

Information Briefing

Briefing from	Eric Shipton (Chair Sutton Coldfield Housing Liaison Board (HLB))	
Update on Housing Liaison Board Sutton Coldfield -2015-2016		Date 19 July 2016

1, Summary

The purpose of this Briefing is to update on the Sutton Coldfield HLB.

2. Background

Sutton Coldfield Housing Liaison Board, also known as a HLB, is a partnership between tenants, leaseholders, other stakeholders, elected members, and officers of the Council.

The HLB influence and advise the Council on housing policies and service delivery. The HLB represents the view of the tenants and leaseholders in the area about the housing service. The HLB are allocated a budget each financial year this is called Community Improvement Budget (HLB). The Sutton Coldfield HLB have allocated all the money this year (2015/2016). Each year the HLB sets out Aims, always including the Councils plans, Youth engagement. Health wellbeing, Cleaner Greener City, Neighbourhood Working. Sutton Coldfield HLB has used all the funds allocated this year for projects within the Sutton District.

3. Sutton HLB Criteria

The Community Improvement Budget can be spent on the following:

- Work to reduce crime / vandalism / anti-social behaviour.
- Work which complements other improvements carried out on estates.
- Work which would have a benefit for communities and not an individual.
- Projects that increase community cohesion and sustainability of an area.
- Projects that increase access or encourage involvement.
- Projects that are a combination of the above

4. **Projects**

Please see attached sheets with the Budget and some of the Projects completed in the financial year April 2015 – March 2016

5. **Aims**

The HLB have dealt with many issues this year on behalf of residents Members are active in their local community and attend training on issues relevant to their role such as performance monitoring training. The HLB have representatives on the District Committee and attend Ward Committees in their areas. Our aims for the future are to continue and grow and engage with the local community encouraging younger people to be able to have an input into their landlord services. To also to continue to work closely with the District to benefit all who live in Sutton Coldfield?

6. **Hand-outs**

Budget Sheet April 2015 – March 2016
Examples of projects

SUTTON HLB COMMUNITY SUPPORT BUDGET SHEET					March 2016	
		RHKN1 J1G0 A00				
					15020	
Date	Pro No.	Project	Proposed By	Quote	Final Invoice	Balance
22.4.15	SUT4	Churchill Road 2 tables 12 Chairs Garden	greenfingers	450.00	450	14570
13.5.15	SUT 5	Grange Lane - Small tool shed for garden equipment		325.00	325	14245
9.2.15	SUT2	Wheatley Close front handrails	Completed Nov 2015	sent to contactor	5148	9097
22.4.15	SUT3	Heron Court Water Tap	Completed Nov 2015	372.00	372	8725
13.5.15	SUT 8	Springfield Rd - High Kerbs	Completed	6,000.00	6000	2725
10.06.15	SUT10	park court - store area for bins	Completed	1,433.46	sent to contractor 11.11	1291.54
01.07.15	SUT12	Plants Close Slabs for Bin Area	Completed	279.60	sent to contractor 11.11	1011.94
10.10.15	SUT 14	Compost Bins for garden projects the laurels, heron and wheatley	Completed	136.69		875.25
01.12.15		Stephens Rd Road side planter cleaner greener area	Completed	727.10		148.15
2016/2017 PROJECTS						
13.5.15	SUT 9	Churchill Road Rd Brook Project		2016/2017 budget		

Sutton Coldfield HLB Projects

April 2015 – March 2016



Staff on litter pick day

Churchill Road Sheltered Scheme

Residents at Churchill Road hold many social functions in and outdoors and need to have some garden furniture they approached the HLB requested that the furniture could be folded and stored in the shed when not in use. The HLB agreed to fund this venture.

Churchill Road has some old wooden benches and a table the TPO was able to get these refurbished to help with a community project with some young people doing the work from the Princess Trust.



The Laurels Grange Lane Tool Store

The residents at this extra care sheltered scheme have been working over the year to improve the communal garden they had purchased some tools but needed a safe place to store them. The asked the HLB for help. The HLB agreed to fund this.

From the photo you can see the local pcso and support officer helping put it together.



Wheatley Close Sheltered Scheme Rails Project

This project was requested by the local residents who were finding it difficult to walk from the entrance ways down the path leading to the car parking area where they were picked up by relatives ring ride and hospital transport.

HLB were more than happy to help out with this.

Residents are now very pleased and feel that they can now venture out without fear of falling.



Heron Court Water Tap

Heron Court residents have been turning an old drying area into a communal garden also they have been working on tidying up the front of the block to make the entranceway look more applying as this is a high rise tower block. They asked the HLB if they would fund a water tap external so it would save them having to carry water from the block of flats across a communal pathway and into the garden. HLB agreed to fund this



Springfield Road Project

This project was to look at preventing cars from mounting onto a lovely grassed verge area this route was a main route for children going to school. It was felt that this was an accident waiting to happen if this was not stopped also the damage to the underground services due to the weight of the vehicles. The HLB worked with Highways and we happy to fund this



Park Court Bin Store Project

The residents at Park Court High Rise Sheltered Scheme were concerned that the green recycling wheelie bins were left under the ground floor flats windows not very pleasant for he elderly who live there.

A site meeting took place with residents TPO and Works Contract Officer and a plan was formed to suit the majority.

The Bins will now be sited in a special formed area away from the windows of the ground floor residents.



Plants Close Project Hard standing for Bins

The low rise sheltered scheme had their delivery of wheelie bins. The only place for them was on the grass - They asked the HLB for help HLB was happy to provide a safe hard standing for these bins - now the residents do not have to walk on the grass and treat mud into the communal entrance.



Compost Bins various locations gardening projects

The Laurels

Wheatley Close

Heron Court



Each of the above schemes who have people improving the communal areas for all to enjoy have now got a compost bin as above to carry on the good work.

Stephens Road Planter

Residents at Stephens Road approached the local Housing Officer about concerns regarding a parking area close to their houses they wanted something to stop the cars going over the edge of the kerb and also parking on the grass at the end of the car park.

A site meeting took place with residents and it was decided that two large planters with small fruit trees in them. The local residents stated they will keep the area tidy and plant extra shrubs in the planters to make the area more pleasant.

