

WILLENHALL LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

Tuesday 27 February 2007 at 6.00 p.m.

**At Willenhall Community and Youth Foundation, 19 Gomer Street,
Willenhall**

Present

Councillor Ian Shires (Chairman)
Susan Peters (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Arthur Bentley
Councillor John Cook
Councillor Sean Coughlan
Councillor Carl Creaney
Rupy Pandaal
Councillor Angela Underhill
Station Officer Nigel Walker

157/07 Public Forum

Rupy Pandaal stated that he had reported a problem at the Community Forum with regard to accessing a gate at Pool Hayes. He asked whether it would be possible for people to have a key to the gates. In response, it was reported that this issue would be investigated.

Councillor Coughlan raised the issue of traffic calming in Western Avenue. He asked what efforts were being made to reduce the speed of cars. In response it was reported that Officers would investigate this matter and report back to the next meeting.

Councillor Creaney stated that one of the speed cameras along the Wolverhampton Road was behind a tree and needed to be relocated. Officers reported that they would investigate this issue and report back to the next meeting.

A member of the public stated that further road traffic measures were required on the Wolverhampton Road, as children on motorbikes could simply drive between the humps. In response, it was reported that options for traffic calming would be brought back to the next meeting.

A member of the public questioned whether vehicles travelling along Clarkes Lane would be allowed to turn left. In response, it was reported that this matter would be investigated and reported to the next meeting.

Councillor Underhill reported that vehicles were being driven through Willenhall Town Centre during prohibited hours. Councillor Cook stated that efforts had been made to pedestrianise the area once before, however, this was not effective. It was questioned whether it would be viable to have a series of automatic bollards to the entrance and exit of Willenhall Town Centre to ensure that vehicles could not enter or egress between 9.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. In response, it was reported that these issues would be taken to the Town Centre Working Group.

A member of the public questioned what had happened to traffic wardens. In response, Steve Pretty explained that the Council would have authority to act in respect of decriminalise parking and would undertake enforcement action. It was estimated that this would be in place by April 2008.

The issue regarding public transport provision from Short Heath to New Cross was raised as the level and frequency of the service was deemed insufficient. In response, it was agreed that this issue should be taken up through a Health Community Action Group and that representatives from the bus operatives be invited to the meeting.

158/07 **Apologies**

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillor Eileen Pitt, Councillor Doreen Shires, Councillor Val Woodruff and Wendy Powell.

159/07 **Introductions**

Members, Officers and members of the public present introduced themselves at the meeting.

160/07 **Minutes**

Resolved

That the minutes of the meetings held on 10 and 29 January (Adjourned) 2007, be approved as correct records, subject to Wendy Powell's name being inserted into the list of apologies in the minutes of the 29th January 2007 (adjourned).

161/07 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

162/07 **Petitions**

There were no petitions submitted.

163/07 **Presentations**

(a) Foundation Trust – Raising Awareness

Resolved

- (1) That the presentation be noted;
- (2) That Foundation Trust – Raising Awareness be placed on the next Health Community Action Group as a discussion item.

(b) Community Wardens

Resolved

- (1) That the presentation be noted.
- (2) That the issue of wardens be considered at a future Community Safety Community Action Group;
- (3) That Parpinder Singh Randhawa write to the Walsall Borough Strategic Partnership to enquire why the Safer and Stronger Pillar had not decided to fund the Warden Scheme and that this be reported back to the next meeting.

(c) Walsall Housing Trust Board – External Funding

Resolved

That the presentation be noted.

164/07 **Community Action Group: Feedback on Decision**

A report was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Sue Peters gave a brief update in respect of the Stronger and Safer Community Action Group meetings. Concern was expressed about Youth Opinions Unite and the level of attendance by its members.

The Chairman agreed to liaise with Steve Pretty to discuss the issue at a future Community Action Group to which Youth Opinions Unite would be invited to attend.

Concern was raised that the Youth Conference had not been undertaken. Officers explained that it hadn't met as yet as partners were being approached to become involved.

Resolved

- (1) That LNP Members continue in attendance at the Community Action Group meetings;
- (2) That progress of LNP Action Groups be noted;
- (3) That progress be reported to the next meeting.

165/07 LNP Pledges Review

A report was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

That this item be deferred to the next meeting of the LNP.

Information Items

166/07 Walsall Housing Group – Youth Engagement Policy

A report was submitted:-

(see annexed)

The Chairman reported that he had attended a meeting with Young Peoples' Services to talk with them about lack of provision and to identify different elements of the Partnership in a bid to pull them together to do something constructive.

Resolved

That the Youth Engagement Policy be approved.

167/07 Funding Report

A report was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Rupy Pandaal reported that, regarding the Village Green, a meeting had been held with Black Country Ground Works. He requested that the consultation be widened to include young people.

Resolved

- (1) That progress on projects be noted;
- (2) That project champions feedback progress to the next meeting.

168/07 Christmas Lights - Update

Resolved

That the update report be noted.

169/07 Willenhall Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

A report was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the report be noted.

170/07 Update on items from last meeting

Community Safety

Steve Pretty reported that regarding lighting on the alley between the Wolverhampton Road and Worcester Road and CCTV issues, there was a protocol between Council and the Police and that this would be put to the Community Action Group on 15 March 2007.

Resolved

- (1) That progress on projects be noted;
- (2) That project champions feed back to the next meeting.

171/07 **Termination of Meeting**

The meeting terminated at 9.05 p.m.

Chairman:

Date: