

## PELSALL AND RUSHALL LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

Held at Ryders Hayes Primary School, Gilpin Crescent, Pelsall, Walsall

18 December 2006

Item	Decision	Action	Progress
1 Introductions	Received and noted		
2. Apologies	Councillor Catherine Micklewright (Chairman), Inspector Greg Bates, Councillor Al Griffiths, Mr Anthony Orlik, Mrs Ann Rice, Mr James Thomas, Councillor Rachel Walker.		
3. Minutes 30 October 2006	Approved as a correct record		
4. Update on Items from last meeting	<p><b>(1) Anti-Social Behaviour in Cartbridge Lane, Rushall</b></p> <p>Councillor Perry referred to the site meeting held with local resident on 1 December 2006. This would be reported on at Agenda Item 10 – Community Action Groups update report</p> <p><b>(2) Regeneration of Goscote Valley</b></p> <p>It was agreed that a drop in event/roadshow exhibition be arranged in a venue in</p>		<p>A progress report on this matter appears at Agenda Item 10 – Community Action Group update report.</p> <p>Event arranged for Monday 19 February 2007 at Pelsall Cricket Club, Walsall Road, Pelsall from 2.00 pm -7.00 pm. Letters have been circulated to all LNP Members and residents on CAG data base. Local residents will also be circulated.</p>

	<p>Pelsall/Rushall close to the study area during the first week of February 2007.</p> <p><b>(3) Violation of Common Land, North Common, Pelsall</b></p> <p>Query from local resident why there has been no response from Council's legal services regarding position with travellers gaining access to site on Huddocks Moor Farm by driving across Pelsall North Common, a site of Special Scientific Interest.</p> <p>LNP requested a response be made.</p>	<p>Lesley Jones/ Regeneration Team/ Councillor Perry</p> <p>Bhupinder Gill Assistant Director Legal and Constitutional Services/Colin Manning (Countryside Services)</p>	<p>Contact Officer: Maxine Turley 01922 652495. The wooden canal tow path gate in Slacky Lane reported damaged at 30 October LNP meeting has now been replaced by a steel gate.</p> <p>The Senior Countryside Ranger's enquiries reveal it is a local farmer who is crossing the Common to access land at Huddocks Moor, currently to care for horses. He understands the farmer believes he has legal access to cross the Common to this land but advice received from Legal Services suggests the opposite. The Senior Countryside Ranger is currently liaising with the Council's Estate Team who are investigating this matter. There have been some delays as this issue was being dealt with by two managers who have</p>
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			now left the employment of the Council. A more detailed report will be provided once more progress has been made to resolve this issue.
5. Declarations of Interest	None		
6. Petitions	<p>Councillor Perry presented the following Petition:-</p> <p><b>Residents of Charles Crescent and Abbey Drive, Pelsall:-</b></p> <p>Residents are requesting traffic calming measures be introduced in Charles Crescent and Abbey Drive, Pelsall to prevent them being used as a 'rat run' by motorists avoiding traffic lights at the Fingerpost to access Norton Road, Pelsall in the direction of the A5.</p>	<p>Jamie Morris (Executive Director)/Neville Owen (Engineering and Transportation Services) (LNP Team)</p>	<p>No response received to date.</p>
7. Public Forum	<p><b>Locally Appointed Partners (LAPs)</b></p> <p>Mr B Sheasby, queried the attendance of LAPs at meetings. He commented this was the second LNP meeting where only three LAPs were in attendance.</p>	<p>Parveen Sangha (Senior Neighbourhood Partnership Officer)</p>	<p>An update report on the outcome from the Selection Panel appears at Agenda Item 4(b).</p>

	<p>Mr. Sheasby asked about the present position in respect of the re-selection process for LAPs. Parveen Sangha (Senior Neighbourhood Partnership Officer) reported that the reselection of LAPs to fill the present vacancies was progressing and a report on this matter would be submitted to the next meeting on 13 February 2007.</p>		
	<p><b>Publicity for LNP meetings</b></p> <p>Mrs. S. Sheasby asked whether more could not be done to publicise the LNP and to make local people aware of the time and date of LNP meetings, for example, through leaflets and local radio. In response, Parveen Sangha asked that all suggestions for publicising LNPs be brought to the Community Action Group meetings.</p>	<p>Parveen Sangha (Senior Neighbourhood Partnership Officer)</p>	<p>Communications Working Group has been established through the CAGs.</p>
	<p><b>Streetly Lighting</b></p> <p>Mr. B. Parker asked whether the Council had given consideration to varying the switch-on and switch-</p>	<p>Dave Roberts (Street Pride) / (LNP Team) Elizabeth Thomas (Public Lighting PFI Manager)</p>	<p>Response received from</p>

