

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL
STECHFORD AND YARDLEY NORTH WARD MEETING
TUESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2016
6PM
ST. EDBURGH'S CHURCH
CHURCH ROAD
YARDLEY
B33 8PD

MEETING NOTES

Present: Councillors Basharat Dad and Neil Eustace

Officers: Beverly Edmead – Community Governance Team

There were 7 residents present.

1. Election of Chairman

Cllr Eustace was elected as Ward Chairman for the Municipal Year 2016 – 2017.

Cllr Eustace in the Chair

2. NOTICE OF RECORDING

Noted.

Residents were reminded that permission must be obtained from members of the public prior to taking photographs or recording individual comments.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

3. APOLOGIES

Cllr Carol Jones for absence.

4. GOOD NEWS STORIES/NEWS UPDATE FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Stechford Pool & Leisure Centre

Work had commenced on the redevelopment of the pool, and was expected to be completed within 12 months.

A range of facilities and activities were being considered for all sections of the community/service users as part of the operating schedule. Further details of the programme would be made available in due course.

Several residents questioned the need for the consideration of a privacy/modesty curtain and sought further clarity regarding how the consultation process was carried out.

Members confirmed that a number of 'drop-in' sessions and consultation days had been carried out by Leisure Services in partnership with the design consultations. Service users/visitors had been actively encouraged to participate in the consultation process, and their views/comments/suggestions taken on-board. Following further discussion, the Chairman agreed to obtain the findings from the consultation.

Action: Chairman to obtain outcome/findings from consultation from Leisure Services.

The former Bull Public House

Social housing was to be built on the council owned land by the public. The owner of the pub has refused all offers to sell the premises.

Former Rising Sun Takeaway

The planning application had been refused by the Planning Committee. Members and residents welcomed the decision.

Travellers in School Lane

The park gates had been left open accidentally for 5 days which enabled the latest convoy of travellers to gain access to the site. Members had strongly expressed their concerns and disappointment at the lapse in concentration and inactivity which had caused anxiety and distress to residents living nearby.

Lea Hall Road

Resurfacing of the road was nearly completed.

Concrete roads in need of resurfacing continued to be problematic across the ward.

Replacement Play Area – Stechford Leisure Centre

Consultation was due to commence shortly. Residents were encouraged to participate in the consultation process.

Conservation Area – Utility Services

Members and residents expressed disappointment with the poor attitude and substandard work carried out by the Virgin workmen who were replacing the faulty cable boxes.

Residents felt that many of the Utility Services disregarded the status of the designated Conservation areas across the city, and that action must be taken by officers to preserve the uniqueness of these areas.

5. REVIEW OF OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

Consideration was given to the schedule of outstanding actions submitted:-

01: Vacant land adjacent to Stechford Police Station – the Chairman advised investigations were still ongoing.

02: Ward Clean Up – hot spot areas. Cllr Dad confirmed discussions were still ongoing with business premises owners and tenants living in the flats above the shops in trying to clear the backlog of rubbish and waste. Several premises had been without the correct trade waste arrangements, and one or two business premises had been identified as a cause for concern and were being closely monitored. Car-parking/obstructive parking continued to be problematic across the ward.

Action: To be retained and further update to be given at the next meeting.

All to Note

6. RESIDENTS ISSUES AND CONCERNS

The following concerns were expressed:-

- Poolway Shopping Centre – confusing signage regarding the sale of the land; it was unclear which sections of the shopping centre were available for retail use. The Chairman briefly advised of the complexities involved regarding the redevelopment of the site, which would also include an element of social housing, however further details regarding the plans for the site would be made available as discussions progressed.
- Increase in rubbish dumping/flytipping across the ward; the Meadway was particularly bad.
- Stechford Train Station Improvements - £2m had been secured for the refurbishment of the site, however a start date was still to be confirmed.
- Former Co-op Sports Ground – the business model and proposal put forward by local football groups had been rejected by Sports for Life, who were acting on behalf of the Co-op. This was very disappointing, however further discussions were continuing.

Action: All to Note

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

Amey Ward Programme Update – roads and street lighting
Ward Local Innovation Fund

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be agreed.

9. AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS

Noted and agreed that:-

In an urgent situation between meetings, the Chair, jointly with the relevant Chief Officer has authority to act on behalf of the Committee.

The meeting closed at 6:45PM