the Festival for this year. The Lead Officer undertook to pursue the issue.

7 **Dates, Time and Venues of Future Meetings**

It was reported that meetings of the Community Forum would be held on the following dates:

- Wednesday 2nd September, 2015 – Venue to be confirmed
 - Tuesday 3rd November, 2015 – Venue to be confirmed
 - Tuesday 26th January, 2016 – Venue to be confirmed
 - Tuesday 15th March, 2016 – Venue to be confirmed
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The meeting ended at 7.10 pm.