

BOURNVILLE & COTTERIDGE WARD MEETING NOTES

WARD: Bournville & Cotteridge	DATE: 12 December 2022
VENUE: St Francis Youth & Community Centre, Sycamore Road B30 2AA	START/FINISH TIMES: 7pm – 8.40pm
COUNCILLORS Liz Clements & Fred Grindrod	NOs OF ATTENDEES: 3
OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Stuart Cross, Kier Angela Richard, Community Engagement Manager, BVT Elaine Lee, Community Engagement & Development Manager, BVT Rachel West, Community Support & Development Officer Kay Thomas, Community Governance Manager	

MATTERS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING:

- 1. Welcome and Introductions** from Councillor Clements
- 2. Notice of Recording:**
Councillor Clements advised that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there were confidential or exempt items

3. Update from Kier Highway Steward, Stuart Cross

Stuart Cross provided the following update on highway works to local roads;

- Woodlands Park Road re-surfacing work to be undertaken in two parts before and after Christmas
- Footway work Bournville Lane due to commence February
- Winter maintenance ongoing over coming months
- Tree planting – 10 new trees
- Walkabouts undertaken monthly including around Cotteridge shopping centre. Issue with forecourts acknowledged however many were in the ownership of the shop premises

Councillor Clements added that the Bournville Lane safety scheme was in design stages following local consultation and the Selly Oak Lane/Bournville Lane junction would have a mini-roundabout installed. Councillor Grindrod passed on thanks from the residents of Cedar Road for the pavement work.

In response to a query regarding tree work in Langley Road, Stuart said that there would be letter drops and visits to residents concerned regarding parked cars but he would take the issue away raised to make further enquiries. Councillor Clements advised residents to get in touch if there were specific issues for action by Kier. With regard to tree planting, the site of some utilities in Cotteridge made it more difficult to plant in that part of the ward and efforts had been assisted by Trees for Life. Stuart added that Kier did undertake social value work and therefore any organisations that could benefit should contact Stuart for assistance.

4. Cost of Living Crisis

Elaine Lee, BVT, gave an overview of the support available –

- Fuel poverty campaign under review, hope to re-open scheme in new year
- Housing Support Grant

- Bournville & Cotteridge Cost of Living Group working at St Francis Church to communicate with families in need and how to spread information about available support. Looking to set up small hubs for residents to attend
- Women's Only Warm Bank at Shenley Community Hall
- Working at Masefield estate and with schools in the area, speaking to parents with young adults with disabilities.

Councillor Clements, in response to safeguarding concerns around attendance at warm banks, said that churches had their own safeguarding policies, and she was aware that training was being provided. In respect of residents from exempt accommodation attending Warm Banks then a support worker should contact the church and groups would be divided if necessary to avoid safeguarding issues.

Angela Richard said that BVT were considering a warm bank for young people with food, advice/guidance and activities and BVT would also be the lead for the Selly Oak constituency NNS offering support for people with disabilities aged 18-49 and carers. A mapping exercise of community spaces and grants schemes was being undertaken and a website produced to promote that information. In response to a question the meeting was advised that contact had been made with schools in the area, the Masefield Centre and with parents of young people with disabilities

5. Ward Action Planning Discussion

Councillor Clements explained about the Ward Plan for 2022-2026 and undertook to revisit priorities and actions at a meeting in the new year when more residents were present. Rachel West discussed the different means by which residents could get involved in the ward planning process and that the starting point would be to build on the existing plan.

Priorities from the previous plan had been –

- Safer Streets
- Sustainable travel/transport
- Sustainability & climate change to include tree planting
- Healthy communities, prevention for older people, dementia friendly centres
- Active citizenship, promotion of community spirit

Concern expressed regarding the ASB affecting residents living near to exempt accommodation properties, such as drug dealing and also how those vulnerable people living in the accommodation received the support that they needed but were clearly not receiving. **Residents felt this should be a priority in the new Ward Plan.**

Councillor Clements referred to Langleys Road residents who had organised a group to take part in residents consultation meetings on HMO/Exempt Accommodation with the Cabinet Member. The local police teams were also very aware of the issues.

Action: It was agreed to hold a meeting to look at ward planning priorities, gather resident's views via surveys, look at local funding and a dashboard of local statistics to create a draft plan