

## NECHELLS WARD MEETING NOTES

MEETING HELD ON 19 JANUARY 2023 AT THE POD, OLIVER STREET, NECHELLS B7 4NX

PRESENT – COUNCILLOR LEE MARSHAM

PAT WHYTE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & SUPPORT OFFICER

DEBBIE NEEDLE, BoSF

There were 21 local residents in attendance at the meeting

### 1. Notice of Recording:

Councillor Marsham advised the meeting that members of the press/public could record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items

### 2. Ward Action Planning

Councillor Marsham welcomed all to the meeting and explained that all wards had been asked to review their ward plans and develop a new (or revised) Ward Action Plan for 2022 – 2026. To do this ward priorities, goals and actions needed to be identified to better enable residents, organisations and councillors to work together to achieve local solutions.

The aim of the meeting was to look at setting ward priorities across a range of themes such as (but not only) ways to increase volunteering for litter picking and other groups, road safety, improving parks, easing parking problems and community safety.

The meeting gave consideration to the main priorities for Nechells and how issues could be addressed and who would be accountable.

The main priorities were felt to be –

1. Making Nechells cleaner and greener
2. Making Nechells safer
3. Improving parking, pedestrian space and road safety in Nechells
4. How to give Nechells residents have a healthy & prosperous life

After discussion and group work the following main priorities were identified –

**a) Making Nechells Cleaner and Greener**

- More road sweeping/cleaning/leaf clearance
- More bins especially outside shops & maintenance of bins
- Bins emptied more regularly
- Flexible bulky recycling collections
- More litter picking, including Nechells wide & local shops clean outside their premises
- Plant more trees, including fruit trees
- Get schools and parents more involved.
- Education in schools, community re litter, the environment etc
- Nechells in Bloom
- Create Friends of groups for the local parks
- Use of Community Pay Back

During discussion on the above priorities, consideration was given to who would work with residents, the city council and councillor to achieve solutions. Land-owners and local shop owners were felt to be vital to work on improvements to general cleaning, litter removal. Star City and Aston Villa were important local stakeholders in the local community to work across a range of issues. With regard to making Nechells Cleaner & Greener, Keep Britain Tidy and Birmingham Open Spaces Forum would be useful key partners

**b) Making Nechells safer**

- Improved street lighting, especially in parks
- CCTV/speed cameras/noise cameras
- Improved local police presence/contact number for local team
- More Neighbourhood Watch Groups
- Get to know our Safer Neighbourhoods Officers
- Lifts/ASB/drug related issues in/around tower blocks
- Stop car cruising

**c) Improving parking, pedestrian space and road safety in Nechells**

- More pedestrian crossings, dropped kerbs and school crossing patrols & mark dropped kerbs etc
- Collaborative working between schools, police, BCC to tackle parking around schools
- Ensure all traffic lights work
- Speed humps around St Matthews Church/speed cameras on Nechells Parkway
- Residents Match Day Parking (AVFC)
- Parking spaces for VOI (electric scooters)
- Better bus services especially no. 66

**d) Making Nechells Healthy/prosperous place to live**

- Introduce free fruit and milk for school children
- Involvement from schools
- More summer events/Coronation event
- More litter picking groups
- Free opportunities are limited for children/young people

Councillor Marsham thanked residents for their contributions to the discussion and ideas for priority actions in the Nechells Ward. He undertook to take away the suggestions and draft the Ward Plan for review at a future meeting.

**Next Meeting** – 23 March at 6.30pm at Free@Last, Nechells Park Road