

EDGBASTON WARD MEETING
TUESDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER 2018
7.00PM
THE PAVILION, MARTINEAU GARDENS
27 PRIORY ROAD, B5 7UG

COUNCILLORS: DEIRDRE ALDEN AND MATT BENNETT	NOs OF ATTENDEES: APPROX 30
OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: BEVERLY EDMEAD, COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE TEAM	GUEST SPEAKERS: JACK BOYCE- SENIOR CONSULTANT, TURLEY DAMIEN HOLDSTOCK – ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, TURLEY
APOLOGIES: Liz Dancey, Calthorpe Residents	
WARD PRIORITIES: Work in Progress	
MATTERS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING:	
1. Welcome and Introductions Following introductions, Cllrs Alden and Bennett welcomed residents and officers to the meeting. Residents were advised that following the changes to all the ward boundaries across the city from 2018, there were now 69 wards instead of 40; 32 were served by two Councillors and the remaining 37 had one Councillor. Edgbaston Ward was served by two Councillors.	
2. Appoint Ward Forum Chairman Cllr Deirdre Alden was appointed Chairman of the Ward Forum for 2019 – 2020. Cllr Alden advised that she had been appointed as the Conservative Group representative to sit on the Board of Warwickshire County Cricket Ground and declared a non-pecuniary interest ahead of the main Agenda item to be discussed in the meeting.	

3. Notice of Recording

Residents were reminded that members of the press/public would record or take photographs of the meeting except where there were confidential or exempt items.

4. Warwickshire County (Edgbaston) Cricket Ground – Proposed Development The Residences at Edgbaston

Following introductions, Jack Boyce (Senior Consultant, Turley) and Damien Holdstock (Associate Director, Turley) gave details of the Planning Application submitted in July with the proposals to build 374 high quality 'build to rent' apartments (1, 2 and 3 beds) with ground floor commercial units on the vacant land at the corner of Pershore Road and Edgbaston Road, adjacent to the Cricket Ground.

Car parking would be reconfigured to respond to the varying demands for match days and conferences. Dedicated residential access from Pershore Road to ensure that the entrance to the Stadium was not adversely affected by increased traffic.

A series of exhibitions had been held locally for residents to view/comment on the proposals and an information leaflet detailing the proposals had been distributed to over 2700 households and businesses in very close proximity to the site. Details of the proposals had also been made available online and included a consultation website, which provided easy to access information about the proposals and the consultation process. The properties would be developed and managed by Patrizia and a copy of the information leaflet was circulated to residents at the meeting.

Residents advised of the following concerns:-

- Insufficient car parking spaces for the number of apartments, especially as most households now had more than one car. How would the additional cars be accommodated?
- How would the parking provision at the cricket ground on match days be accommodated if the development goes ahead? Parking across the ward was already hugely problematic, particularly in Odell Place and other roads close to the cricket ground; the proposed development which included gym facilities, cafes and eateries would only exacerbate the daily ongoing problems.
- How was the need for apartment style living identified and what would the market rent be for the apartments. Who was the target audience for this type of accommodation?
- How would the apartments be managed and maintained? Would selling the apartments be an option in the future, and that assurances that the ownership of the land would not be sold on by the owner Patrizia in the future was essential.
- The proposed location for the apartment blocks was too close to the pavement and should be set back away from the pavement in a

similar way to the other tower blocks in close proximity.

- Measures should be put in place to adequately absorb the noise transference/reverberation within the development and around the other tower blocks and surrounding areas. The use of the glass pane frontages needs to be reconsidered.
- The height and close proximity of the apartments to the neighbouring tower blocks (Boundary House, Wickets and Century Towers) and the 'Right to Light' for residents living in the latter.
- What benefits would the development bring to the local community; had the additional strain and pressure on existing resources been considered and how they would be addressed.
- How much knowledge, understanding and experience did Patrizia have regarding property development and community living in Birmingham?
- The development was not in-keeping with the residential make up in Edgbaston. More affordable family housing was needed across the ward, and this should have been considered.

Responding to residents, Mr Boyce agreed to look into the comments and concerns made and to provide a detailed response on all the points made.

Cllr Bennett reminded residents to submit their comments, concerns and objections to the application on the Planning website as soon as possible.

Cllrs and residents thanked Jack Boyce and Damien Holdstock for their attendance and presentation.

5. Residents News/Updates/Local Concerns

The following concerns were raised:-

- The forthcoming T20 Cricket Tournament – concerns about parking and traffic management for the road closures. Cllr Alden advised that a telephone hotline number had been provided regarding the road closures/traffic management concerns; this was 0121 446 3613.
- Grass Verges across the ward had not been cut or maintained, and where work had been carried out, it was shoddy and shabbily done. The grass maintenance by Edgbaston Old Church was particularly poor.

Cllr Alden agreed to contact Amey with the concerns.

- The proposed Clean Air Zone (CAZ) would increase the parking problems in Edgbaston as the ward sits just outside the designated area. The proposal was fundamentally flawed and that alternative plans put forward had not been considered.
- The Number 1 bus service was no longer available in the evenings, and during the day, offered an hourly service, which did not meet the needs of the service users in the ward. Cllr Alden advised she had contacted National Express regarding the issue but had not yet had a response.
- Boundary House – the bins on the pathway had not been emptied for some time; consideration should be given to having it repositioned for easier access. Cllr Alden agreed to investigate.
- Wheeley's Road – collapse of the brick wall outside the shops caused by overgrown tree roots. Cllr Bennett agreed to contact Building Control to ascertain who was responsible for rebuilding the wall.

6. Working Together in Birmingham's Neighbourhoods

Residents were briefly advised of the document which was currently out for consultation, which sought residents' views on working together in partnership with the City Council/partner/public sector agencies and how things could be done better/differently.

Suggestions included different models of Local Governance, including Parish/Neighbourhood and Community Councils.

Residents were actively encouraged to submit their comments and views before the consultation closing date on 28 September 2018.

7. Petitions

None submitted.

8. Any Other Business

No other business raised.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm