

PALFREY AND PLECK LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

Tuesday, 4th October, 2005 at 6.30 p.m.

**at Alumwell Business and Enterprise College, Primley Avenue,
Walsall**

Present

Councillor Dennis Anson (Chairman)
Councillor Joan Beilby
Mr. Michael Bentley
Mrs. Eileen Edwards
Inspector Andy Gilbert
Mrs. Mandy Holcroft
Mrs. Etty Martin
Mr. Mark Pulford
Mr. George Rowley
Councillor Harbans Sarohi
Mr. Keith Whittlestone
Councillor Mohammad Yasin

Officers

Mr. Robert Flinter
Mrs. Imke Goalby
Mr. Andy Ody
Mr. Frazer Powell

74/05

Introductions

For the benefit of the members of the public present at the meeting, Members of the Partnership and officers introduced themselves and the organisations they represented.

75/05

Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance at the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillor Aqeel Aslam, Mr. Allah Ditta, Mr. Gary Fulford, Mr. Kirpal Kaliroy and Councillor Mohammad Munir.

76/05

Minutes

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Palfrey and Pleck Local Neighbourhood Partnership held on 29th June, 2005, a copy having previously been circulated to each Member of the Partnership, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

77/05

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Mohammad Yasin and Mr. George Rowley declared personal non-prejudicial interests in respect of any item on the agenda relating to the Walsall Housing Group as they were both Members of that organisation.

78/05

Petitions

A petition was submitted by Mr. S. Singh, of 73-75 Darlaston Road, on behalf of residents objecting to the proposed plan of action for Darlaston Road, Pleck.

Resolved

That the petition be noted and referred to the appropriate Council service area so that the objections can be considered as part of the consultation process.

79/05

Partnership Plan, including feedback from Task Group meetings

A report was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That LNP Members continue to attend Task Group meetings;
- (2) That LNP Members encourage wider participation from community members within the Task Groups;
- (3) That the progress on the Transforming Your Space Scheme be noted;
- (4) That the dates of future Task Group meetings be noted and the agenda for those meetings be agreed;
- (5) That a Partnership Plan review be undertaken.

Funding Priorities for Action

A report and supplementary report were submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the LNP:-

- (1) Note the progress made to date;
- (2) Agree to review progress made on funding priorities for action at its next meeting;
- (3) Note that each project will be assessed formally by the LNP Project Team to ensure they meet all of the agreed criteria;
- (4) Note that each funding project will be passed to the relevant Council officer who will liaise with the project Champion when required;
- (5) That the LNP and the tPCT agree to hold a joint event to consider the provision of a Health Centre/health care provision within the Delves area of Walsall;
- (6) That the relevant Council officer be advised that the LNP would wish to see One Stop Shop facilities provided in both the Palfrey and Pleck Wards;
- (7) That consideration of the proposal to develop an all age play area on the former Youth Club site, West Bromwich Road be deferred for consideration at the next LNP meeting so that further discussions can take place involving Council service areas and SERCO, and that information on costings for the all age play area be provided;
- (8) That £5,000 be allocated for fencing around the Bowling Green in Palfrey Park;
- (9) That the LNP support a series of presentations to schools in its area, centred around the issues of litter and spitting, and Street Pride be requested to investigate the feasibility of using a theatre group to produce a tailored show around these issues, and that advice and information on this matter be provided by Mr. S. Vincent (West Midlands Fire Service), Mr. A. Rainsford and Councillor Yasin;
- (10) That information on progress on the presentations referred to at (9) above be provided to the next meeting of the LNP;

- (11) That the issue of LNP communications and marketing be referred to the appropriate LNP Task Group and the offer from the Police to assist in this matter be welcomed;
- (12) That Groundwork Black Country be requested to provide information on the following:-
- Two projects costing £1,000
 - Two projects costing £5,000
 - Details of the likely beneficiaries of the above projects
- (13) That the issues concerning environmental improvements to Woodward's Close/Woodward's Road be referred to the Walsall Housing Group and that a report detailing progress relating to these sites be submitted to the next meeting of the LNP.

