

	KINGS NORTON WARD FORUM MEETING	
	FRIDAY 16 DECEMBER 2016 AT 2PM AT KINGS NORTON LIBRARY, PERSHORE ROAD	
	ACTION NOTES	
In Attendance	<p>Councillor Valerie Seabright (Chair) and Simon Jevon Austin Rodriguez, Neighbourhood Development & Community Support Kay Thomas, Community Governance Manager</p> <p>There were 22 residents/partners in attendance</p>	
Apologies	Councillor Griffiths	
Agenda Item		Action
1.	<p><u>Welcome</u></p> <p>The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and explained the meeting was primarily to explore the first stages of action required to begin the process of allocating the Local Innovation Fund</p>	
2.	<u>Notice of Recordings</u>	Noted
3.	<p><u>Introduction to the Local Innovation Fund</u></p> <p>Brief introduction to the Local Innovation Fund provided and the process for submitting a proposal.</p> <p>Residents/partners made the following comments;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Suggestion of a project to provide English classes but this would require qualified staff therefore queried whether the criteria would be met. It was therefore further suggested that a training programme be run alongside so that it became a self-sustaining project. – It was acknowledged that volunteers were key to the success of projects that met the criteria for the funding but it was stressed that there was a need for a council officer to be available to support those volunteers and this needed to be built into the process. – Improvements to local centres was a further suggestion – It was suggested that Kings Norton ward combine with other neighbouring wards to pool money and increase the spending power and impact – Projects around the libraries in the Ward and the use of volunteers and co-locations – The areas of deprivation across the ward were highlighted and that the money was needed to assist residents in need with day to day living – food banks were 	

	<p>running at capacity and more local jobs were needed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Support expressed for community ownership projects and management of projects – Greaves Hall had applied for a CAT but had been unable to pursue due to the cost of the rent charged by the council and the ground rent required by housing. Our Place had operated from there for 2 years and spent a considerable sum on the building – could LIF be used to help with securing the building? The meeting was advised that funding could be allocated for social impact work to assist the group – The bridges in the Park required repair and work was being planned with the Northfield Arts Forum, working with young people and a history project. – Northfield Arts Forum wanted to create a trail along the river working with local groups, children etc that the Park groups could maintain. – Kings Norton open spaces – there was a group that covered the Northfield district and therefore partnership working was welcomed. Volunteers were trained but again it was emphasized that a paid person was needed to support and organize the volunteers due to loss of rangers or projects would not be sustainable. – Environmental projects involving the canal system/pathways could also tie in with the library service and involve the Canals & Rivers Trust as an partner organization and for match funding. Work on the pathways to improve usage would be of benefit to all of the community. – The business in the area should be encouraged to be involved with projects, eg supermarkets, Cadburys – Longbridge Community Environmental Forum was made up of small groups of conservation workers who came together enabling more to be done and more access to funding. It was suggested similar be set up in Kings Norton based at the library. – Northfield Arts Forum suggested a project to set up a pay as you feel café similar to the NafCafe in Northfield. It was run by volunteers and gave a platform to local artists, worked with young people, older people, gave work experience, training, opportunities for assistance with CV's, advice & work from local community buildings ie Greaves Hall/Oddingly Hall. – West Midlands Fire Service (Station Commander Mark Price) was keen to be involved in community projects and offered the fire station for admin purposes to groups. Advice on vulnerable people and mental health issues could be provided as well as access to bid writers. WMFS could also offer access to hard to reach people through their Safe & Well Checks <p>Actions:-</p>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was agreed to set up a Local Innovation Fund Partnership Group at the end of January to consider the next steps. • Local businesses could be invited to future partnership meetings • Fire Station offered as a future meeting venue • Kings Norton Primary School offered to assist in circulating information 	
4.	<p><u>Residents Issues/ Councillors Updates</u></p> <p><u>Budget Consultation/Library Consultation</u> The Chair advised of the consultations currently taking place and urged residents to forward their comments.</p> <p><u>Three Estates Supermarket</u> The Chair in response to queries reported that there had been issues with the supermarket that had been working with the council. The supermarket had now put in a further bid for a larger footfall. The bid had been accepted and the footprint had changed. It was queried why the layout needed to change if there was not going to be a petrol station and the Chair undertook to investigate the situation with the petrol station and update with more detail. Residents expressed a wish for a supermarket building that fitted the landscape and that they should have a say on what was build there. The Chair advised that as soon as the planning application was submitted there would be consultation and she would organise a special ward meeting to look at the plans.</p>	
5.	<u>Authority to Chairman and Officers</u>	Agreed

Meeting ended 3.20pm