

# **PHEASEY AND PADDOCK LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP**

**Tuesday 19 December 2006 at 6.00 p.m.**

**at Beacon Church, Collingwood Drive, Pheasey**

## **Present**

Councillor Barry Sanders (Chairman)  
Ms. Yvette Sheward (Vice-Chairman)  
Ms. Jeet Sohal (Vice-Chairman)  
Councillor Adrian Andrew  
Mr. Fred Bell  
Councillor Mike Bird  
Inspector Byrne  
Mr. Frank Foster  
Councillor Chris Towe

142/06

## **Apologies**

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillor Rose Martin, Councillor Zahid Ali, Sharon Froggatt and John Punch.

143/06

## **Welcome**

The Partnership welcomed Jeet Sohal, the Locally Appointed Partner Vice-Chairman.

144/06

## **Introductions**

Members of the Partnership introduced themselves.

145/06

## **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

146/06

## **Minutes**

### **Resolved**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 24 October 2006, a copy having previously been circulated to each Member of the Partnership, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

147/06      **Petitions**

There were no petitions received.

148/06      **Public Forum**

**Arboretum User Group**

Barry Jenkins, the Chairman of the Group, gave an update on how the first £750 of funding had been spent to date. An application for the second £750 had been prepared. The Senior Neighbourhood Partnerships Officer, Parpinder Randhawa, said that he had spoken to Mr. Jenkins and that as soon as the application for the second allocation had been received, the money could be released.

**Sutton Road Pavement**

A resident raised concerns in relation to the state of the footpath from No. 201 Sutton Road to the Arboretum entrance. The central drainage channel was constantly blocked in bad weather causing pedestrians to walk in the road. The resident had raised the issue earlier in the year with the Council's Street Pride service who had said their machines could not clean the narrow drains. Other services had also been involved, including Traffic Engineering and Grounds Maintenance. The Chairman said that he was aware of the problem and had spoken to the resident previously. The Chairman undertook to contact the relevant Council services in respect of this.

149/06      **Update on items from the last meeting**

A schedule was submitted:-

(see annexed)

**Pheasey Neighbourhood Watch**

A discussion took place between the Pheasey Ward Councillors and Inspector Byrne in respect of the possibility of establishing a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in Pheasey. The Pheasey Ward Councillors had previously volunteered to co-ordinate a new group for twelve months (Councillor Andrew leading) until the Group was up and running. Inspector Byrne offered to e-mail the three Ward Councillors and Kevin Pitt to arrange a meeting.

**Breast screening unit at Broadway North**

Yvette Sheward informed the Partnership that the breast screening feasibility study project proposal had been completed.

### **Health Medical Centre in Paddock**

Yvette Sheward commented that details of the health needs assessment were still awaited.

### **Drainage and flooding in bad weather**

The LNP discussed problems with drainage due to leaf fall and increased hard standing areas around houses.

### **Resolved**

That information on gully maintenance programme for the Pheasey and Paddock areas for the next twelve months be reported to the next meeting.

### **Car parking in the Town Centre**

In response to a question from the last meeting, the LNP were informed that the lower two floors of the new ASDA car park were for shoppers only. The additional floors would be run by a private operator.

150/06

### **Funding Report**

A report informing the LNP of progress on projects that the LNP had agreed to fund to date and suggested new projects was submitted:-

(see annexed)

### **Litter project**

The Chairman informed Members that the first litter picks would take place in January in Chuckery and would continue with other primary schools in the LNP area. He said that he hoped that the poster competitions and litter picks would culminate in a spring celebration event on Barr Beacon.

The Lead Officer, Judith Sunley, informed the Partnership that she had asked for a report to be submitted to the LNP regarding the status of the Barr Beacon Trust and its links to the Green Bridge Project. Councillor Andrew, the Council's Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, briefly explained that the Green Bridge Project, if successful, would join Barr Beacon to other parks in the Midlands and was linked to the Heritage Lottery Fund application for the Arboretum. He asked for a report on the Barr Beacon Restoration Group.

### **Children's Centre funding**

In response to a question raised by Frank Foster, the LNP briefly discussed the process for funding Children's Centres.

## **Community Bus sustainability**

A discussion took place on the project, during which time, Members asked for information on how the service was publicised. The discussion included members of the public and led to a further brief discussion in respect of the coverage of Walsall Pride, the Council's news publication. The LNP were concerned that some parts of Pheasey Park Farm were not receiving copies of the publication and requested that this be brought to the attention of the Council's Communications Unit.

## **New Project - feasibility study - Broadway North site**

In agreeing the retrospective funding of the feasibility study as set out in the report, the LNP questioned whether the Chairman had authority to take action between meetings and requested information in respect of the funding process.

## **Remaining funding**

In response to a question from Members, the Senior Neighbourhood Partnerships Officer confirmed that as the LNP had now committed to three environmental projects, the remaining funds could be used for other types of project. The Lead Officer, Judith Sunley, said that she was progressing the "shopping list" of projects which could be funded.

## **Resolved**

- (1) That a further report be submitted in respect of the proposals to promote the Barr Beacon site;
- (2) That in respect of Children's Centres funding, a letter be sent to all LNP Members confirming the position;
- (3) That information be provided to the LNP in respect of publicity for the community bus service;
- (4) That the concerns of the LNP in respect of the distribution of "Walsall Pride" be brought to the attention of the Council's Communications Unit;
- (5) That retrospective approval be given to the recommendation to agree an allocation of £75, plus VAT, for the Manor Hospital to carry out a feasibility study on the Broadway North site and that a letter be sent to all Members confirming the position with regard to Chairman's actions between meetings;

- (6) That in respect of future projects:-
- (a) The LNP notes that a further report will be submitted in respect of proposals for the site;
  - (b) That the LNP recommends that up to £250 be allocated towards the cost of a public meeting, to be funded from the Paddock allocation.

151/06 At this point in the meeting, the Chairman welcomed two Police Community Support Officers to the meeting. Inspector Byrne explained the role that the PCSOs have within the community and at Community Action Group meetings.

Both Inspector Byrne and the Partnership Members said that they had found that public reaction to the uniformed presence was good. The public felt encouraged by a uniformed presence and felt more confident, which impacted on perceptions of feeling safe. A brief discussion then took place on some anti-social behaviour issues in the Pheasey area, particularly in relation to some garages to the back of Schofields Public House. The site belonged to Walsall Housing Group and needed clearing as it was becoming a focal point for anti-social behaviour.

Fred Bell, the Chairman of the Walsall Housing Group, undertook to pursue this.

152/06 **Community Action Groups**

A report providing an update on the progress of the Community Action Groups was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Councillor Towe, as Chairman of the Safer and Stronger CAG, gave feedback in respect of a meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2006. He added that the next meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> January would be held at the Collingwood Centre and would focus on anti-social behaviour. The meeting would commence at 6.00 p.m. The other issue he wished to raise related to the sale of alcohol to children. The Lead Officer, Judith Sunley, said that the Council's Trading Standards Officers had undertaken an exercise around the shops in the Pheasey area which had shown there to be no lapses. In respect of the sale of alcohol in public houses, Mrs. Sunley commented that the responsibility lay with the Police, however, the Council does work with the Police for on-licence sales.

With regard to the Health and People Community Action Group, it was noted that the Group was not well attended and that more work needed to be done on this.

**Termination of Meeting**

The meeting terminated at 7.30 p.m.

Chairman .....

Date .....