

**Action Notes of the Amblecote, Cradley and Wollescote and Lye and Stourbridge
North Community Forum**

**Wednesday 25th March, 2015 at 6.35pm
at Lye Community Centre, Crosswalks, Lye**

Present:

Councillor C Perks (Chair)
Councillor G Partridge (Vice-Chair)
Councillors R Body, P Bradley, M Hanif, P Lowe and P Martin

Officers:

A Grove (Lead Officer - Head of Youth Service) and K Taylor (Democratic Services Officer)

Together with 7 members of the public

34 **Apologies for Absence**

Councillor T Herbert.

35 **Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Amblecote, Cradley and Wollescote, Lye and Stourbridge North Community Forum, and those present introduced themselves.

36 **Listening to you: Questions and Comments from Local Residents**

Subject

A resident requested an update to issues raised concerning the lack of public parking at Wollescote Park, which was raised at a number of Community Forums, and suggested various steps to address the matter.

Issues relating to accidents and obstruction caused by parking in Hillbank Road and Butchers Lane, Cradley, which was raised at a previous meeting. Although signs had been erected, the problems continued.

Action

Referred for a written response.

Councillor Body stated that various options had been discussed with Officers, however a solution had not been agreed.

Working with you: Topics raised by Local Councillors

Councillor Hanif referred to the derelict car park on Valley Road, and that a Friends Group had been set up and discussed the issue of transferring the land from the Council. It was further noted that a public consultation would be arranged and a litter pick would be taking place on 1 st April, 2015.	Noted.
Councillor Hanif referred to parking issues surrounding Thorns Primary Schools, which had been raised at a previous meeting, and reported that additional signage had been erected on the carriageway.	Noted.
Councillor Bradley referred to a new litter picking group for Amblecote.	Noted.
Councillors Bradley and Partridge referred to the ongoing problems with dog fouling throughout the Borough.	Noted. Councillor Lowe stated that the possibility of increasing penalty fines and the options available in accordance with the law, would be looked at in respect of dog fouling.
Councillor Partridge reported that a local Tenants and Residents Association had been created.	Noted.
Councillor Partridge reported on the impressive plans and progress of Lye and Wollescote Chapel.	Noted.
Councillor Body raised concerns in relation to the metal fence that had been erected on Trust land in Homer Hill Park, which had been raised at the previous meeting, and queried who would be held responsible should an accident occur.	Councillor Partridge undertook to investigate further and respond to Councillor Body.

Community Forum Funding

A report of the Lead Officer was submitted on applications for funding. It was noted that an application had been received since publication of the report from The Vicarage and Valley Association, and would therefore be presented verbally.

Stourbridge Radio Group (102.5 the Bridge)	Defer pending further information in relation to the status of the group.
HSA Ham Dingle Primary School	Refused, as it was considered that Community Forum funding was not the appropriate funding type for this application.
Lye Asian Senior Citizen Association	Approve a contribution of £1,000 to be used for the purchase of kitchen equipment and electrical goods.
Friends of Amblecote	Approve £1,5000, to be funded from Amblecote Ward from the high Street Innovation/Empty Shops Grant.
The Vicarage and Valley Association	Approve £5,938.58, to be funded from Lye and Wollescote Ward from the High Street Innovation/Empty Shops Grant.

39 **I Wanna Be Project**

Mr H Bloomer presented a short film of people with Learning Disabilities titled 'I Wanna Be Project', which had been recorded with representatives from Dudley Voices for choice.

All those in attendance thanked Mr Bloomer for the presentation of the film.

40 **Other Business**

This being the last meeting of the Forum in the current municipal year, Members thanked the Chair for the able manner in which she had conducted meetings of the Forum during the preceding twelve months and, in view of the pending elections and being her last Forum meeting, thanks were given to Councillor P Martin for her contribution and commitment to her Ward and constituents over the years.

41 **Date, Time and Venue of Future Meeting**

It was noted that dates and times of future meetings would be determined at Annual Council in May,2015.

The meeting ended at 7.55 pm