	<p>off times of street lighting and the number of street lights to save energy costs in the Borough.</p> <p>Councillor Perry responded that the Council was currently investigating energy and efficiency costs in the Borough including street lighting but that the Council also had a duty to ensure that residents felt safe and secure.</p>		<p>Elizabeth Thomas, Public Lighting PFI Manager:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Switching on times currently comply with National and European standards.</li><li>2. Should the Council wish to consider varying switching times, there is a cost implication for installing varying switching devices into each of the street lights (There are approx 27,000 street lights in Borough of Walsall) approx total capital cost of 6 million pounds. A life costing shows that this method is not viable in the long term for Walsall whose street lights have already been renewed and upgraded.</li></ol>
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			<p>3. Nationally this idea is under debate as there can be liabilities should there be an accident, or crime during the hours when the lights are dimmed or varied. It can be difficult to actually establish the time when accident occurred and when the lights were dimmed.</p> <p>4. CCTV cameras will be disadvantaged due to lack of sufficient lighting where they act as deterrent.</p> <p>The Council's street lighting section has given consideration to varying switch on times and awaits national responses to proceed/progress further, provided capital funding is made available.</p>
	<p><b>Crime Statistics in Pelsall and</b></p>		

	<p><b>Rushall LNP area</b></p> <p>Mr. B. Parker said that the Local Neighbourhood Watch had stated there had been 62 reported crimes between 2 November and 7 December 2006, but of the 62 crimes, only 2 arrests were made and these were for the same crime. He queried whether this meant that 61 crimes remained undetected and whether all reported crime was logged. In response, Inspector Steve Mason said that the figure of 62 referred to reported incidents and not necessarily crimes. All reported incidents were logged by the Police. He stressed that the Police were under a duty to record all reported crime.</p>	<p>Inspector Greg Bates/Inspector Steve Mason (West Midlands Police)</p>	
	<p><b>Pedestrian Fingerpost in Pelsall</b></p> <p>Councillor Perry spoke on behalf of Mr Andrew Weller, Chair of Pelsall Civic Society who was unable to attend the meeting. Mr Weller was requesting that consideration be given by the LNP to erecting a Pedestrian Fingerpost in Pelsall with direction signs for sites such as the Local History Centre,</p>	<p>Dave Roberts (Street Pride)</p>	

	<p>Community Centre, Church Hall, Library, Public Toilets. The design would be in keeping with the local area and the cost could possibly be shared by the Council and other local organisations. Councillor Perry requested that this request be investigated.</p>		
	<p><b>Problems in Ryders Hayes, Lane, Pelsall</b></p> <p>Councillor Perry reported the concerns of local residents relating to problems caused by parked cars, vans and mini motorbikes on land adjacent to a property on the corner of Ryders Hayes Lane, Pelsall. A site meeting of local resident and Councillors had recently taken place. An enforcement notice had been served on the owner of the property to tidy up the site. He understood the owner had now put the property up for sale. Local residents were asking for the situations to be monitored and if necessary, the owner of the property prosecuted.</p>	<p>Norman Hickson (LNP Team)</p>	<p>The Senior Planning Officer reports that the property is 60 Norton Road which is on the corner of Ryders Hayes Lane.</p> <p>At The Development Control Committee meeting on 9 January 2007, a report was submitted seeking authority to prosecute the owner for non-return of a Planning Contravention Notice, which required information to be given by the owner following the property becoming 'untidy' due to numerous quad bikes etc. That authority was granted and Legal Services are now pursuing the prosecution process.</p>



			<p>An urgent additional item was added to 9 January report when timber buildings appeared in the rear garden without the planning permission necessary in this case. An additional authority to issue enforcement notices was given and this is also in train with Legal Services. Planning Services has also been made aware of liaison between the police – Pelsall Team and Council Highways Enforcement regarding the parking/storage of vehicles on the road, with a trailer recently being seized by them.</p>
	<p><b>Parking at Labour Club in Church Road, Pelsall</b></p> <p>Mr Dave Wood raised the problems caused by inconsiderate car owners using the Labour Club in Church Road, Pelsall. Although there was a large car park at the rear of the club, cars were being</p>	<p>Neville Owen (Engineering and Transportation Services) (LNP Team)</p>	

