

**ACTION NOTES OF THE MEETING OF AMBLECOTE, CRADLEY  
AND WOLLESCOTE, LYE AND STOURBRIDGE NORTH  
COMMUNITY FORUM**

Held at 6.30pm on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2014  
At Lye Community Centre, Cross Walks, Lye.

**PRESENT:-**

Councillor Herbert (Chair)  
Councillor Perks (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Body, Crumpton, Hanif, Lowe and Partridge

**OFFICERS:-**

Ms A Grove (Lead Officer to the Forum – Head of Service – Youth Service) and Mrs K Taylor (Directorate of Corporate Resources)

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE AS OBSERVERS:-**

Mrs D Roberts (Research & Intelligence Officer – Chief Executives).

Together with 13 members of the public.

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28 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs Martin and Mrs Walker.

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29 **WELCOME, INTRODUCTION, HOUSEKEEPING, SCENE SETTING**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Forum. Following the making of other general announcements, including information in relation to the Forum being a pilot to enable members of the public to focus on local issues, and share their views on how the Forum should be organised, the local councillors and members of the public introduced themselves.

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30 **FUNDING BIDS / GRANTS**

A report of the Lead Officer was submitted on three applications for funding, and the remaining balances for the Forum

It was noted that a number of applications had been received after the report had been circulated, and in view of this, the Lead Officer reported that following consultation with the Chair, it was proposed that future applications for funding would need to be submitted two weeks prior to the meeting of the Community Forum. The Lead Officer requested that the remainder of the applications be dealt with under delegated powers in consultation with Members of the Forum.

#### AGREED TO RECOMMEND

- (1) That the Director of Corporate Resources approve the following:-
    - (a) A grant in the sum of £340.00 to 1<sup>st</sup> Stambermill Guides towards the cost of young girls attending the annual camp to be able to take part in outdoor and challenging activities.
    - (b) A grant in the sum of £5,000.00 to the Friends of Homer Hill Park to design, contract and install ramped macadam path to play area and re-turf disturbed grass.
    - (c) A grant in the sum of £5,000.00 to Dudley Arts Council to support the delivery of the Black Country Festival.
  - (2) That the remainder of Community Forum Funding Applications be considered under delegated powers in consultation with the Lead Officer and Members of the Forum.
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#### 31 PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

A participatory budgeting activity was undertaken, which aimed to identify community priorities in the three wards over the next year, and generate ideas and funding interest. Participants were asked to spend a notional £1,000 between six community projects and identify what the impact would be in terms of health and wellbeing, community, working together, environment, education and learning and social.

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#### 32 COMMUNITY FORUM PARTICIPATORY APPRAISAL

A participatory appraisal of the forums was then conducted, and participants were asked to list their likes and dislikes of the forums over the past year and how they would change the format of the Community Forum. The feedback was then transferred to an implementation grid that identified a short, medium and long-term plan based on how easy or hard it would be to implement change at the forum and how much impact these changes would make.

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#### 33 PUBLIC FORUM

Local residents raised questions and made comments as set out below. These issues would be referred to the relevant Directorate or appropriate body for a response:-

### Nature of questions/comments

- (1) A resident requested street cleansing to attend Butchers Lane, Cradley, as there was regular dog fouling.
- (2) An issue was raised in respect of the paths fenced off in Homer Hill Park by Extra Care Construction creating no pedestrian safe routes and causing elderly users to fall over in the mud. This had been raised with the Construction Site Manager.
- (3) A resident from Lye requested the removal of rubbish in Chapel Street, Jackson Street, Clinic Drive, Cemetery Road and High Street.
- (4) Reference was made to the litter and rubbish from Foxcote Farm through to Claycroft and other numerous areas, particularly Crabbe Street, Lye.
- (5) A resident referred to the poor condition of the scrap yard in Balds Lane, Lye.
- (6) Has the premises known as Trice and Allen, Bromley Street, Lye, got a Scrap Metal Licence? Councillor Hanif undertook to investigate the matter.
- (7) A resident referred to the absence of street cleansing on the pathways in Withymoor.
- (8) An issue was raised in regard to the position of double lines on the car park at Wollescote Park.
- (9) A query was raised regarding the surface drainage water from the new housing development on the former Hickman's Manufacturing site in Delph Road, Silver End.
- (10) A resident requested street cleansing to attend Ryecroft, Wollescote, as there was regular dog fouling on her front garden.

### Other issues raised :-

- An issue was raised in regard to the parking in Rufford Street, Lye, especially when the car parking spaces at the Railway Station had been filled.

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### 34 PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT, ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- There will be an event, organised by Wychbury Patients Participation Group, on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2014, 9.45 am – 12.45 pm at Providence Hall, Cradley in relation to Dementia.

- The Friends of Wollescote Park will be meeting on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2014 at 11.00 am.
- Cradley Library will be celebrating their 78<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2014, 10.30 am – 12 noon.
- There will be a Love Music Hate Racism event at Dudley Town Hall on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2014, 2 – 11 pm.
- There will be a Stourbridge Township Council meeting on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2014 at 7.15 pm.
- A resident reported on a volunteer group she had arranged to assist children in the community with reading and homework.
- The next meeting of the Community Forum, subject to Council approval in June) will be on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2014, starting at 6.30pm at a venue to be confirmed.

The meeting ended at 8.45. pm