81/05

The work and role of the Police in the LNP area

A report was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Inspector Andy Gilbert, of Walsall Police, gave a presentation to the Partnership on the factors that influence the policing of the LNP area. The presentation contained information on the following elements of Police work:-

- Contact details of relevant beat officers
- Police boundaries within the LNP area
- Current initiatives and the future of policing

Responding to a question from Mr. Anderson, Chair of the Delves Partnership Against Crime, Inspector Gilbert confirmed that he would investigate why the Police had not attended the last meeting of the Delves Partnership.

Replying to a question from Mr. Greenfield, Inspector Gilbert said that, in his experience, Dispersal Orders were effective.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Partnership, thanked Inspector Gilbert for the presentation.

Resolved

That the presentation by Inspector Andy Gilbert on the work and role of the Police in the LNP area be noted.

82/05

Request for Alley Gating, Countess Street, Palfrey

A report was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the content of the report be noted and that a further report be submitted to the LNP when the next stage of the Improving Community Safety process has been completed.

83/05

External Funding

The Partnership received a presentation from Mr. Andrew Rainsford on the work of the Council's External Funding Team. The meeting was informed that the External Funding Team comprised:-

Mr. Andrew Rainsford
Mr. Mike Gaffney
Mr. Suresh Pala

The reason for the existence of the External Funding Team:-

- To stretch and maximise the budgets
- Resource delivery of Walsall Vision
- Maximise European Union funding streams
- Enable access to other funding streams by community/voluntary groups

Members were advised that the External Funding Team worked with a number of voluntary organisations across the Borough and in conjunction with the Council's Local Neighbourhood Partnerships. Mr. Rainsford advised the meeting that he would be the officer for the Palfrey and Pleck LNP area.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Partnership, thanked the Mr. Rainsford for the presentation.

Resolved

That the contents of the presentation on External Funding be noted.

84/05

Children's Centres and Extended Schools

The LNP received a presentation from Mr. Michael Hiscox, of Education Walsall, on proposals relating to Children's Centres and Extended Schools.

The Partnership was advised that the Children's Centre concept was based on the following principles:-

- Children's centres will serve children and families
- They will provide integrated care and education for young children, health services, family support and a base for childminders
- The integrated approach by Children's Centres will provide holistic support for children's development, support to families with young children and will facilitate the return to work of those parents who are currently unemployed

The Partnership then received the second part of the presentation relating to extended schools and were advised of the following core issues:-

- Children's attainment cannot solely rest on work in school or in the classroom
- Health, diet and emotional well being are crucial factors
- A positive environment to learning is needed in the family and wider community
- Access to support and facilities - ICT, culture and sport
- Opportunities for services with an interest in children's wellbeing to work together

The Chairman, on behalf of the LNP, thanked Mr. Michael Hiscox, of Education Walsall, for the presentation.

Resolved

That the content of the presentation on Children's Centres and Extended Schools be noted.

85/05

Parking and turning of vehicles in Arundel Street, Walsall

A report was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the content of the report on the results of a recent consultation exercise with the residents of Arundel Street, Walsall regarding their concerns on the parking and turning of vehicles in the same street be noted.

86/05

Parking problems in Gower Street, Walsall

A report was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the report be noted and that a further report be submitted to the 5th January, 2006 meeting of the LNP detailing the progress made.

87/05

Public Forum

Road Safety Issues - Primley Avenue, Pleck

Mr. Patel, of 123 Primley Avenue, expressed his concern regarding road safety issues in Primley Avenue, Pleck. He requested that consideration should be given to the provision of parking bays in that road.

Resolved

That the concerns of Mr. P. Patel relating to road safety issues in Primley Avenue, Walsall be referred to the LNP's Environmental Task Group.

Environmental Issues - Ford Street, Pleck

Mr. Patel advised the Partnership of his concerns regarding the location of commercial dustbins in Ford Street and that premises gates were often left open.

Resolved

That the concerns of Mr. Patel relating to commercial dustbins and gates in Ford Street, Pleck be referred to the appropriate Council service area for investigation and that Mr. Patel be advised accordingly.

Health Provision - Delves Area

Mr. M. Greenfield, Chairman of the Delves Tenant Management Organisation, requested that Mrs. Etty Martin attend meetings with residents to discuss the provision of health services in the Delves area.

Termination of meeting

The meeting terminated at 8.55 p.m.

Chairman

Date