



Community Forum Action Notes



Forum: Kingswinford North & Wall Heath, Kingswinford South and Wordsley

Date and time: Monday 11th March 2019 at 6.30pm

Venue: Belle Vue Primary School, Lawnswood Rd, Wordsley, Stourbridge, DY8 5BZ

Attendance: Cllr Peter Miller (chair), Cllr Edward Lawrence (vice-chair) Cllr Patrick Harley, Cllr Dave Tyler, Cllr Kerry Lewis, Cllr Matt Rogers, Cllr Nicola Richards, Cllr Donna Harley, Cllr Luke Johnson
Officers/police: Sergeant Marc Hughes, PCSO Mark Lamb, Paul Astley (Liaison Officer), Carol Tromans (Community Development Worker)
Members of the public: 20

1. Apologies and declarations of interest: Cllr. Peter Miller, declaration of interest as a member of Kingswinford Royal British Legion. **Apologies** – Jayne Catley (Liaison officer)

2. Police and Communities Together

Subject

Sergeant Marc Hughes fielded questions and comments from the floor. Requested that individual cases are reported to him directly after the meeting, concentrating on broader issues during the meeting. Sergeant Hughes gave an outline of crime statistics for the wards since the last forum meeting. Also an overview of the types of crimes being reported and any associated trends.

Action/Response

Since the last forum in January, overall crime:

Reported incidents: 235

Burglaries: Jan – 9, Feb - 16

Vehicle thefts/Damage to vehicles: Jan 46, Feb 31

Increase in thefts from shops.

Repeat offenders at Aldi and Co-op. One individual caught breaking into pubs. Some reports of opportunistic crime e.g. car doors left open leading to thefts from cars.

Issue with Motorcyclists in Sandringham Way, Wordsley

Sergeant Hughes to be informed about this after the meeting and follow through.

Cllr. Richards has been made aware by some residents of Blanford Mere estate, about Quad bike riders causing anti-social behaviour.

Reports of alleged drug dealing by youngsters in cars in Granville Drive – as observed by residents in the area.

Anti-social behaviour in an Alley way in Dean Avenue.

The Police and Crime Commissioner's Outstanding citizen awards.

3. Listening to you

Subject

Representatives from the ladies choir of Wall Heath attended to thank the forum for a grant they were awarded in September of last year.

Sergeant Hughes to pass on Cllr Richards' concerns and take back to his team to investigate.

Residents are advised to keep a catalogue of incidents including vehicle registrations, locations, dates and times where this type of anti-social behaviour is spotted. Send information to the local police team (either via their email address or report via crime stoppers).

This has been raised at a previous forum. Police officers present will be available to discuss this matter further after the meeting.

Nominations are now being accepted. Closing date is 18th April. There are 3 categories: Outstanding citizen/Young Citizen under 18/Community Project.

Action/Response

The grant has helped the newly formed group to rent a room to rehearse, as well as hire a professional conductor. The group held a successful charity concert at the River rooms. Their next concert is at Queens cross network in Dudley on Sat 6th April in the evening. All welcome. Tickets are £5.

The White House glass museum - when is it going to open?

Funding towards the museum was initially delayed but the work is now progressing well. When it opens it is anticipated that the new museum will be "world class" standard and an achievement for the area to be proud of.

There is a missing letter 'W' on the signage on the perimeter of Wall Heath Village.

Cllr. Tyler explained that the Council has reviewed its contracts for signage. This may be one explanation for the delay in rectifying the issue with the Wall Heath sign. Cllr Richards remarked that the 'W' had been missing from the Wall Heath sign for around 6 months. Paul Astley was asked to raise this with the appropriate council department.

Resident raised concern with trees and their close proximity to his own property.

Some pictures of the issue were circulated and viewed by some Councillors. The forum discussed this matter to some length and many people present feel that something needs to be done on the matter, which has been unresolved for 13 years.

Trees in the area of Belle Vue (Ryder Street) Wordsley near to the bus stop someone has gone along and hacked at them & have not cleared up their mess, everything is across the pavement.

Paul Astley to report to the appropriate council department.

Resident raised an issue regarding the Alley way from Kingswood Road to Lawnswood Avenue, which is very messy with evidence of dog fouling and branches.

Cllr Harley to make enquiries with D Wesson.

An enquiry was raised about the trees on the Ketley road redevelopment site and whether they all had a TPO on them.

Some residents had heard that some trees were being preserved (Tree Preservation order) but it was thought that this was a temporary thing whilst the building work was going on. There was a development control meeting last week. Paul Astley was asked to refer this on for confirmation.

Land between Standhills Road & the Quarry; Are developers planning to take this land & will the field be built on?

Cllr Harley said no they had heard nothing about this

An old van is parked near the shop in Wolverhampton Rd, its been there for some time. Residents would like it to be moved.

The council have no powers to get this van removed.

What has happened to the equipment and resources which were formally stored at the rear of Kingswinford police station and for public use?

Sergeant Hughes confirmed that the equipment is still in Police possession.

4. Working with you

Subject

Ridge Hill woods meeting.

Action/Response

Cllr. Rogers thanked Mike Wood MP for attending a meeting of the local residents to Ridge Hill woods recently.

Potholes in Camberley Road. Also there are holes in the pavement near the former Murco garage in Bells Lane.

Cllr. Lewis has already spoken to officers of the council and expressed concerns about the dangers of the holes in the pavement in Bells Lane. Paul Astley will chase the issue of the potholes with council officers.

Fly tipping in Ham Lane.

Cllr Richards has raised concerns over fly tipping in Ham Lane.

Resurfacing of the road between Kingswinford Cross and the Courthouse public house. Phase 1 now complete.

Wall Heath Tennis club

The next section of road resurfacing (Phase 2) will take place this week and next week between 9.30 am-3.30 pm each day.

Cllr. Tyler shared with the forum the success which Wall Heath tennis club has had since being awarded funding. They have been allocated funding by Sport England, and the Landfill trust. They have had a new roof, made the club more accessible for people with disabilities, as well as a forthcoming refurbishment of the courts. Cot Lane play area is also an example of what a difference successful funding applications can make to local areas.

Streetwatch / Speedwatch

Cllr. Lewis is involved in some meetings in order to Co-ordinate further Streetwatch/speedwatch activity. Sergeant Hughes asks anyone interested in speedwatch to also contact him, this may be arranged in areas where vehicle speed is an issue.

5. Funding

Applicant

Royal British Legion. Require funding of £5,000 towards completion of the resurfacing of their car park in order to ensure the car park remains accessible to use for all patrons and members. They have already managed to raise around £7000 from raffles etc.

Recommendation

Recommended £2,500 from Kingswinford South ward & £2,500 from Kingswinford north and Wall Heath ward. Total allocation of £5,000 is recommended.

Wordsley Festival have applied for funding towards help with the cost of staging this year's festival.

Recommendation of £2,500 to be allocated from Wordsley ward. On the proviso that future funding allocations will not be considered for this organisation, unless there is clear evidence that the Festival is making good progress towards becoming self-sufficient, rather than relying upon community forum grants in order to be sustainable. Cllr Richards agreed to share details of how to apply for Mayor's funding.

Meeting ended at: 8:15 pm