	<p>parked at the side of the club obstructing the highway and on Pelsall Common opposite the club.</p> <p>Councillor Perry requested that this matter be investigated and that the licensee of the Labour Club be requested to put up notices asking car owners to park more considerately by using the large club car park. The situation is to be monitored.</p> <p>The LNP requested that all these matter be investigated by the relevant Council officers and other representatives and that the results be reported back to the LNP.</p>		
<p>8. Bus-related matters in Pelsall/Rushall LNP area</p>	<p>A briefing was given by Mr Dave Donaldson. General Manager, Travel West Midlands</p> <p>Mr Donaldson advised the Partnership that in response to concerns raised at a previous LNP meeting and petitioning by local residents and Councillors regarding the cessation of the 158 bus service to Birmingham, the 997 bus service would be diverted</p>	<p>Dave Donaldson (Manager, Travel West Midlands).</p>	

	<p>through Pelsall, High Heath, Shelfield twice daily with effect from 7 January 2007 to meet these needs.</p> <p>Mr Donaldson said that he would be happy to attend any future meeting of the LNP to speak on bus related matters, if requested.</p>		
9. LNP Funding	<p>The LNP agreed:-</p> <p>(1) To note the progress to date on projects outlined in the report.</p> <p>(2) To finalise the location of the three dog fouling bins in Pelsall, High Heath and Rushall at the Health and People Community Action Meeting on 19 December 2006. (Mr Steve Palmer of West Midlands Fire Service asked whether consideration could be given to erecting steel bins to discourage arson attacks by vandals)</p> <p>(3) To approve the project</p>	<p>Parveen Sangha/Aliyaah Baines (Neighbourhood Partnership Team)</p>	<p>Actions noted. Sites have been identified and are detailed in the Funding Update report (agenda Item 9).</p>

	proposal for a signpost for Rushall Olympic Football Club, subject to a full breakdown of costs being submitted to a future LNP meeting.		Awaiting costs of breakdown (see also Agenda Item 9. Funding Update report).
10. Community Action Groups Update	<p>Councillor Perry reported on the site meeting of Cartbridge Lane residents with local Councillors, Council officers and Police on 1 December 2006. The actions agreed were:-</p> <p>(1) To clear up graffiti/fly tipping by the bridge and Cartbridge Lane South.</p> <p>(2) To check whether the Coalpool access barrier complies with the Disability Discrimination Act.</p> <p>(3) To Investigate the possible blocking off of the barrier to prevent access to mini bike riders.</p> <p>(4) In the short term, to install cameras to help gather evidence against fly-tippers and motorbike riders.</p>	<p>Parveen Sangha (Senior Neighbourhood Partnership Officer)  Inspector Greg Bates, Sgt.  K. Rowlands (West Midlands Police)  Steve Lewis (Regeneration)  Neville Owen (Engineering and Transportation) (LNP Team)</p>	

	<p>(5) In the long term, in consultation with Highways and Regeneration and the LNP, to look at possible options for the bikers' alternative use.</p> <p>(6) To issue a press release in conjunction with Trading Standards highlighting Health and Safety concerns to mini bike riders and to draw to parents' attention the legality of their use i.e. the requirement for a licence, insurance and road tax.</p> <p>(7) The Police Community Support Officers to extend their walkway plans to cover the Cartbridge Lane area and to issue mini bike riders with counter forms to identify which area they come from.</p> <p>The LNP requested that progress on all these actions be reported to the Partnership.</p> <p>It was noted that H1 and H2 Police</p>	<p>Hannah Sutcliffe (Communications Unit)</p>	<p>Press release issued in December 2006 by Council's Communications Unit advising parents against buying mini-motor bikes as Christmas presents for their children.</p> <p>See also Agenda Item 10 – Community Action Group Report.</p>
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divisions were liaising on this problem. Also that a joint workshop with the Police with a Community Safety Framework was planned for January 2007, with a view to appointing Safer Stronger Community Champions to move forward these actions.

In response to concerns of residents of Cartbridge Lane about the lack of publicity for the site meeting on 1 December, it was agreed that improving communications with local residents be discussed at the next Safer and Stronger CAG Meeting on 11 January 2007 at Rushall Community Centre.

Councillor Perry and Mr John Ree, Chairmen of the Safer and Stronger and Health and People CAGS reported on progress of the respective CAGS to date.

	<p>It was agreed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. That LNP members continue in attendance at Community Action Group meetings.</li><li>2. That the progress of the Community Action Groups outlined in the report be noted.</li></ol>		
11. Termination of Meeting	The meeting terminated at 7.30 pm.		