

Notes of Moseley Ward meeting 15/6/22

In attendance: Hayley Bradbury, WMRE; Steve Balliston, VolkerFitzpatrick;
Cllr Kerry Jenkins (Chair); Cllr Izzy Knowles

19 members of the public

Apologies: Sgt Tom O'Keefe (Mosley & KH), Sgt Louise Garner (Springfield)

1. Police update

Cllr Knowles read out a written update from Sgt Tom O'Keefe regarding policing in Moseley. (See attached). She explained that the police neighbourhood teams are still based on the pre-2018 ward boundaries and therefore Moseley ward is covered by three different police teams. Moseley & Kings Heath team cover most of the ward, the area from Yardley Wood Road, Windermere Road and Swanshurst Lane is covered by the Springfield team and the Cadbury Road, Stoney Lane Eton & Ernest Road area is covered by the Sparkbrook team.

As well as the Streetwatch teams mentioned in Sgt O'Keefe's report, there is a sixth team covering Windermere Road/ Swanshurst Lane area called the Middle Earth Streetwatch. A new team is soon to be set up in the Woodstock Road area. If anyone is interested in joining a Streetwatch group please get in touch with the Councillors or local police teams.

Community Speedwatch operates separately to Streetwatch and sessions are organised in roads where speeding has been brought up as a concern by local residents. The latest Speedwatch session was held that morning, 15th June in Dads Lane and Shutlock Lane. 36 drivers will be sent warning letters. The highest speed recorded was 41mph in a 20mph zone.

Sgt Lou Garner reported that she has only just taken over the Springfield team from Sgt Hanif Ullah who has recently retired and she will attend or report back to us at the next meeting.

Residents were asked if they had any questions or any issues that they wished councillors to raise.

A resident asked the difference between the strips put by the council across the road and community Speedwatch. Cllr Knowles explained the strips record both the volume and speed of traffic during a set period. That data can then be used to inform engineers on changes to road layouts, or road improvements such as traffic calming measures. It can also be used as

evidence to argue for speed enforcement operations from the police. Community Speedwatch is more about raising awareness of the dangers of speeding, encouraging people to concentrate when driving and changing public opinion to make speeding socially unacceptable.

The resident requested monitoring strips be put in Swanshurst Lane.

Parking issues were brought up outside King Davids' School, Alcester Road in the village, top of Salisbury Road & Wake Green Road outside St Bernard's School. A resident thought restricting parking on one side of Salisbury Road would help. There was a discussion about safer school streets initiative. A resident informed the meeting that the Parks and Chantry Streetwatch team are exploring the use of 'Park it not Plonk it' cards they can use to put on windscreens of illegally or badly parked vehicles.

A resident raised the issue of anti-social behaviour in Grayfield Avenue.

Other issues raised were front registration numbers missing and illegally modified exhausts. Residents can report these as intelligence to police or through the Streetwatch forum. The rise of theft of catalytic convertors and car parts is also a big concern for residents.

The Councillors will be meeting Sgt O'Keeffe and Sgt Garner on Thursday 16th June and will raise these questions and issues.

2. Moseley Station update

Hayley Bradbury and Steve Balliston gave a presentation on the building of the station in Moseley which following a public poll will be named Moseley Village.

Hayley is WMRE Rail Sponsor and will be the person who liaises with the community. Steve is a Project Director for VolkerFitzpatrick, the company appointed by Transport for West Midlands to build all three railway stations on the Camp Hill line in south Birmingham. He showed a presentation and gave a detailed explanation of the process for the next stages of development, setting out mitigations to help keep the level of noise and disruption to a minimum. This included installing an acoustic barrier along the boundary of the St Mary's Row property nearest to the station forecourt and liaising with St Mary's Church to ensure that they know when there are special events at the church (weddings, funerals etc) to avoid intrusive noise.

He told the meeting that most of the preparatory work should be able to be done during the working week while trains are using the line and be completed pre-Christmas. If weekend work is planned, they hope to give reasonable notice to neighbours.

Environmental concerns were being taken into account and as far as possible, any soil that is removed will be taken out by train rather than lorry. All the materials for the railway part of the construction will be brought in by rail – ballast, pre-formed parts for reinforcing the banks, forming the platforms, the lifts and staircases etc.

The community will be encouraged to get involved to add interest/local features.

A resident asked whether there would be a water point on the platform. We were told no, but they will investigate collecting rainwater from the roofs of the platform shelters.

Grayfield Avenue residents were worried about the loss of trees and asked the trees that were to be removed be identified and a report produced before the work took place. It was confirmed a further environmental impact assessment would take place. They also wanted to know how far the platform stretched and were directed to the planning application.

A resident asked if the large amount of fly tipping along the track could be removed during the works. We were told this was Network Rails responsibility, but they would ensure our request was fed back to them

A resident suggested wildflowers could be planted along the banks.

A resident asked why Balsall Heath was not getting a station. Hayley said further improvements could be considered long term and were all tied up in whether the Bordesley Chords project goes ahead and links the line to Moor Street.

A resident from Church Avenue was concerned about commuters using local roads to park cars and asked if resident's car parking schemes could be considered. Cllr Jenkins responded saying that this was a concern she shared and one that would be raised with both WMRE and BCC urging consideration be given in advance of such problems arising. This was also noted by Hayley.

