



Community Forum Action Notes



Forum: Belle Vale, Hayley Green and Cradley South Community Forum

Date and time: 2nd September, 2019 at 6.30 pm

Venue: Halesowen Cultural Centre, Highfield Lane, Halesowen

Attendance: Councillor Jake Cooper (Chair)
Councillors Simon Phipps and Ruth Buttery
Officers/Police: Mandy Wilcox (Liaison Officer)
PCSO Guynne and Sgt Mike Sanders
Members of the public: 8 members of the public

1. Apologies and declarations of interest:

Councillor Ian Bevan, Andrea Goddard and Laura Taylor

2. Police and Communities Together

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Action/Response</u>
SGT Mike Sanders introduced himself as new to the area. He spoke about resources in that his force is now the smallest since 1974. The government have pledged 20,000 more police to come and it is expected that this force should have approximately 1,200 more police officers but it will take time to recruit, train/grow – taking approximately 2 years but there are police officers going through the process already. The police are recruiting now but it can be difficult.	Noted.
He spoke of a marked increase of incidents and in particular last week. Patrols are being undertaken in the area.	Noted.

The public raised questions regarding “speed watch and weight limits” around Carol Crescent and Hawne Lane. Councillor Simon Phipps explained that he had spoken with Highway Officers and this may create more of a problem and that a suggestion for finding out who owns all the trees should be carried out. To take action to arrange for the same to be cut down. Attwood Street, Cherry Street and Whittingham Road regarding problems were also discussed.

Noted.

Signage had been put in place by Councillor Phipps and Councillor Cooper to make drivers aware. More signs required.

Police discussed speed and standards of driving suggestion for Hawne Lane, Manor Way, Howley Grange – around school areas. Howley Grange School have installed a speed camera themselves which evidence suggests that the average speed around this area is approximately 57-60 mph. School crossings were discussed and Councillor Phipps discussed budget implications and reallocation of such.

Noted.

Alexandra Road/Charles Road – pavement being narrow and groups of school children walking in rows of 3 or 4 onto the road. Speeding was a concern along Alexandra Road and this being a very fast road.

Noted.

Speed bumps – but difficult with busses and trucks and the cost is very high.

The responsibility of the property owner to cut back hedges around the Furnace Lane area was discussed at length. Cars parked on pavements being a concern but public can phone 101 to report this, with the police having powers to issue parking tickets. Councillor S Phipps said that the Council had just recruited a new Parking Manager.

Noted.

Police discussed scheme in Sandwell that was being tried at Lutley, Amblecote and Wollescote Schools for Junior PCSO involving parking and issuing of parking tickets. This being an education rather than issuing notices/tickets.

Noted.

3. Listening to you

Subject

Action/Response

Post Box in Uffmoor Lane needs replacing by Royal Mail. Insurance claims discussed here.

Noted.

Earls High School and Travellers were discussed. Police discussed the point of Joint Enterprise. Councillor S Phipps discussed laws and legal process.

Noted.

Hawne Lane Colliery – who owns this?

4. Working with you

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Action/Response</u>
Belle Vale suggestion for a camera – Councillor S Phipps discussed this and said that review is on-going.	Noted.
Parking at Bassnag Road Councillor S Phipps said that he had spoken with officers concerning the condition of the grass. Hard standing not recommended as this would encourage more people to drive their children to school. A suggestion to speak with the Co-op and Fox Hunt to deal with parking issue in Brookmeadow Road surrounding Lutley Primary School. Watch your Speed Signs are going up!	Noted.
Survey – Community Cohesion and Hate Crime	Noted.
This was a very good discussion concerning:- Must always be good communication in the Community eg social media Must always be good communication between the Council and Community Halesowen by the Sea – being a great way to be involved in the Community Need to identify who we should be dealing with Boost advertising of Community Forums better eg press, social media, posters in local shops, asking schools to advertise the meetings on newsletters. Home Affairs to be used to advertise Community Forums.	Noted.

5. Funding

Applicant

Funding – no funding applications to consider on the night but it was reported that Councillors had approved an urgent application by Halesowen Business Improvement District Community Interest Company for £3,500.00 from this and the Halesowen North/South Community Forum towards the cost of purchasing 50 radio units which will be supplied to local businesses in Halesowen to improve communications, deter crime and help take pressure off the police. The radios will remain the property of the BID company.

Recommendation

Meeting ended at: 8.10 pm