



## Community Forum Action Notes



**Forum: Brierley Hill and Brockmoor and Pensnett**

**Date and time:** Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021 at 6.30pm

**Venue:** Online on Microsoft Teams

**Attendance:** Councillors Z Islam, A Davies, J Foster, R Collins and R Ahmed

**Officers/Police:** Lisa Watson (Area Liaison Officer, Dudley MBC), Tom Senior (Shadow Area Liaison Officer, Dudley MBC), Linzi Pearson (Community Development Worker, Dudley MBC) and PC Harrison (West Midlands Police)  
Members of the public: 5

### 1. Welcome and introduction to the meeting

The Area Liaison Officer welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was acknowledged that the last meeting was held on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 and that the return to meeting via an online method was a trial. The online meeting etiquette was run through and Introductions were made by Officers and Councillors.

### 2. Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair

Councillor Islam was appointed as Chair of the forum and Councillor Collins as Vice-Chair for the remainder of the 2021/22 municipal year.

### 3. Apologies and declarations of interest

Apologies received from Councillor S Greenaway.

Declarations of interest: Councillor Collins and Councillor Davies live in the ward they represent



#### 4. Communities Together

##### Subject

##### Action/Response

Councillor Collins – Fens Pool Community Centre had run a successful Holiday Activity Fund programme during the summer and had more activities planned. There was also a weekly youth club.

Community members and Councillors to spread the word about the activities and events at the centre.

Brockmoor Community Centre had a new Committee and had restarted Friday bingo as well as bookings. A Nativity had been planned. The Centre had been underused during Covid-19.

Community members and Councillors to spread the word about the activities and events at the centre.

Councillors invited members of the public to raise any issues, concerns or questions.

Noted.

A member of the public acknowledged the Councillors good work in the area and shared information regarding the Brierley Hill light switch on, on 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 at 5pm. There would be a Christmas market, brass band, Santa's Grotto and singers.

Noted.

A member of the public had attended the meeting to find out more about what was happening in the area.

Noted.

#### 5. Police update and discussion

##### Subject

##### Action/Response

Brierley Hill – A number of surgeries had been held in impact areas working with the Council around Chapel Street, High Street

Noted.

There were Weapon sweeps taking place together with a knife arch at Merry Hill.	Noted.
Junior PCSO had done work in schools around engagement and parking issues.	Noted.
Regular patrols of antisocial behaviour (ASB) hotspots had been completed.	Police requested information for places to undertake weapon sweeps and ASB hotspots.
The Police would be supporting the Christmas lights switch-on.	Noted.
Statistics were shared for September, October and November (to date). Figures included the Merry Hill shopping centre.	Noted.
Councillor Davies requested for comparison figures to see if they compared to what residents were reporting to Councillors.	Police to action.
Councillor Ahmed requested that a Police representative for Brockmoor and Pensnett to attend.	PC Harrison explained it depended on the rota as to who was able to attend.
A member of the public expressed thanks to the Police for help to display poppies in Brierley Hill.	Noted
A member of the public requested for the Police stall to return to the Market/High Street in Brierley Hill.	PC Harrison advised that they would be happy to return if a venue was identified.

## 6. Arrangements for next meeting

The Area Liaison Officer confirmed that participants would be invited to take part in a survey following the online meeting to give their thoughts and preferences. The next meeting would be confirmed once feedback had been completed. A Councillor requested a comparison of number of attendees online versus face to face meetings.

## 7. Community form funding

The public were asked to leave at approximately 19.40 for members to discuss funding applications.

### Applicant

### Recommendation

All Stars Youth Club

Agreed in principle from Brockmoor and Pensnett ward allocation. Written response required around clarification of groups applying to more than one forum

St Paul's Community and Learning Centre

Agreed in principle from Brierley Hill ward allocation. Councillor Davies requested more information about the groups that are now using the centre.

Friends of the Coppice

Agreed in principle from Brockmoor and Pensnett ward allocation. Clarification requested around £5k limit timescale as the group had previously been awarded funding.

Clarification was also requested about whether groups must attend the forum if they apply for more than £1k.

**Meeting ended at: 8:15pm**