Other things mentioned were Voi scooter and WM bike hire schemes having pods on the forecourt, a secure cycle storage unit and floral displays. Steve confirmed the community will have an input in the final plans for the forecourt and we could also take part in West Midland Trains 'Adopt a station' scheme or develop a Friends group like 'Friends of Hall Green station'.

3. Residents issues and topics for future meetings

Suggested topics:

- Exempt accommodation – Moseley Outreach worker, Anji Page is to give evidence at a Parliamentary Select Committee on the impact this type of accommodation has had on people in Moseley.
- Retrofitting of Council housing property
- Cllr Jenkins suggested that the Cabinet member for Housing and Neighbourhoods could be asked to come and present on both these issues at the next meeting.
- Waste management and fly tipping. A resident asked what action the council intended to take to clean up the city before the Commonwealth Games.
- Road and Pavement re-surfacing

Low Traffic Neighbourhood update - Cllr Jenkins confirmed the new cabinet officer, Cllr Liz Clements has now been briefed by officers on the Places for People project and the cycle lane and village centre proposals. Cllr Clements is keen to get a meeting set with officers and elected members to discuss timeline and action and engagement is expected over the summer.

The next Ward meeting will be held on Thursday 15th September. In the meantime, the police will hopefully hold an engagement event.

Report from Sgt Tom O'Keefe – Moseley & Kings Heath NPT

Moseley area of the ward

Moseley continues to be an ongoing priority for us both day time and Night time (night time economy). It does feature on team briefings each time we are on duty and is included on patrol each duty in line with the many other areas and threats / incidents we have to consider at any given time on the ward and constituency suffering similar concerns such as Kings heath high st as just one example of many.

The patrols in Moseley are currently targeted around the central Moseley area - bus stop and alley way next to flakes, rear of St Marys, M&S area and car parks inc main Moseley car park , high st areas in central area around and opposite the fighting Cocks pub / entrance alley way to Moseley private park. We are aware of periodic groups outside no 1 bus stop and this features also - the councillors are aware we have been in liaison with WM travel regarding bus stop cameras as a possible deterrent if deemed appropriate by them.

Where evidence exists we will take appropriate action - such as premises searches / warrants with police partners such as a business premises recently within the village that concerned regarding exploitation issues and private address where local intelligence warranted recent entry and checks at flats above the line of shops in Mosley regarding drugs supply.

Currently also intensively patrolling Parkview medical facility and Hospital, Queensbridge road following a current ongoing series of serious issues concerning a former patient.

There are a number of enquires that are currently ongoing involving offences in Moseley where offenders have been identified and we are assisting colleagues in force CID regarding bringing those individuals to justice - I will update via usual social media channels when I am operationally able to as normal.

As part of Operation Guardian (reducing u25 youth violence) a further priority continued patrols in the parks within Moseley are also prioritised daily such as canon hill park and holders lane playing fields which is a huge area to cover and accessible 24/7 as well as Highbury park (another huge area) and Trafalgar road pocket park- Moseley private park is also included where possible.

Another priority we have to consider highlighted by the community is speed and parking issues in most roads across the ward and constituency - including near schools and drop off and pick up (and further afield) - Speed watch events are now being regularly conducted with members of the team and volunteers and where /when we get the opportunity speed enforcement at various roads by team members.

Our colleagues from force traffic also operate in our areas and again where possible we work closely with them. We are also working with a number of schools re this issue and currently assisting St Dunstan's in Kings Heath who are trailing a B'ham city council led temporary road closure scheme that could be rolled out if successful. We are currently working with BCC enforcement officers in both Moseley and Kings Heath and intend to have dates set throughout the rest of the year which they are keen to also work with us on going forward.

Officers from the team are also working with all of our local schools, Youth clubs in Moseley and Kings Heath delivering inputs on the threats of county lines issues, knife crime and drugs that blights all of our areas. Offenders can be found to be school age children within education.

Moseley currently has 5 active street watch teams - they are Chantry and the Parks, Highbury, The Russlers, Oxford road and STARA (St Agnes and Dyott road) - the speed watch groups that go out are separate to Street watch teams and their patrol. Members of the team regularly join members of the street watch teams on patrol. We currently have officers also engaging regularly at the Hive in particular more recently with the Moseley for Ukraine volunteers.

All four constituency neighbourhood teams move back to Woodbridge road, Moseley (not withstanding any last minute change) starting 22nd June and moving over 3 to 4 days and this will become the constituency neighbourhood hub. A by-product of this for Moseley village and the general area will be increased visibility which is a positive. Kings Heath will remain as a decant station to house teams whilst other stations are developed - It is suggested at this time that some of our 24/7 response units will be based there from Stechford whilst that is developed which again benefits the whole constituency as a result regarding visibility.

We are already looking past expected increased activity of a night time through both the Moseley festivals and CWG 22 towards Operation Silent night and in particular the impact the world cup may have on evening footfall with the finals running through early till just before key Christmas dates. Further resource is being planned and considered.

And that's just the Moseley side of the ward !!!!!

Regards
Tom