



Summary of Resident's issues and actions

Ward: Handsworth Wood Ward

Date of meeting: 15th September 2016, 6.00pm at Handsworth Fire Station

Present: Councillors Atwal (Chair) and Hamilton

Officers: Roy Hasleden – Private Rented Sector Team

PC Mark Willis – West Midlands Police

Lesley Bannister – Community Governance Manager

There were 27 residents in attendance.

Apologies – Councillor Kooner

Election of Ward Chair FOR 2016/17 - Councillor Atwal was elected by his fellow Councillor as Ward chair for 2016/17.

Presentations

- **Barford Tiger Hockey Club** - Dr Sakhdav Gill and four young members of the Barford Tigers gave a brief presentation on the Club which is celebrating its 50th Year. He explained how the club had been reaching out to the community over the last 50 years and how the club has supported young people to develop their character through activities that keeps them away from becoming involved in crime etc. The benefits they gained are:
 - Leadership
 - Team work
 - How to win gracefully
 - How to cope with failure
 - Build friendships
 - Mix with peers from varied backgrounds, religion, culture, race colour etc.

Ten of the club's youth team members have recently taken part in a Heritage Lottery Funded project, in which they have learned about heritage, what things were like in the 1960s, the challenges that immigrants faced and life as it was.

For more information visit www.barfordtigerhc.co.uk

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- **Hema Kasi –Patel from Living Streets**

Living streets are National charitable organisations who are currently working in all four wards of the Perry Barr District. The funding and aim is to increase the number of Pupils walking to school in the area, thus promoting exercise and reducing congestion. Anyone wishing become involved should contact Hema at HEMA.KASI-PATEL@LIVINGSTREETS.ORG.UK or visit the website <https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/>

Ward updates

Local Police Team –PC Willis updated the Councillors and residents on the crime figures for the Ward .In comparison for the same period in 2015 crime was up. Robbery there were 23 more reported incidents; burglary 18 more reported incidents; Vehicle crime 12 more incidents and 24 more reported incidents of Domestic Violence. PC Willis also took residents and Councillors questions.

Private Landlords - Roy Hasleden from the Private Rented Sector team took questions from the residents, Handsworth Wood Residents Association and the Ward Councillors .Roy explained the scope of the teams work with regard to HMO's and provided the audience with lists of licenced properties and Hostels in the Handsworth Wood area. Some of the issues residents were experiencing were out of the Private Rented teams scope (ASB, rubbish and drinking in front gardens), Roy signposted the residents to the correct departments .This lead on to a discussion were residents felt that private landlords should be licenced as some were not acting responsibly and that there should be more proactive support for migrants and the newly arrived as several cultural issues need to be addressed.

Councillor Hamilton asked if the Handsworth Wood could be considered for a pilot scheme similar to what was currently underway in Selly Oak with regard to the licencing of private landlords, Roy said that he would take this request back to his manager for consideration.

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Resident's questions

- Tabled by Sue Thomas prior to the meeting

"In the light of recent announcements about Early Years provision being put out to tender (and with a reduced budget), are our local children's centres safe? This includes Rookery Centre which is in HW ward, but cuts to other local ones might also affect our ward."

Councillor Brigid Jones, Cabinet Member for Children, Families & Schools. Response read out by Councillor Paulette Hamilton

Dear Gurdial

Early Years Health and Wellbeing Offer

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the future of Children's Centres in the Handsworth Wood ward.

As you may be aware, the commissioning of a new service model to meet the health and wellbeing needs of children and families during their early years is part of a major transformation programme. The Directorate is currently rethinking the way that we deliver all Early Years Services in Birmingham.

The latest position is that the City Council has just commenced the procurement process for the a new integrated health and wellbeing service to support children and families during their early years. Delivery of this new integrated offer is a key component of the Children's Improvement Plan. The new approach will create:

- A more targeted model of service delivery to ensure that additional support is provided to those families who need it the most.
 - A new model that is focused on services and outcomes for children and families rather than buildings.
- A more integrated model of service delivery with system leadership being provided by a lead organisation.



