

Brownhills, Pelsall, Rushall & Shelfield Area Panel

Monday 2nd December, 2013 at 6.00 p.m.

**Brownhills Community Association, Brownhills Activity Centre,
Chester Road North, Brownhills, WS8 7JW**

Present

Councillor G Perry (Chair)
Councillor R V Worrall (Vice-Chair)
Councillor B Cassidy
Councillor L J Rattigan
Councillor S Wade

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Mr. N. Bassi, Co-opted Member | (non-voting) |
| Mr. D. Birch MBE, Co-opted Member | (non-voting) |
| Mr. G. Bradley, Co-opted Member | (non-voting) |
| Mr. R. Carpenter, Co-opted Member | (non-voting) |
| Mrs. J. Davies, Co-opted Member | (non-voting) |
| Mr. F. Hodgkinson, Co-opted Member | (non-voting) |
| Mr. S. Mayou, Co-opted Member | (non-voting) |
| Mr. B. Poxon, Co-opted Member | (non-voting) |
| Mr. I. Roberts, Co-opted Member | (non-voting) |

Officers in attendance

Ranjit Kaur – Area Manager
Laura Terry – Partnership Officer
Paul Leighton – Group Manager (Road Traffic Network)
Roger Farnell – Garage Co-ordinator, whg
Beverley Mycock – Committee Business and Governance Manager

33/13 Apologies

Each Member of the Area Panel and the Officers present introduced themselves.
There were no apologies.

34/13 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest for the duration of the meeting.

35/13 Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended)

The meeting noted there were no items on the agenda which required the exclusion of the public under this Act.

The Chairman informed the meeting that there would be a change to the running order of the agenda and that item number 7 relating to Participatory Budgeting would be considered first.

36/13 Participatory Budgeting – Verge Parking

The report was submitted

(see annexed)

The Partnership Officer and Group Manager (Road Traffic Network) presented the report and advised the Area Panel of the background to the report and highlighted the salient points contained therein in relation to the Participatory Budgeting Project for Verge Parking.

The Partnership Officer reminded the Area Panel that at its special meeting on 4th November, 2013, Members had proposed eight Verge Parking schemes (2 per Ward) to go out to public consultation for four weeks, prior to final confirmation and ratification by the Area Panel on 2nd December, 2013. She reminded Panel Members that they had requested a local variation from the original proposed consultation process whereby the area would pursue the voting process alongside collating opinions and thoughts of the community, to ensure a decision could be made by the Area Panel based on local information to substantiate the votes received.

The Partnership Officer then highlighted a summary of the voting results and provided Members with a breakdown of comments made for all but one of the proposed eight Verge Parking schemes.

Panel Members were in agreement that all eight schemes were important to respective residents. They proceeded to discuss the consultation findings further and following a careful consideration around the number of votes and the comments made at the consultations, the Chair **moved** and it was duly **seconded** Councillor Cassidy:-

That the proposed location for the Verge Parking within the Brownhills, Pelsall, Rushall and Sheffield area is Stanley Road, Rushall, subject to its viability. Should any underlying problems arise that make Stanley Road, Rushall unviable, the second proposed location to be considered will be Highfield Road North, Pelsall followed by the third proposed location being Fullelove Road, Brownhills.

Resolved (unanimous – five Members in favour and none against)

That the proposed location for the Verge Parking within the Brownhills, Pelsall, Rushall and Sheffield area is Stanley Road, Rushall., subject to its viability. Should any underlying problems arise that make Stanley Road, Rushall unviable, the second proposed location to be considered will be Highfield Road North, Pelsall followed by the third proposed location being Fullelove Road, Brownhills.

The Group Manager (Road Traffic Network) advised that a detailed design of the Stanley Road Verge Parking proposal would be shared with residents. He confirmed that the land was Council owned and work would be carried out before the end of this financial year, pending no underlying problems.

