

	SOHO WARD MEETING 24 NOVEMBER 2015 AT 7PM AT LODGE ROAD CHURCH, LODGE ROAD B18 5BU	
	ACTION NOTES	
In Attendance	<p>Councillors Sybil Spence, Sharon Thompson & Chaman Lal</p> <p>Arron Bedward, West Midlands Fire Service Birmingham Brendan Duffy, Operations Manager, Fleet & Waste Management Kate Foley, Senior Service Manager, Place John Dunleavy, Place Manager Kyle Stott, Public Health Theresa Tamman, Street Scene Co-ordinator Anita Sehra & Alissia Roberts, Midland Heart Kay Thomas, Community Governance Manager</p> <p>There were 50+ residents in attendance</p>	
Apologies		
Agenda Item		Action
1.	<u>Election of a Chairman for 2015/16</u>	Councillor Spence
2.	<u>Notice of Recordings</u>	Noted
3.	<u>Petition</u> Re – Objections to siting of mobile phone masts – Councillors to submit to City Council meeting	
4.	<u>Community Safety Issues</u> Arron reported on the issue of arson rubbish fires and urged residents to report any piles of rubbish so that action could be taken. He also advised of the availability of free smoke alarms. Residents made reference to budget cuts within the Request made for police patrols in Claremont Road, following an assault and a robbery. Councillor Thompson suggested, in view of local concerns that the theme of the next meeting be community safety and that the police be invited to attend.	Next meeting – Community Safety theme

5.

The Environment

The following points were made by officers;

- Housing was now related to Place based management and work with partners to develop a Place plan. Bellefield & Wattville Estates and Nineveh Road were current priorities. Resident's input was vital.
- Fly tipping in Soho was the major environmental problem and had one of the highest incidents in the City. The rubbish was checked for evidence in the hope of eventual prosecutions. Signage had been erected re collection information. It was hoped that residents would come forward to take responsibility for the environment in a street or for a few houses so that a task force could be established to tackle the issues. ASB diaries were available. Information was being gathered from other local authorities.
- Community clean ups were already happening in the Ward. Use of a translator was being considered to deliver the message to all sections of the community and ensure that all of the community was engaged to take responsibility and pride in the area.
- The emphasis was on recycling and help was needed to get that message across
- Midland Heart had pledged to work jointly with the Council, residents and Councillors.
- There was a link between the environment and the effect on health - the public health priorities for Soho were highlighted and the 5 ways to well- being were explained.

Residents then made the following comments;

- Enforcement was the key to stop fly tipping and rubbish dumping. Prosecutions would stop illegal action.
- Residents needed a reminder re use of wheelie bins, given the transient nature of the population.
- Tenants, rather than landlords needed to be given a package of instructions.
- Information needed to be translated into appropriate languages for the area or pictorial leaflets, including information about the availability of bigger bins
- Rubbish was piled up all along Claremont Rd and was attracting rats
- Illegal scrap metal yard, Richmond Rd dumping rubbish.
- The environment affected residents mental well being and gave a poor impression of the area to people living outside the ward
- Rubbish dumping had increased since bulky waste collections had ceased. On the spot enforcement was the

Theresa Tamman
to take up

	<p>answer and other ways needed to be considered to clean up the area and promote Soho as a good place to live.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – All residents needed to ‘do their bit’ and help clean up and take pride in the area – A multi agency approach was needed, including residents to undertake site inspections, walkabouts and education <p>Councillor Thompson agreed the importance of education and had invited all school councils to a meeting in the Council House to discuss rubbish. Pledges had been made and ideas shared. Joint working was the way forward.</p> <p>Meeting advised about the Waste Prevention Project.</p>	
6.	<p><u>Matters of Local Concern</u></p> <p>i) <u>Properties, Kent Street North, Lees Street & Norton Street area</u> Poor condition of the properties in those streets raised, some repairs undertaken but homes still affected by damp, badly fitting doors etc. 2014/15 budget had been allocated but it was queried where the money had been spent. The governance of the City HLB and tenants panel was questioned and Kate Foley undertook to take up the repairs referred to and the City HLB/tenants panel issue.</p> <p>ii) <u>Claremont Road – Rubbish</u></p> <p>iii) <u>Victoria Road – Wheelie bins used by residents to block spaces on road to enable them to park, action needed by police.</u></p>	<p>Kate Foley</p> <p>Brendan Duffy to speak to Waste Reduction Team for action</p>
7.	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>23 February 2016 at 7pm, venue to be confirmed.</p>	
8.	<p><u>Authority to Act</u></p>	<p>Agreed</p>

Meeting ended 9.10pm