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At this stage it is not possible to say what changes there will be to individual children's centres. We are keen to ensure that the valuable support they provide to children and families is maintained however acknowledge that to do this with a reduced budget some significant changes will be necessary. It is likely that to maintain services we may have to reduce the number of buildings we operate of and work more closely with communities. As we move through the procurement process the details of the proposed new model will become clearer. Where these include changes to specific children's centre we will undertake a period of formal consultation to enable local people and others to express their views.

There is information available on the City Council's website including the service specification, commissioning strategy and needs analysis along with consultation documents and presentations given at three market shaping events which were held to inform all stakeholders about the Council's intentions.

This information can be found here:

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/50046/for_professionals_working_with_children/868/early_years_health_and_wellbeing

I trust this is helpful.

Regards

Councillor Brigid Jones

Cabinet Member for Children, Families & Schools

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- Residents question – Oakland's Young People's Centre "Over the next two years has the Council any plans, to alter in any way the services currently provided by Oakland's Young People's Centre?"

Can you reassure the community that the services will not be subject to any form of reduction or change, either through financial cuts, loss of jobs, reduction in staff, reduction in staff hours, privatisation or community asset transfer? Has the Council been approached by any third party group or organisation regarding potential use of the Oakland's Young People's Centre building or surrounding land? If so which groups have approached the Council and what has been the nature of these discussions?

Ward Councillor's response

Currently Birmingham City Council has to make saving of 250 million pounds by 2020, therefore nothing is protected. As far as we are known there are no planned changes to the Oakland's Young Peoples Centre.

The formal meeting concluded at 8.09pm. Residents, Councillors and the Police remained in the Centre until 8.30 pm exchanging details in order to progress the actions noted.

The next Ward meeting will be on 7th December 2016 the location and time tbc.

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NO.	Resident or Forum or Residents group Details	Concern/issue	Type of action to be taken (if any)	Officer or Member with responsibility
1	Residents and Local businesses in attendance from Rookery Road	Inconsiderate and illegal parking on the foot paths on Rookery road. The police told the residents that all incidents must be called in and logged .Some residents produced photographic evidence for the police.	Residents – to call in all incidents. Police to look at photographic evidence.	
2	Residents Rookery Road, Stockwell Road, Oxhill Road and outside Paddy power bookmakers.	Residents complained of many forms of ASB drinking, drug taking, prostitution and open fighting in the street. The Police said that these incidents must be called in .Residents complained that they were but rarely did officers attend in time. The Police team said that resources were stretched but residents must carry on calling incidents in.	Residents – to call in all incidents to Police	
3	Resident Rookery Road	Children as young as playing Chicken in the road.	Residents – to call in all incidents to Police	

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4	Residents Oxhill Road.	ASB – Drinking in an alcohol restricted zone. The problem it was acknowledged by the group was particular bad outside 'Paddy Power' bookmakers.	Police are aware residents to call in all incidents to Police.	
5	Residents of Rookery Road	Residents complained about the volume of waste in black bin bags and fly tipping along Rookery Road.	Ward Councillors asked Governance Managers to email Nick Reid the Waste Manager for the area,	Completed 19/09/2016
6	Residents of Church Lane and Wellington Road (East Lozells and Handsworth)	Residents have only 1 bin between 15 occupants.	Email Nick Reid and copy in Ware Councillors for East Lozells	Lesley Bannister to email action .Completed 19/09/2016.
7	Residents at the meeting	That the licencing of Private Landlord's is pursued in the Handsworth Wood Ward.	Councillor Hamilton to raise with the Cabinet Member.	

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8	Residents of Cherry Orchard Road and Somerset Road	Concern was raised over the speed at which cars were travelling along these roads .Councillor Atwal asked for an update / progress report.	Lesley Bannister to email Alan Woodcock the District Highways Engineer	Completed 19/09/2016.
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