

WILLENHALL LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

Wednesday 26 April 2006 at 6.00 p.m.

at New Invention Junior School, Cannock Road, New Invention, Willenhall

Present

Councillor Ian Shires (Chairman)
Councillor Arthur Bentley
Vera Birch
Councillor Sean Coughlan
Councillor Carl Creaney
Wendy Evans
Councillor Mrs. Doreen Shires
Mr. Stanley Taylor
Councillor Angela Underhill

84/06 Introductions

The Chairman informed the Partnership that Mr. Drewe, Primary Head Teacher representative, had resigned from the Local Neighbourhood Partnership.

Resolved

That Members place on record their thanks to Mr. Drewe for his services to the Local Neighbourhood Partnership and wish him well in his retirement.

85/06 Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Mr. Peter Arch, Councillor John Cook, Mrs. Vicki Till, Mr. Raj Singh and Ms. Tracey Richards.

86/06 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2006, were submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2006, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to the inclusion of Mrs. Vera Birch in the list of those present.

87/06 Declarations of Interest

The Chairman informed the Partnership that the presentation on the agenda relating to advertising on street lighting columns would be subject to planning permission.

Mrs. Ensor informed the Partnership that Members of the Development Control Committee would need to consider whether they would prejudice their position on Development Control Committee should they remain in this meeting to hear the presentation on advertising on street lighting columns. Members would need to consider whether it would be viewed as bias and pre-consideration.

Councillor Shires referred to the fact that the Development Control Committee membership might change when Committees are appointed at Adjourned Council.

There were no declarations of interest.

88/06 Petitions

There were no petitions submitted.

89/06 Presentations

An Affordable Warmth Strategy for Walsall

A copy of the presentation was submitted:-

(see annexed)

and Mr. Steve Rowley expanded on the information contained in the presentation. Members were invited to the meeting to be held on 19th May, 2006, at the Village Hotel which was being held as a major consultation event.

Resolved

(1) That the presentation be received and noted;

(2) That approval be given to the setting up of a work group in the new Municipal Year in respect of “here and now” to consider:-

- Health through warmth schemes;
- An event to be held in each of the three Wards to bring together a number of providers and Members;
- The potential to create employment in the area and the involvement of various trades to consider this potential.

Advertising on Street Lighting Columns

Mr. Neil MacKinnon of 247 Outdoor gave a brief presentation to the Partnership outlining the design of the advertisement panels and their visual impact on the area. He confirmed that the equipment would be provided free of charge and that the panels were of a similar size to advertisement panels in bus shelters.

A facility to include a two line LED messaging system above the advertisement unit would be available to provide information for the community. The company was selecting sites within the area for the installation of the signs and requested Members to provide them with information in relation to the appropriateness of the sites and whether any other sites should be included.

Mark Schottlander of Baymedia outlined the proposals for the erection of banners on lampposts. He circulated photographs of the types of banners that were in use in other areas and outlined the size and design of the banners as well as their uses. He confirmed that Baymedia worked together with 247 and had been successful in securing planning permission in other areas indicating that the signs were aesthetically pleasing within the street scene.

Members expressed the view that local events should be linked with the advertisements.

Resolved

That the presentations be received and officers be requested to write to Members informing them of the proposed locations of the advertisements to enable Members to submit their comments.

Health link to the LNP

Members were advised that this presentation had been deferred due to illness of the presenter and would be submitted to the Partnership at a future date.

90/06 **Funding Update**

The report of the Neighbourhood Partnership Officer was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Parpinder Singh Randhawa outlined the contents of the report.

With regard to the issue raised at the last meeting on the provision of trees and shrubs in Tenbury Close, the Chairman indicated that the Ward Councillors for both Short Heath and Willenhall South Wards should meet to resolve the problem relating to the Tenbury Close area as this was the proposed route for the Metro. This matter could then be referred to Centro and the Local Authority.

Members referred to problems experienced by residents of properties that backed onto the Neighbourhood Park who had requested that shrubs should be planted to protect the fences.

Members referred to the implications for maintenance budgets arising from this request.

Resolved

That the report be noted and that a Task Group look into problems experienced by residents along the route of the Metro and the Neighbourhood Park and that service delivery representatives, together with a representative from external funding be invited to attend.

91/06 **Partnership Plan and Feedback from Task Groups**

The report of the Neighbourhood Partnership Officer was submitted:-

(see annexed)

The Chairman referred to the neighbourhood policing process and advised that the Partnership should suggest that the police lead on community action in view of the elements that fall under their jurisdiction.

Members were concerned at a possible conflict situation between Neighbourhood Watch representatives and Street Champions. Julie Ball confirmed that funding for Street Champions would be provided via a Local Area Agreement.

Resolved

- (1) That Local Neighbourhood Partnership Members continue in attendance at the Workshop meetings;

- (2) That individual Local Neighbourhood Partnership Members encourage wider participation from Community Members within the Task Groups.

92/06 **West Midlands LTP Settlement and Transport Capital Programme 2006/08**

The report to Cabinet on 1 March 2006, was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the report be received and noted and that an appropriate Officer be invited to attend the next meeting of the Local Neighbourhood Partnership to identify the impact the report would have on the Willenhall Local Neighbourhood Partnership area.

93/06 **Public Forum**

There were no members of the public present to address the Partnership in the Public Forum.

Termination of meeting

The meeting terminated at 8.15 p.m.

Chairman:

Date: