

# **WILLENHALL LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP**

**Monday 18 April 2005 at 7.00 p.m.**

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

## **Present**

Councillor Ian Shires (Chairman)  
Councillor Arthur Bentley  
Inspector Rowe  
Councillor John Cook  
Councillor Sean Coughlan  
Mr. R. Pandaal  
Mr. Alan Porter  
Councillor Mrs. Doreen Shires  
Mr. Stanley Taylor  
Mrs. Vicki Till  
Councillor Angela Underhill  
Councillor Val Woodruff

### **33/05 Introductions**

For the benefit of all present, the members and officers introduced themselves at the meeting.

### **34/05 Apologies**

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillor Mrs. Eileen Pitt, Councillor Harold Withnall, Mr. Ian Saville and Ms. K. Parsons

Members were advised that Ms. Parsons had left the Primary Care Trust and her replacement would attend meetings in the future.

### **35/05 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2005, were submitted:-

(see annexed)

## **Resolved**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2005, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

### **36/05 Declarations of interest**

Mr. Stan Taylor declared an interest as the chairman of the Willenhall Traders Association and Walsall Community Transport.

Councillor Angela Underhill declared an interest as a member of the Willenhall Traders Association.

### **37/05 Petitions**

A petition was handed in by Mr. Fellows relating to the Barhale Bowling Green, Noose Lane, Willenhall, containing some 200 signatures.

### **38/05 Public Forum**

Mr. Griffiths of 11 Beech Road, Willenhall, addressed the Partnership on issues relating to the use of Noose Lane by travellers visiting the site on a regular basis and the rubbish left behind when they leave. He asked for barriers or bollards to be constructed along the roadside to prevent access to the land.

Councillor Cook indicated that the traffic section was looking into this matter.

Mr. Whitehouse of 11 Watery Lane addressed the Partnership on issues relating to nuisance caused by travellers on the Noose Lane site and asked that action be taken to prevent access by travellers.

Councillor Coughlan advised that the Council did move people on, but any rubbish was not always removed.

## **Resolved**

That this be reported to the Working Group and monitored on a regular basis and that members be included in the response to the residents.

Mr. D. Bridgewood of 9 Parkside Avenue, Willenhall, addressed the Partnership relating to Beech Road/Parkside Avenue. He referred to the increase in the volume of traffic from Aston Road into Parkside Avenue and into Beech Road. Some measures had been taken and proved to be effective, in particular, the erection of bollards on the corner of Parkside Avenue and Beech Road, but these were often knocked down. The size, volume and speed of the traffic was of concern.

## **Resolved**

- (1) That this matter be referred to the Environment Working Group and investigations take place into the complaint and that local residents be involved in a possible solution;
- (2) That officers contact the Friends of the Park in order that parking problems in that area would be addressed.

Mr. Fellows addressed the Partnership regarding the leasing of the bowling green and expressed his concerns that his questions had not been dealt with.

Mr. Challans (Support Officer) advised members of the responses forwarded to Mr. Fellows from the Local Authority and members expressed their concerns at the consultation process relating to the future use of the site. Mr. Fellows was advised to contact the Local Government Ombudsman if he still felt aggrieved in respect of this matter. The bowling club should be involved in their relocation.

Wendy Evans, chair of New Invention Local Committee, addressed the Partnership on concerns relating to a planning application for a mobile mast on the Squires Factory, New Invention, as the site was close to residential properties.

The Partnership was advised that, as a planning application existed on the matter, it should not be discussed at this meeting in view of the implications for members of this Partnership who would be considering the planning application at the Development Control Committee.

A resident of the area addressed the Partnership in relation to public consultation on a planning application.

Mr. Johnson (Support Officer) advised that a record of telephone contact should be taken and included on the file. He asked the resident to speak to him direct on this matter.

In response to an issue raised regarding the lack of police presence in Rose Hill and anti-social behaviour, Inspector Rowe referred to Government strategies relating to dispersal orders but, unfortunately, these did not always resolve the problems. The police would do their utmost to respond to calls and advise that a co-ordinated approach would be necessary. The chairman indicated that this matter could be considered as part of a Working Group.

Mrs. Till referred to the good work carried out by Community Wardens whose support had been excellent and it was hoped that their programme could be extended.

Mr. Johnson (Support Officer) informed the Partnership that it would need to include the sustainable elements of good community working in their local plan and it was hoped this could minimise the possibility of funding being taken away from Community Wardens.

**39/05 Community Forums**

The Partnership received copies of a presentation from the Community Empowerment Unit:-

(see annexed)

**Resolved**

That the presentation be received.

**40/05 Gateway Road Signs – Community Arts Team**

The Partnership was advised that, as no one was in attendance, the information would be circulated to members.

In response to points raised, the chairman asked that a list of future items be provided for the Partnership.

**41/05 Proposals for a short breaks service for people with a learning disability in Short Heath**

Mr. Greensill, Integrated Learning Disability Service in Walsall, gave a short presentation to the meeting:-

(see annexed)

Members expressed concern that local Councillors had not been consulted on this proposal and concern was expressed at traffic and access/egress problems.

**Resolved**

That the presentation be received.

**42/05 Partnership Plan and Feedback from Task Groups**

The report of the Neighbourhood Partnership Officer was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Councillor Shires gave a presentation on “grot spots” within the area and felt that Street Pride should be invited to attend task group meetings when the information could be made available to them. He asked that any officers with the responsibility for any issues relating to untidy sites, derelict buildings, fly tipping, graffiti or storage of rubble etc. be invited to the working group.

Mr. Johnson (Support Officer) indicated that a list of priorities should be drawn up and that energies be focused into improving the area.

### **Resolved**

- (1) That the Local Neighbourhood Partnership members continue to address untidy sites at the task group meetings;
- (2) That individual Local Neighbourhood Partnership members encourage wider participation from community members within the task groups;
- (3) That the revised priorities be endorsed for inclusion in the plan;
- (4) That the photographs presented at the meeting showing a number of sites in the Wards be submitted to the next task group meeting.

#### **43/05 Budget Allocation**

The report of the Neighbourhood Partnership Officer was submitted:-

(see annexed)

### **Resolved**

That the Local Neighbourhood Partnership endorse the proposed spending areas set out in paragraph 2 of the annexed report as follows:-

- Lichfield Road, New Invention – the dual carriageway, including Gate Island
- High Road, Lane Head
- Town Centre

#### **44/05 LNP Communication Officer**

The report of the Neighbourhood Partnership Officer was submitted:-

(see annexed)

**Resolved**

That this matter be deferred to the next meeting.

45/05 **Training and Development for LNP and Task Group Members**

The report of the Neighbourhood Partnership Officer was submitted:-

(see annexed)

**Resolved**

- (1) That the progress made on the training and development plan be noted and reviewed on a regular basis;
- (2) That the task groups move forward the actions recommended in the Place Check report;
- (3) That the actions for implementation in the Place Check report be noted.

**For Information**

46/05 **Implications for Willenhall**

**Regeneration Framework  
Fly Tipping in Walsall  
Safer Walsall Borough Partnership: Crime and Drugs Strategy 2005-2008**

Copies of presentations regarding the above issues were submitted:-

(see annexed)

**Resolved**

That the presentations be received.

**Termination of meeting**

The meeting terminated at 9.35 p.m.

Chairman: .....

Date: .....