

**Action Notes of the Netherton, Woodside and St Andrews/Quarry Bank and  
Dudley Wood Community Forum**

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 at 6.30pm  
at Dudley Wood Neighbourhood Learning Centre, off Pavillion Gardens,  
Dudley Wood Road, Dudley**

**Present:-**

Councillor Q Zada (Chair)  
Councillor B Cotterill (Vice-Chair)  
Councillors J Cowell and D Sparks

**Officers:-**

A Tromans - Lead Officer to the Forum (Information Systems Manager, ICT Services) and H Shepherd - Democratic Services Officer (Resources and Transformation Directorate)

Together with 25 members of the public

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21 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors W Duckworth and E Taylor.

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22 **Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Following general announcements, the Councillors and Council officers introduced themselves.

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23 **Listening to you – Questions and Comments by Local Residents**

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Action</u>
A resident expressed his thanks for the work that had been done at Woodside Park, after raising the issue at the previous meeting.	Noted.

A resident requested that consideration be given to providing lighting at Woodside Park, as it was extremely dark and deterred people from using the park at night.

Referred for a response.

The Chair suggested the possibility of the Council and the 'Friends of Woodside Park' working collaboratively to try and resolve this issue.

A resident referred to the substantial increase in room hire charges at Netherton Arts Centre and asked for further information with regards to the charging policy at the Centre for Community Events and how could the recent increase to £168 for one room be justified.

Referred for a response.

A detailed discussion was had and a number of concerns and issues were raised with regards to the proposed building development at the garage site in Leabank Road, Netherton. Residents raised concerns regarding the tenants that would be occupying the properties; that existing properties would be overlooked by the new development and the safety aspect of having tenants with mental health issues living within close proximity to children.

Councillor Cotterill stated that a lot of the information discussed was incorrect and that similar housing sites had been built within other areas of the borough and no issues had been reported. A meeting would be arranged between the developer, Housing Officers and Tenant and Residents Association representatives to discuss the proposal. If a further public meeting was required this would be arranged at a later date.

The Chair encouraged residents to complete the consultation documents that had been circulated to neighbouring properties expressing their opinions with regards to the proposal and await the outcome of the meeting Councillor Cotterill had referred to. Further objections could be expressed through the more formal planning process if/when a planning application was submitted.

A resident raised a matter with regards to a proposed planning application to create a Car Wash in Halesowen Road.

The Chair stated that he would be unable to take part in any discussion in relation to planning applications as he was Chair of the Development Control Committee and suggested that the resident contacted his fellow ward members to discuss the issue.

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24 **Working with you: Topics raised by Local Councillors**

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Action</u>
Councillor D Sparks requested that the fencing at the car parking in High Street, Quarry Bank (opposite the church) be replaced/repaired and also the road signs that had been damaged.	Referred for a response.
Councillor Q Zada reported that the road sign for Fullwood Crescent is incorrect as it only had one 'l' and should have two and also requested a new grit bin to be located in the Crescent.	Referred for a response.

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25 **Community Forum – Love Your Local Community Funding**

<u>Application</u>	<u>Decision made since the last meeting</u>
Netherton Central Tenants and Residents Association	£1533.00 approved to fund Christmas street lighting in Netherton. Funding allocated from Netherton, Woodside & St Andrews ward.
<u>Application</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
Cole Street Methodist Church	Approve £1000 to run a children's holiday club for ages 3 to 16 including arts and craft materials and sports equipment. Funding to be allocated from Netherton, Woodside & St Andrews ward.
Inspired Communities	Refused, as previously received funding from the Community Forum in September 2014.
Dudley Water Ski Club	Deferred. Lead Officer to obtain additional information as to how many disabled people from the two wards would benefit from the proposed equipment.

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26 **Health and Social Care Local Discussion**

Representatives from the Clinical Commissioning Group, Healthwatch Dudley and Social Care were in attendance at the meeting to obtain the public's view on services collaboratively working to deliver Health and Social Care services in the future and to highlight the pressures on services and changes to the system that had happened or were planned to take place.

Following the presentation, residents raised issues and concerns in relation to the changes, in particular referring to the large number of Council trained carers that were to be made redundant and the lack of senior doctors employed at GP practises.

Healthwatch Dudley stated that they would be organising their own events to obtain residents views on the new ways that health and social care would be provided and to establish views on what was and what wasn't considered to be working. These would be held at the end of February, 2016, exact dates would be widely publicised.

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27 **Date, time and venue of the next meeting**

It was reported that the next meeting of the Community Forum would be held on:-

- Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2016 – Quarry Bank Community Centre, Sheffield Street, Quarry Bank

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The meeting ended at 7.45 pm.