

HANDSWORTH WOOD WARD FORUM MEETING – ACTION NOTES

WARD: Handsworth Wood	DATE: 4th May 2023
VENUE: Pavilions	START/FINISH TIMES: 19.00 to 20.50
COUNCILLOR/S Cllr Kooner	NOs OF ATTENDEES: 14
OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Lesley Bannister, Alan Woodcock, Mike Davis and Tonia Clark. Apologies from Cllr Atwal and Cllr Liz Clements.	VISITING SPEAKER(S):

CURRENT WARD ACTION PLAN PRIORITIES: To be confirmed

1.

MATTERS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING INCLUDING LOCAL CONCERNS:

1. **A.O.B** – College Road -, Helena France chair of the Handsworth Residents association spoke briefly about the campaign to save college road. She described how people felt fearful, that area was unkept, littered, parking issues, A.S.B, H.M.O related incidents and the negative effect on some local businesses . Residents spoke about improvements to the Grove triangle, having a useable public space, community cohesion and the benefits of low traffic neighbourhoods. A business owner spoke about the current street environment the large amount of litter, uncollected rubbish and parking saying that we need a street environment that makes people feel comfortable. Alan Woodcock the local highways engineer spoke about the history of previous consultations when several objections had been received to the proposed changes. He said that what was needed was a fresh start with a new consultation and he also outlined a potential small amount of funding .

2. **Local Policing** - Inspector Thomas Mahoney
 - New Chief Constable in place Craig Guilford
 - Changes to Local Boundary- Birmingham will be its own command, boundaries will follow the regional Council and Ward boundaries
 - Benefit of the boundary change will be that each area will have only local dedicated officers with local knowledge.
 - Heavy recruitment currently going on
 - Local crime is down by 15.11% for the Ward
 - CCTV discussion

FINAL DRAFT

- Discussion on the proposed Public space protection order, which only covers a small part of the Handsworth Wood ward currently.
- Begging and rough sleeping.

3. Birmingham City Council national and local Cost of living support – with Mike Davis

- Low-income benefits and tax credits cost of living payments. Entitlements up to three cost of living payments of £301 , £300 and £299 if you get the following benefits or tax credits - income based job seekers allowance; income related employment and support allowance; income support ;pension credit ;Universal Credit ;child tax credit and working tax credit.
- Disability cost of living payment this includes attendance allowance; constant attendance allowance; disability living allowance for adults' disability living allowance for children; personal independence payments all of these are entitled to a cost-of-living payment of £150
- Pensioner cost of living payments, if you're entitled to winter fuel payment for winter 2023 to 24 you will get an extra £150 or £300 with your normal payment from November 2023
- For the cost-of-living support-energy saving tips; help paying your water bill; help with childcare costs child benefit ;healthy start vouchers if you're 10 weeks plus pregnant or have children under 4, free bus passes cheap days out.
- Warm welcome spaces-launched on October the 24th 2022 across the city until the 23rd of March 2023
- extended voice service-for help helpline 0121303 1116
- increased energy efficiency measures

4. Net zero – Tonia Clark

- Please see the accompanying presentation [CMIS > Meetings](#)

ACTIONS/ RECOMMENDATIONS MADE	WHO	BY WHEN
1. Send out Net Zero presentation 2. 3.	Lesley Bannister	Within 5 working days

AOB: