

**PELSALL AND RUSHALL LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP**

**TUESDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2006**

**UPDATE ON VARIOUS ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST PELSALL AND RUSHALL LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP MEETING**

This report provides an update on various issues raised at the last Pelsall and Rushall Local Neighbourhood Partnership meeting.

**Tennis Courts in Springfields, Rushall**

Mrs. Isabel Mason reported at the last meeting that broken down wire netting on one side of the derelict tennis courts in Springfields, Rushall was preventing Council workmen from mowing the grass properly and picking up litter in the area.

Following the meeting, the District Parks Manager was contacted. He has advised that it was originally decided to remove two fence lines from the tennis courts but because of the change in ground levels, it was then decided to keep one of the fence lines. This was carried out following consultation with Mrs. Mason. It is hoped that this will solve the previous problems experienced by local residents.

**Monument for Pelsall Miners**

At the last meeting, Councillor Longhi raised the possibility of a monument to local miners being erected in Pelsall Village. He did this on behalf of a local resident, Mr. Brian Bannister. Previous to this, the Local Neighbourhood Partnership Task Group had discussed the possibility of developing a design for a landscape feature based around the work of Sister Dora in the Pelsall Collier Disaster. The LNP agreed to include Mr. Bannister's proposal on the list of projects for the LNP area and to involve Mr. Bannister in the Task Group funding process.

The Neighbourhood Partnership Officer has advised that this project will be considered in the next round of funding as there is only a small part of the £22,000 funding previously allocated to Pelsall and Rushall LNP remaining for projects. The project will be subject to the funding criteria for allocation. The Neighbourhood Partnership Officer has also been in contact with the Council's External Funding Team and the External Funding Manager has highlighted a number of funding pots that may be appropriate for this project.

## **Use of Shelfield Sports and Community College by the local community**

Mrs. Maureen Payton asked at the last meeting whether the facilities of Shelfield Sports and Community College, including the theatre, are available out-of-school hours for use by the local community.

Shelfield College has advised that meeting rooms, sports facilities and the theatre are available for hire outside of school hours, including school holiday times. Hire of the theatre is, however, dependent on the College's performance licence regulations and noise/nuisance factors for local residents would also have to be taken into consideration. Anyone interested is advised to contact Shelfield College for more detailed information.

## **Re-defining Conservation Areas in Pelsall**

Mrs. Maureen Payton raised the matter of the need to preserve Pelsall's heritage and how areas that lay outside Pelsall's Conservation Areas could be protected.

The LNP resolved to invite Pelsall's Conservation Officer to accompany LNP Members on a guided walk of the village and this took place on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2006. Information on the walk is set out in a separate report (Agenda Item 18).

The LNP also asked that a report detailing the historic context of Rushall and Shelfield areas in respect of Conservation be submitted to the next meeting. Information on Rushall and Shelfield is also included in this separate report (Agenda Item 18).

## **Refurbishment of Rushall Community Centre**

Mrs. Ann Rice raised at the last meeting, the need to refurbish Rushall Community Centre as the present window frames are rotten and badly need replacing. She queried whether funding could be made available for replacement windows as the Centre was very well-used by the local community.

The LNP agreed to investigate the possibility of obtaining external funding for this purpose.

The External Funding Manager has responded with the following information:-

The hall is owned by the Council and subject to a 99 year lease which commenced in 1962. Accordingly, there is sufficient lease remaining to attract lottery funding. However, the proposal will fall under the community buildings theme and the launch of this scheme has been postponed twice. The initial launch was scheduled for the end of May, 2006, which then slipped to the end of June, 2006. It is now understood that this will now be the middle of July, 2006. Accordingly, it has not been possible to progress this route.

Many routes are impeded by the Community Centre not being a registered charity. However, it is possible to apply to the Ibstock Cory Environmental Trust. An application pack, and guidelines, has been sent out to Rushall Community Centre representatives. The deadline for applications under this scheme is 15<sup>th</sup> September. The External Funding Manager has offered to meet with representatives and work through this form prior to then. This could be arranged with interested parties at the next LNP meeting.

### **Recycling Collections in Church Road, Pelsall**

At the last meeting concerns were raised by a local resident about changes that had been made to the collection of recycling boxes in Church Road, Pelsall from a fortnightly collection to a monthly collection.

The LNP asked that these concerns be investigated.

The Operations Manager Recycling has now advised that Church Road is scheduled for a fortnightly collection with effect from 10 July 2006 and every two weeks thereafter.

If there are any further problems in this respect, local residents are asked to contact the Operations Manager Recycling, Mr M. Kibble, on 01922-653341.

### **Recommendations**

Members are asked to note the contents of the report and to indicate any further action they wish officers or Task Groups to investigate in respect of the various issues identified in the report.

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