

WALSALL SOUTH AREA PANEL

Wednesday, 4 March, 2015 at 5.30 p.m.

Conference Room, Council House, Walsall

Present

Councillor K. Hussain (Chair)
Councillor E.B. Russell (Vice-Chair)
Councillor M. Arif
Councillor A.A Nawaz
Councillor G.S. Sohal
Councillor V. Whyte

Officers in attendance

Denise Perry - Area Manager
Matt Underhill - Committee Business & Governance Manager

91/14 Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Anson, Councillor Sarohi and Councillor Nazir.

92/14 Minutes

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting which took place on 10 February, 2015, a copy having previously been circulated, be approved as a true and accurate record.

93/14 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

94/14 Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended)

It was noted that there were no items to be considered in private session.

95/14

Funding Report

In relation to Bath Road/ Little London Security Improvements the Area Manager explained that two households had objected to the installation of gates. This would mean that the work could not be undertaken and the funding lost as it could not be carried forward into the new financial year. The Panel Members agreed that it would worthwhile seeking the agreement of those local residents currently opposed to the gates, rather than risk losing the funding altogether. Members also noted that without the installation of the gates fly tipping would continue to the detriment of the local community. It was noted that if the funding was committed to this scheme before the end of the financial year it would avoid it being lost. A number of Members also indicated that they would continue working with officers in seeking to gain the agreement of those local residents opposed to the scheme. This included helping in making contact with the owner of an empty property.

A number of Members also expressed disappointment that there would be over £4,000 of funding uncommitted and so lost from the Area Panel's funding budget for this year. In response to Panel queries it was explained that two other funding applications which it had been expected to be considered at the meeting had been withdrawn. This had been for a number of reasons including applicant concerns regarding the resources required to support an application, as well as whether or not an application was sufficiently detailed. It was also explained that a formal funding application had to be made for each separate project in order for it to be considered.

It was **moved** by the Chair and **seconded** by Councillor Nawaz:-

That efforts should continue to be made towards gaining local resident agreement for the Bath Road/ Little London Security Improvements prior to the end of the current financial year (31 March 2015).

The Motion having been put to the vote was declared **carried**.

The Chuckery Festival – funding for independent covered outside event capability

The Area Manager explained that the application was for funding towards the cost of two gazebo-like structures for outdoor community events.

It was **moved** by the Chair and **seconded** by Councillor Nawaz:-

That the Chuckery Festival – funding for independent covered outside event capability application be awarded £581.

The Motion having been put to the vote was declared **carried**.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

96/14

Date and venue for next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would take place on 7 April, 2015 in the Council House, Walsall.

Termination of meeting

The meeting closed at 5.50 p.m.

Chairman:

Date: