

## YARDLEY EAST WARD MEETING NOTES

<b>WARD:</b> YARDLEY EAST	<b>DATE:</b> Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> September 2019
<b>VENUE:</b> St. Edburgha' s Church, Church Road, Yardley, B25 8PD	<b>START/FINISH TIMES:</b> 6.30pm – 7.30pm
<b>COUNCILLOR:</b> Neil Eustace	<b>NOs OF ATTENDEES:</b> 15
<b>OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:</b> Beverly Edmead - Community Governance Team, BCC Kevin Gibbon – Highway Steward, Amey  <b>Apologies For Absence</b> Sgt Michael Wilson – Local Policing Team, WMP	
<b>MATTERS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING:</b>	
<p><b>1. Notice of Recording</b> Residents were advised that members of the press/public may record and/or take photographs of the meeting.</p> <p><b>2. Local Councillor News and Updates</b> Cllr Eustace advised of the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Stechford Train Station – the improvements to the station were going well and were still expected to be completed by the end of November 2019. However, parking provision had not been included in the improvements, which was disappointing.</li><li>- Iron Lane Junction Improvements – works ongoing with the improvements to the junction had been progressing well.</li><li>- Former Cascades/Stechford Baths sites – recent meeting with Council Officers to discuss the future use for the site following the removal of asbestos from the building. Community use for the site continued to be the main priority for residents along with green open space and the creation of additional parking facilities in order to ease the pressures of on-street parking. Officers had agreed</li></ul>	

to take on-board residents suggestions and concerns; other Council departments would also be contacted to establish if there was any possible interest in the site before a decision was made to agree its future use. Kathryn James was the lead Council Officer dealing with the matter.

- Bus Services – concerns had been raised with National Express regarding changes to the bus route and services along Queens Road to Lea Hall Station. Service users concerns had been taken on-board and a new service had been provided which would run from nearby Solihull and include the Lea Hall area as part of the route.
- Former Garage site on Church Road – Cllr Eustace had attended the Planning Committee meeting with two local residents to present their objections to the Planning Application on behalf of other local residents. The Application had been refused by Planning Committee, which was very good news for residents, however, it seemed possible that the applicant would appeal again or resubmit an amended application. Residents must continue to express their concerns against any future applications.
- Replacement Bins in Old Yardley Park – a site visit had been carried out with the Parks Manager; a number of issues had been identified, including the lack of weeding and grass maintenance. The bins would be replaced in due course and the grass cutting and tree/shrubbery pruning would also be scheduled into the maintenance programme. Trees for Life had also been approached regarding tree planting/infilling where appropriate.
- Street Cleansing in the ward was still inconsistent and had not been helped by the increase in missed collections by the refuse & recycling collection crews. Also, several street bins had been removed or relocated and details had not been passed to the street cleansing crews. Discussions were ongoing with the Depot Manager (Andy McCoy dealing) to see how the matter could be resolved and more street cleansing provided.

### **3. Ward Plan Update**

Copies of the draft Ward Plan were circulated at the meeting. Residents were reminded to submit any additional comments and /or amendments for inclusion to officers as soon as possible.

### **4. Meadway Redevelopment Information Update**

Copies of an Information Briefing Update report was circulated at the meeting. Residents were advised of the following noted:-

- The Poolway Shopping Centre was now fully demolished. The developers (Kier Living Ltd) would be building 136 new homes on the site; 50% was earmarked for sale and the other 50% for council social housing.
- 17 of the council housing had been completed and were now occupied; the properties should all be completed by the end of May 2020.
- The properties for sale had proved to be very popular and had been sold very quickly. 56 homes had been completed with the remaining 12 due to be completed by the end of May 2020.
- Work had started on installing the new park which was due to be completed by the end of December 2019.
- Phase 2 of the redevelopment was being dealt with by Birmingham Property Services in partnership with Birmingham Museums Trust, who was planning to build on the site.

Residents would continue to be kept updated on progress.

## 5. Residents News and Updates

Residents advised of the following concerns:-

- The Conservation Area/Yardley Old Park and around the Church yard – ongoing problems with nuisance/anti-social behaviour, including the increase in open cannabis /drug use and dealing. Cars were often parked up on the pavement outside the park and church school building and engaging in anti-social/inappropriate behaviours. The re-installation of CCTV cameras was called for along with regular patrols and surveillance by the local police team. Cllr Eustace reminded residents to continue to report incidents so that problem areas could be identified and resources deployed where possible. Volunteers were also needed to set up Neighbourhood Watch and Street Watch groups.
- Supermarket on the junction of Station Road/Manor Road – goods and display boards often exceeded the owner’s permitted curtilage, thus encroaching on the public highway. The owner had also installed his own paving slabs  
**Action: Cllr Eustace to investigate and contact Planning Enforcement**
- Obstructive/pavement parking was still an issue of concern in the ward, with some areas being worse than others. Pedestrians often had to walk into the road in order to get by, which was unreasonable and unsafe. Residents were given details of the self-reporting Parksafes Initiative recently introduced by WMP; two pictures of the vehicle obstruction should be taken and emailed along with a short statement to WMP via their website. Officers would then determine whether a warning letter of a Fixed Penalty Notice should

be issued to the vehicle owner.

There was no other issues raised.

**6. Petitions** – None submitted

**7. Any Other Business**

None raised.

**8. Dates of Next Meeting**

Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Dec } all to be held at 6.30pm, St. Edburgha's Church

Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**Meeting closed 8:15pm**