

## **Brownhills, Pelsall, Rushall/Sheffield Area Panel**

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 at 6.00 p.m.**

**At Rushall Community Centre,  
Springfield, Rushall, WS4 1JT**

### **Present:**

Councillor G. Perry (Chair)  
Councillor R. Worrall (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor S. Craddock  
Councillor K. Ferguson  
Councillor L. J. Rattigan

Mr. B. Poxon Co-opted Member

### **Officers in attendance:**

Laura Terry - Area Manager  
Beverley Mycock - Democratic Services

### 185/16 **Apologies:**

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillors Bennett and Clews

### 186/16 **Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 September, 2016 and the minutes of the special meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2016 were submitted

(see annexed)

### **Resolved**

That the minutes of the meetings held on 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 and 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2016, copies having previously been circulated to each Member, be agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

### 187/16 **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

188/16 **Local Government Access to Information Act 1985 (as amended)**

That the public be excluded from the private session during consideration of the agenda item indicated.

189/16 **Area Manager Report**

The report of the Area Manager was submitted:-

(see annexed)

The Area Manager enlarged upon the report for the benefit of the panel.

Mr. Poxon expressed concern in relation to the difficulties encountered in trying to contact the police using the 101 telephone number. This concern was echoed by both Councillor Craddock and Councillor Ferguson. The Area Manager confirmed that two Police Officers plus an Officer in Command had commenced within the new neighbourhood policing initiative that same day (28<sup>th</sup> November, 2016) and that a police officer would attend the next Area Panel meeting.

Paragraph 3.5 of the report – Ravenscourt. In response to a query about the site, the Area Manager reported that a new Birmingham based agent would be involved in ensuring the site was safe and secure. As the site was currently safe and secure, no legal action could be taken at that time to instruct the owners to clear the site for appearance purposes.

Councillor Rattigan arrived at this juncture of the meeting.

Paragraph 5.7 – Spring Close Neighbourhood and Community Group. The Area Manager reported that she had met with whg in relation to securing the site as follows:-

- whg to resurface around the garages
- whg to secure the area with a swing barrier and a bollard to stop vehicular access
- a funding application for consideration later in the meeting (to address residents first priority)
- the garages are now occupied – the residents have brought them back to a high spec and the garages that had been decommissioned will become residential parking

A local resident stated that although a barrier was not the preferred choice of the local residents, should the funding application later in the meeting be successful, a barrier would prevent unwanted vehicles entering the area.

Councillor Craddock informed the Area Panel of a Canal Clearance Exercise that had taken place on 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2016. He expressed his gratitude to Brownhills School pupils who had taken part in the clearing up event, the Area Manager and Mr Ahmed from the Canal and Rivers Trust for the provision of a

canal boat, and to Brownhills Community Association for providing refreshments at the event.

## **Resolved**

i) That the report be noted:

### 190/16 **Funding Report**

The report of the Area Manager was submitted:-

(see annexed)

The Area Manager advised Members that three projects had been put forward for consideration as they met the necessary criteria.

#### **1) Catshill Tenants and Residents Association - Helping Hand to Lift project.**

The project would enable the LIFT group (Ladies in Friendship Together) to establish a craft group where they can buy supplies to make cards and small gifts to sell at fetes and social events to raise money for the community room and to afford to replenish the original craft items. The LIFT group would also be looking to engage with local residents through advertising.

The Manager of Brownhills Community Association offered the group the opportunity to advertise and promote itself at Ann event taking place on 10th December at Brownhills Community Association.

#### **2) Spring Close Residents - in partnership with whg and Area Partnership - Making a safer community project.**

To install a swing barrier system plus bollards to restrict vehicle access to the garage site to prevent anti-social behaviour in that area

Councillor Worrall felt the residents had not been given any other option from the partners involved in the project. The Area Manager reported that whg had looked at the feasibility of a larger scheme but additional funding was not available. Councillor Worrall enquired about the use of Section 106 contributions monies.

Councillor Worrall thanked Mr McDonagh for all his work on behalf of local residents and this was echoed by Councillor Craddock.

#### **3) Pelsall Village School - Outdoor Learning Environment project.**

To create an outdoor learning environment within the school grounds to include wooden staging, seating, chalkboard, vegetable planters, wildlife areas, `walk on textures` trail, bird boxes and fruit trees.

The Area Manager informed Members the application would provide the materials only with zero costs for the build and delivery of the project.

The Chair proposed that the Area Panel contribute an additional £500 which would offset the need for the school to raise the additional £1000 it would need through its own fund raising. This additional funding request was seconded by the Vice Chair.

**Resolved (unanimous)**

That the following applications be granted:-

	<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Approved/Not approved/comments</b>
1	Catshill Tenants and Residents Association - Helping Hand to Lift project	£316	£316
2	Spring Close Residents	£1500	£1,500
3	Pelsall Village School	£1,000	£1,500 - to provide additional funding towards the build and delivery of the project

The Motion, having been put to the vote was declared carried, with all Members voting in favour.

191/16 At this juncture of the meeting, the Chair allowed a discussion relating to ongoing issues pertaining to the bins outside the shops in Shannon Drive, Brownhills. The Chair requested an officer from whg to attend the next Area Panel meeting in January, 2017 to respond to general queries.

192/16 **Dates and venues for future Area Panel Meetings**

The next scheduled meeting was Tuesday 24 January, 2017, commencing at 6.00pm at Brownhills Community Association, Brownhills Activities Centre - Chester Road North/Pelsall Road, Brownhills. WS8 7JW

193/16 **Private Session**

**Exclusion of Public**

**Resolved**

That, during consideration of the following item on the agenda, the Committee considers that the item for consideration is exempt information by virtue of the appropriate Paragraphs of part 1 of Schedule 12 A of the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended) and accordingly resolved to consider this item in private session.

**Summary of item considered in private session**

194/16 **Void Properties**

The Area Manager Planning Officer advised the Area Panel of the background to the item and proceeded to discuss the item in detail.

**Termination of Meeting**

There being no further business, the meeting terminated 6.55pm

Chair .....

Dated .....