

Birmingham City Council

Bournville Ward Meeting

Tuesday 7 March 2017

6:30pm

Rowheath Pavilion

Heath Road

Bournville

B30 1HH

Meeting Notes

Present: Councillors Robert Sealey (Chair), Timothy Huxtable and Mary Locke
Sergeant Andy Holder, West Midlands Police
Kay Thomas – Community Governance Team

There were 12 residents present.

1. Notice of Recording

Noted by all.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Pete Walker, Stirchley Neighbourhood Forum

3. Notes Of Previous Meeting

Noted.

4. Petitions

None submitted.

5. Update on the Local Sustainable Transport Fund(LSTF)

The Chair advised the meeting that officers had submitted their apologies and expressed his disappointment that an update on the impact of the 20mph limit in Stirchley/Cotteridge or remedial plans had not been submitted. A 6 month review had been promised but this was now long overdue. Councillors Huxtable and Locke agreed that this was an unsatisfactory situation.

Councillor Huxtable said he had raised the issue at District Committee and had been advised officers would be available to attend the meeting in March. He undertook to raise with officers and the Cabinet Member.

Residents were annoyed that as officers had been unable to attend a briefing note should have, at the least, be sent with relevant information.

Councillor Huxtable added that Lifford Lane HRC was now becoming busy and this was impacting Pershore Road. Additionally the news regarding Tesco would also have an effect as the site had been left out of the gyratory system, therefore a corridor approach was required and it would have been useful to hear officer's views on these issues

In response to questions Councillor Huxtable said he had also been concerned about the issue of road safety and would take up in light of the recently cancelled conference.

A local resident said that emergency vehicles came through the Stirchley island and it would be interesting to hear their views.

A local resident advised that the settings on the traffic lights had to be re-set by Amey as the timing was not right and this had been causing the road to be blocked. This had been rectified by officers as had the bus stops outside Kings Pharmacy so there had been some improvements made. Councillor Huxtable said that CCTV had been installed in Cotteridge to cover ASB at bus stops and if the bus stops were moved they had to be within the range of the cameras. There was a cost implication to moving the cameras.

The Chair referred to the pull in, in Cotteridge that despite double yellow lines was used to park cars for long periods of time causing blockages as the buses could not pull in, which had been picked up.

Residents requested that the item be included on the agenda for the next meeting and that a written report be provided prior to the meeting to address issues raised such as emissions, tail backs etc. Councillor Huxtable advised that there was no emissions station in Cotteridge but he had flagged up the problem as a member of the Air Quality Cleaner Zone working group.

A resident queried if there was any action that could be taken against drivers sitting outside schools with engines running. It was suggested that schools educate students to take the message home. **Action: Councillor Huxtable to raise through the working group.**

Action: Item on LSTF for next meeting

6. Ward Local Innovation Fund

The Chair referred to the previous meeting and the details provided regarding the Local Innovation Fund but advised that the fund was now for £48k per ward for 2 years to be spent by March 2018. This provided a little extra time to work up proposals. Two proposals had been submitted so far and a way forward that involved the community needed to be agreed so that ideas and further proposals could evolve. A specific LIF workshop would be arranged to look at ideas and proposals.

A local resident referred to the newly established Friends of Bournville Park that could benefit from the LIF but required help to build capacity of its volunteers. A scheme where volunteers could compliment the library staff at Stirchley Library to extend its opening hours and enable community use was also suggested.

Emma Wolfe, Friends of Cotteridge Park provided details of a proposal which was broadly supported by the meeting.

Sergeant Holder referred to the Active Citizens Fund which could also be used to support community groups.

Residents said that it was also about building community leadership of councillors and community volunteers and it was hoped that the councillors would be fully involved.

It was suggested that a useful way of getting the community involved would be to develop a road safety group in Bournville to enhance awareness of the 20mph zone. Sergeant Holder said he had set up a community speed watch elsewhere in the city so would be keen to help support a road safety group. Councillor Huxtable said that Bournville J&I and Dame Elizabeth Cadbury Schools had set up children's courts and this was a step that could be enhanced under the Active Citizen's Fund rather than going through the LIF process.

Reference was made to examples of good LIF proposals across the city and mention made of the proposal agreed in Tyburn ward. Residents expressed an interest in learning more.

It was highlighted that some of the money should be used to benefit young people in the ward such as holiday schemes and projects to benefit all children and not just those of working parents. While agreeing that such schemes were required the Chair advised that LIF funded projects needed to be sustainable and could not be used in the same way as Community Chest.

**Action: i) Workshop meeting to be arranged prior to next ward meeting to consider ideas and proposals for the Local Innovation Fund – during first 2 weeks in April.
ii) Expressions of Interest (including costs) to be submitted to councillors on A4 sheet by 31 March
iii) Austin Rodriguez to advise all groups that had already expressed a formal or informal interest**

7. Residents Issues/Matters of Local Concern

Residents advised of the following:-

a) Highway Issues

Footpath along Selly Oak Road, between Franklin Road and Northfield Road had caved in where trees had been planted and at the corner of Northfield Road/ Selly Oak Road there was a raised area which was a tripping hazard.

Action: Councillor Huxtable to pursue

b) Tesco Site

Requests made for the visual appearance to be improved and action taken to prevent potential fly tipping. The blocking off of Hazelwell Lane was very inconvenient for local people and it was requested that action be taken to improve the situation for those living nearby. Security of the site was a main concern.

The Chair advised he had met with Tesco and raised all of the issues mentioned which had been noted by Tesco. They were however not looking to re-open Hazelwell Lane as the sale of the land was more attractive with the closure but pedestrian access was to be explored. The security of the site had been raised and this was being taken into account. He and Councillor Locke had also spoken to the Director re the way forward for Stirchley as it was expected that the land would be marketed very soon. They had made a request that anyone who previously expressed an interest be contacted and this had been agreed. Tesco wanted to market the land as a single plot, minus the previous Kwik Save land and it was noted that they also owned properties along the Pershore Road.

8. Authority to Chairman and Officers

Noted and agreed that:-

“In an urgent situation between meetings, the Chair, jointly with the relevant Chief Officer has authority to act on behalf of the Committee”.

The Chairman thanked residents for their attendance.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm