

**BROWNNHILLS AND ALDRIDGE NORTH LOCAL
NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP**

Thursday 10 February 2005 at 6.00 p.m.

In the Conference Centre, Shire Oak School

Present

Inspector Jack Ashley
Mr Douglas Birch
Councillor Barbara Cassidy
Mrs Lynda Cooper
Mr Gary Crowther
Ms. Georgina Fereday
Ms. Stella Forsdyke
Councillor Anthony Harris
Mr Kevin Lowry
Councillor Alan Paul
Ms. Jackie Plant
Mrs Patricia Thomas

25/05. Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillor Collins, Councillor Turner and Ms. J. Monckton.

26/05. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 September 2004 were submitted.

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 September 2004, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record subject to the following amendment:-

Page 3 – Minute no. 20/04 – That it be noted that Councillor Sears was governor of St. Johns not St. James as stated.

27/05. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

28/05. **Petitions**

There were no petitions received.

29/05. **Public forum**

There were no issues raised within the Public Forum item. The Chair informed Members of the public that, should they wish, they may take part in the discussion of the remaining Agenda Items.

30/05. **Brownhills and Aldridge North Local Neighbourhood Partnership; Local neighbourhood plan**

A representative from the Local Neighbourhood Partnerships provided an update on the Local Neighbourhood Plan. The Partnership was informed of the three initial priorities identified within the first plan being Health, Crime and the Environment.

An update was provided on various workshops such as the Environment Workshop that had been held since the last meeting of the Partnership. It was explained that task workshops were open to the public and that the Partnership were keen to engage local people and extended an offer to all in attendance to take part. It was suggested that a workshop focusing on Health issues be established as one had not yet been undertaken.

Following extensive discussion it was suggested that an invite be extended to the Business Club to participate in the Task Groups and also to apply for positions as Locally Appointed Partners. Furthermore an informal meeting be established prior to the next meeting of the Partnership to try to involve as many people as possible.

Resolved

- (1) That an informal meeting be established prior to the next meeting and that the Business Club be invited;
- (2) That the Local Neighbourhood Plan be approved.
- (3) That the formation of task groups be considered at the informal meeting to be established prior to the next meeting of the Local Neighbourhood Partnership.

31/05. **Physical access audits**

The Partnership received a report on Physical Access Audits.

32/05. Local neighbourhood partnerships discussion partnerships – training and development plan

The Partnership received a report on the Training and Development Plan. The report highlighted the strengths of each Local Neighbourhood Partnership and summarise the skills and knowledge of Members of the Local Neighbourhood Partnership.

33/05. Crime and disorder strategy

The Partnership received a presentation from Gwyn Bevan, the Local Police Liaison Officer.

It was explained that an audit had been completed following extensive data collection and consultation with many agencies such as the Local Neighbourhood Partnership, Community Empowerment Network and the Disability Forum. Arising from the consultation and data collection the draft strategy was compiled.

In relation to Government Targets it was explained that a crime rate of 15% had been set with a 20% target for those areas with a high crime rate. Walsall had set it's target at 20% and aimed to achieve this by 2008.

The Strategy identified the following six strategic issues in no particular order:-

- (1) Acquisitive crime – domestic burglary, vehicle crime and robbery
- (2) Anti – social behaviour – violent crime, criminal damage, street disorder, prostitution (victims)
- (3) Youth Crime – reducing offending levels
- (4) Fear of crime and vulnerability – young people as victims, domestic violence and race/hate crime
- (5) Drugs and alcohol
- (6) Road safety

It was reported that fear of crime had been reduced from 81% to 70% just missing its target of 69% by 1%. Furthermore the borough had achieved a 16% reduction in all crime types, the target was set at 14% during the period 1.4.02 to anticipated date of 31.03.05.

The framework had been considered by the strategic board and was out for consultation. It was anticipated the strategy would “go live” in April 2005.

34/05. Placecheck

The Committee received a presentation on 'Placecheck' Community Engagement technique and it's potential to be used by the Brownhills and Aldridge North LNP to engage the wider community in the LNP process.

Background to Placecheck, its relationship to the Local Neighbourhood Plan and it's contribution to Vision 2008 were explained.

Resolved

That placecheck be implemented to engage the wider community in the Local Neighbourhood Partnership process.

35/05. Survey on the provision of activities and facilities for young people

The Partnership received a presentation on the provision of activities for young people. The survey had been carried out by the Air Cadets together with the Police in various locations including Brownhills.

Results from the survey were detailed at the meeting and discussion followed on the current level of provision and possible methods of improvement. This included, amongst others, the provision of internet cafes and after school provision in schools.

36/05. Time of future meetings

The Partnership considered a report seeking views as to the time of future meetings.

Resolved

That the time of future meetings remain at 6.00 p.m

Termination of meeting

The meeting terminated at 8.00 pm.

Chairman:.....

Date:.....