

DARLASTON NORTH/BENTLEY/DARLASTON SOUTH AREA PANEL

Monday 18th May 2015 at 6.00pm

IN A CONFERENCE ROOM AT THE COUNCIL HOUSE, WALSALL

Present

Councillor Burley (Chair)
Councillor Chambers (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Underhill

In Attendance

Nicola Holmes - Area Manager

86/15

Apology

An apology for non-attendance was submitted on behalf of Councillor James.

87/15

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

88/15

Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended)

There were no items to be considered in private session.

89/15

Funding Report

The joint report of the Area Manager and Area Partnership Manager was submitted:-

(see annexed)

The Area Manager (Nicola Holmes) enlarged upon the report and explained the project contained therein.

Darlaston & Bentley – Big Clean Up

The Area Manager reported that the aim of the project was to raise awareness of environmental issues including enforcement messages about dog fouling, littering and fly tipping. Additional signage would be

purchased for green spaces and community litter picks would take place throughout the week of 15th – 19th June 2015 to promote volunteering. Funding requested was £2000.

Councillor Burley asked if the big clean up would be coordinated with other clean up operations ongoing in Darlaston. Nicola Holmes confirmed that the Big Clean Up would run in conjunction with the clearing up of the town centre area.

Councillor Burley asked if there was likely to be any duplication of effort. Nicola replied that officers were attempting to avoid duplication. Over a five or six week period it was hoped that the clean up would have a beneficial effect on Darlaston.

Councillor Chambers referred to the Darlaston & Bentley Environmental Activity Programme 2015 which had been agreed by the Area Panel on 24th March 2015. He asked if this and the Big Clean Up were the same. Nicola replied that the Environmental Activity Programme was based around use of allotments and healthy eating so it was completely different to the Big Clean Up.

Councillor Chambers asked whether private landlords would be encouraged to tidy their untidy sites. Nicola replied that officers were working on a pilot scheme where if private landlords tidied a site the Council would assist in removing the bags of rubbish to a waste facility. If this proved to be unsuccessful then the Local Authority could always resort to enforcement action to get sites tidied up.

Members highlighted a further number of hotspots for investigation by officers then it was:-

Resolved

That funding in the sum of £2000 for the Darlaston & Bentley Big Clean up be approved.

Termination of Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting terminated at 5.50pm

Chairman

Date