

Action Notes of the Gornal and Upper Gornal and Woodsetton Community Forum

Monday 3rd November, 2014 at 6.30pm
at the Baggeridge Social and Welfare Club, 1 The Straits, Lower Gornal, Dudley

Present:

Councillor K Casey (Chair)
Councillor S Turner (Vice Chair)
Councillors A Aston, D Branwood, D Perks and R Scott-Dow

Officers:

J Jennings (Lead Officer) (Head of Communications and Public Affairs) and
K Buckle (Democratic Services Officer)

Together with 16 members of the public

17 **Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair welcomed those present and there followed introductions.

18 **Public Health**

Ms S Cornfield, Weight Management Pathways Programme Management (Children) of the Office of Public Health gave a verbal presentation on health services that were available to members of the public throughout the Borough.

Ms S Cornfield advised of the variety of services that were available including the Keep Warm this Winter Initiative, the Healthy Start Scheme for families living in poverty, the health checks available to anyone over the age of forty with no existing long term condition, weight management initiatives, and healthy eating and support services.

During the presentation Ms Cornfield referred to services that were available to those who were pregnant, those with obesity, the Services operated by Action Heart at Ellowes Hall School and provided details of Healthy Living Pharmacies in the area who could also provide services including those who were entitled to the influenza vaccination.

Those present who wished to access any of the public health services were encouraged to contact their Ward Councillors who could refer them to the appropriate department. Leaflets in relation to the services offered were also displayed for collection at the end of the meeting

Members thanked Ms Cornfield for her presentation.

Listening to you: Questions and Comments from Local Residents**Subject****Action**

Concerns were raised on behalf of residents in Ranscombe Drive, Lower Gornal in relation to anti social behaviour occurring on land adjacent to their properties and a request that the Council continue to maintain the land. A letter expressing concerns was handed to the Vice Chair.

The Vice-Chair to refer the matter to the appropriate Officers.

Concerns were expressed in relation to anti social behaviour in Gornal Village which was posing a danger to both pedestrians and moving traffic. The Vice-Chair referred to two CCTV Cameras which were installed in Gornal Village and urged those present to report such incidents to the Police.

Those present were urged to attend Police and Communities Together meetings and details of forthcoming meetings were provided.

Councillor Scott-Dow also referred to the introduction of legislation that would provide the police with additional powers in order to deal with anti social behaviour.

Concerns were raised in relation to inadequate safety measures being put in place on Church Street, Lower Gornal, following a vehicle colliding with the wall adjacent to the church and the possibility of placing weight restrictions on the roads in Gornal Village in view of the volume of heavy traffic using the Village as a short cut.

Referred to the Directorate of the Urban Environment.

Issues in relation to street lighting not working on the corner of Temple Street and Church Road opposite St James' Church, Lower Gornal.

Referred to the Directorate of the Urban Environment.

<p>A request that trees fronting a bungalow in East Street, Lower Gornal be pollarded. Councillor Branwood referred to the Council's Green Care services advising that the trees were outside the category that could be included to the Council's programme of pollarding.</p>	<p>The Vice Chair undertook to speak to the questioner following the meeting.</p>
<p>The possibility of obtaining display boards in order to advertise activities and meetings in the Gornal Ward.</p>	<p>Noted: That a funding application had been granted for that purpose and the procurement of the boards was imminent.</p>
<p>The lack of parking in Gornal Village causing congestion and obstruction was referred to.</p>	<p>The Vice Chair referred to discussions with the developers of the new supermarket in Gornal Village advising that it had been agreed that they would provide two hours free parking and toilet facilities.</p>
<p>An issue in relation to parked vehicles outside Gornal Library obstructing public transport and a request for double yellow lines.</p>	<p>The Vice Chair to refer the matter to the appropriate Officers.</p>
<p>The possibility of the High Street Innovation/Empty Shops Grant Funding contributing to installing public toilets in Gornal village.</p>	<p>The Vice Chair advised that there would be ongoing maintenance costs associated with the provision of public toilets and the situation would continue to be monitored in view of the proposals referred to above regarding the new supermarket.</p>
<p>Concerns that the bleeping sound to indicate to the visibly impaired that the steady green man was lit was to be switched off nationally and a request was made for assurances that this would not occur in the Dudley Borough.</p>	<p>Referred to the Directorate of the Urban Environment and the Cabinet Member for Transport.</p>

Working with you: Topics raised by Local Councillors

The Vice Chair referred to the Budget Consultation 2015/16 and the leaflets entitled "Big Budget" that were available to consult residents of the Borough on their top five most valued Council services. He encouraged those present to complete the forms that had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Councillor Scott-Dow referred to the implementation of measures to slow down traffic on Church Street, Lower Gornal

21 **Community Forum Funding**

Application

Recommendation

Gornal Business Watch

Approved up to the amount of £4,000 from the Gornal Ward.

Dudley Council –
Environmental Management
Division.

Approved a joint contribution from both Wards in the sum of £2,069.60.

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

Monday 26th January, 2015 – 6.30pm – Lower Gornal British Legion

Monday 16th March, 2015 – 6.30pm – Venue to be Confirmed.

The meeting ended at 7.50pm