37/13 Funding Report

The report was submitted

(see annexed)

The Area Manager presented the report and highlighted the following two funding applications for the Area Panel's consideration:

a) Brownhills Community Networking Event

The Area Manager explained the event would provide an opportunity to integrate community groups around the area to establish what activities are being run by local organisations. The event would take place at Brownhills Community Association on 28th January, 2014 and invitations will be sent out to all community groups including Churches, voluntary groups and statutory groups.

b) Brownhills Christmas Magic

The Area Manager explained that this project would assist with the running costs of the Brownhills Christmas Event on 14th December 2013, to enable a wider range of activities and stalls, which would include an ice rink with free admission. Councillor Cassidy stated it would be a wonderful attraction to bring people into the area.

Resolved (unanimous)

- 1) That £184.00 be allocated towards the Brownhills Community Networking Event taking place on 28th January, 2014.
- 2) That £1,500.00 be allocated towards the Brownhills Christmas Magic Event taking place on 14th December, 2013.

38/13 Area Manager Update

The report was submitted

(see annexed)

The Area Manager presented the report and highlighted the latest work carried out within Brownhills, Pelsall, Rushall and Shelfield wards to deliver the Area Plan and she emphasised that Partners had been instrumental in addressing the various issues.

The meeting discussed some of the work carried out around the area, primarily around the Tackling Crime and Anti-social Behaviour Workstream. It was reported that High Heath Park continued to suffer from anti-social behaviour and discarded needles, and a request was made for the area to be considered for an Apache CCTV deployment.

A query was raised by a Co-opted Member as to how they could become involved within the Workstreams. The Area Manager replied that should any Co-opted Members wish to be involved in any of the Workstreams then they should contact her.

Councillor Cassidy informed the Area Panel how excited the young people had been in helping a graffiti artist to create unique designs on the Skate Park in Holland Park, Brownhills and how much better the Skate Park now looked.

The Area Manager also reported that seven young people from the Area Partnership had been selected to become Youth Inspectors and would be involved in visiting the Youth Centres across the Borough looking at ways standards can be increased. Councillor Cassidy requested that the Youth Inspectors introduce themselves at a future Area Panel meeting once they had become established in their roles.

Resolved (unanimous)

- 1) That the Youth Inspectors be invited to a future Area Panel meeting.
- 2) That the report be noted.

39/13 whg Garage sites

A report was submitted

(see annexed)

The Garage Co-ordinator from whg presented the report and highlighted the salient points contained therein. In response to queries from Area Panel Members referring to garages and to sites that had been omitted from the Appendix, he reported that some garages although on whg land, were privately owned. The Garage Co-ordinator confirmed that whg did have some garages available to let and residents should contact him to check the garage availability or be included on waiting lists for specific locations.

Following a lengthy debate on various issues in relation to this item, Members stated they would like to be kept informed of the status of whg's garages and it was therefore requested that whg provide Garage Site updates on future agendas, to include the following information:-

- Garage site name
- Ward area
- Status of garages – empty or To Let
- Condition of each site

Councillor Worrall commented that the Area Panel and whg should consider working together in the next financial year, whereby the Area Panel may be able to part fund parking within some of whg's derelict areas, which would help towards alleviating some parking problems within the area.

The Chair requested the item to be included within the 'Creating Cleaner and Tidier Neighbourhoods Workstream', and he asked the Area Manager to invite whg's Head of Services, Gary Brookes, to a future Area Panel meeting.

Resolved (unanimous)

- 1) That the report be noted;
- 2) That whg Garage Sites be a regular agenda item to include:-
 - a) Garage site name
 - b) Ward area
 - c) Status of garages – empty or To Let
 - d) Condition of each site
- 3) That whg's Head of Services, Gary Brookes, be invited to a future Area Panel meeting.

40/13 Dates and venues for Brownhills, Pelsall, Rushall, & Sheffield Area Panel meetings

Members noted the dates and venues for the Area Panel meetings

Termination of meeting

The meeting terminated at 6.50 p.m.

Chair:.....

Date:.....