

## BARTLEY GREEN WARD FORUM MEETING – ACTION NOTES

<b>WARD:</b> Bartley Green	<b>DATE:</b> Thursday 23rd November 2023
<b>VENUE:</b> Holloway Hall, Birmingham B31 1TT	<b>START/FINISH TIMES:</b> 7:00 pm – 8:51 pm
<b>COUNCILLOR/S:</b> Bruce Lines & Kerry Brewer	<b>NOs OF ATTENDEES:</b> 20
<b>OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:</b> James Allison – Neighbourhood Action Coordinator, Preety Sohpal – Community Governance Manager	<b>VISITING SPEAKER(S):</b> Stuart Cross – Kier Highways, Sue Amey – BCC Parks, Mark Croxford – Head of Environmental Health

### CURRENT WARD ACTION PLAN PRIORITIES:

1. A Green Bartley Green
2. A Inclusive Bartley Green
3. A Safe Bartley Green

### MATTERS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING INCLUDING LOCAL CONCERNS:

#### 1. Welcome, Introductions & Notice of Recording

Councillor Lines & Councillor Brewer welcomed residents for attending and advised that members of the press/public may be present, could record and take photographs of the meeting.

#### 2. Stuart Cross – Kier Highways

Stuart introduced himself to all and explained Kier is responsible for tree's, drainage, carriageways, pavements, roads and street lighting across the city. Stuarts key updates were:

- Tree planting has started now and will continue until April
- Gritting season has begun
- Has been a recent spike in theft of iron drain covers across the ward and other parts of the city. A lot of the thefts have taken place on housing land and Kier are working with them to get this issue resolved

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- There has been an increase of vegetation/bushes over growing from peoples houses outside, out on to the footways and Kier are working through this by contacting the home owners to cut these back to allow clear and safe access to the footways.
- The S114 issued by Birmingham City Council does not affect Kier and their work will continue

#### Resident questions for Stuart

- Staffordshire Council has a new pothole fixing machine, will Kier be getting one ? – Not yet
- Can a drain be looked at by the entrance of the reservoir by Newman College as the current drain is at a higher point than where the water gathers. – This may be a Highways Issue or could also be a Severn Trent Issue. Stuart said he will go on a drive around with the Councillors and investigate this as many commented this is an ongoing issue.
- What is being done to prevent the ironworks from being stolen further? – Composite gulleys are used where traffic is not heavy which have no value therefore there is no risk of theft.
- What can we do if there are tree roots lifting paving slabs and causing a trip hazard? – Stuart advised to send images and details of addresses/postcode to Kier so this can be looked at and fixed.
- How often are the gulleys cleaned? – Kier have a turn around time of approximately 3 months for any reactive issues reported and they are proactively cleaned every 12-18 months.
- How often are roads inspected and the process of pothole repairs? – Every 6-12 months the footways and roads are inspected. If large and deep potholes are found, they quickly filled until a full resurfacing job is arranged which can take 6 months or more. An independent survey is also done and all roads in the City of Birmingham are inspected and scored every 2 years. This helps to build a programme and bring it to the top of resurfacing jobs. There is also a statutory obligation to ensure all line painting is restored on the roads after roadworks or from general wear and tear.

### **3. Sue Amey – Parks and Nature Conservation – Update on Senneleys Park**

Sue introduced herself as the District Parks Manager and covers half of the city. The Senneleys park project has been an ongoing project for many years which is finally set to begin in 2024. The project is for pitch improvements and new ones being built in the park and a new pavilion being built. The contract for this project went to cabinet before September and was in place before the S114 was announced, therefore this project is unaffected by the S114.

Works on the Pavillion is set to begin on early January 2024. The contractors will be setting up site on the car park on the opposite site from Senneley

Park Road entrance to the park. They will be retaining access for parks and emergency vehicles and the overflow car park will be used for visitors. This is currently estimated as a 62 week build project. The works on the playing pitches will begin in March 2024 and the access for the contractors will be from Mill Lane. This is currently estimated as a 45 week build project however this does depend on the land and weather conditions.

Sport England has a lot of input into the project with creating and designing some elements. There will be 3 senior pitches and 2 reconstructed pitches on the Mill Lane side and 1 behind the skateboard park to improve drainage. The old Pavillion will be demolished – subject to funding – however if the ASB begins again, potentially arrangements could be made to get this demolished sooner. There will be some noise and increased traffic in the area whilst the works are ongoing. The plans can be viewed in Appendices One.

To summarise, further updates from Sue included,

- When all plans were conducted for the Pavillion, proximity to other properties and many other factors were taken into consideration when deciding where to place the Pavillion.
- Goal posts are put up at the start of the season and taken down in the winter. They are not stored on the grounds overnight or over the winter period
- Woodgate Valley Park visitor centre is temporarily closed as there are issues of leaks with the current roof. The roof requires a full replacement. A costed scheme for the repair has been submitted to the S151 Spend Board however it has been deferred with more information requested.

#### **4. Mark Croxford – Environmental Health – Encampments within the Ward**

Mark Croxford introduced himself as the Head of Environmental Health for Birmingham City Council and explained his team oversee the eviction of Travellers who settle in an unauthorised manner on open land across the city. There have been a number of encampments across the ward and city.

- If Travellers settle on council land, they cannot be forced off. However if they have settled on private land then they can be removed.
- Welfare checks must be done before moving them from the land and these are often quick however if medical checks are required to be conducted, this can take some time.
- Once served a notice, they have 2 days to vacate open spaces and 7 days to vacate industrial estates and car parks.
- Traveller's cannot be removed from city, only from a site which can result in them being evicted from one site and they move to another site within the city.
- There are transit sites on Tameside Drive in Castle Vale. There has been an issue with the site on Proxer Street as the same family has occupied the site for the last 30 years. This is something that housing and the council are working on to allow for other traveller families to settle on this

site.

- A Section 62 notice can be served by the police which evicts them from one site to a transit site and they cannot move from here for the next 12 months.
- It is no longer possible to issue an injunction on an unnamed person. For an injunction to be successful, there must be at least one named person and/or a photograph of the individual and then unnamed people.
- More transit sites are needed to be set up and running to reduce the amount of the Travellers settling on Birmingham's open spaces and parks. There are plans to hopefully open one in February 2024.
- If you see Travellers setting up on an unauthorised site, please report to the police on 101 with as much details as possible and also report to the council so Mark and his team can take action on this.

ACTIONS/ RECOMMENDATIONS MADE	WHO	BY WHEN
1. To provide an update on the outcome of repair of Woodgate Valley Park visitor centre's roof	1. Sue Amey/Councillor	1. Next ward forum meeting

19.10 m

14.35 m

Community Room G1  
72m<sup>2</sup>

Kitchen  
17.6m<sup>2</sup>

hatch

Store G3  
7.7m<sup>2</sup>

Office G2  
19.4m<sup>2</sup>

Lobby

Store G5  
7.1m<sup>2</sup>

Clean G6

Showers G7  
8.0m<sup>2</sup>

Changing G9  
17.9m<sup>2</sup>

Showers G8  
8.0m<sup>2</sup>

Changing G10  
18.3m<sup>2</sup>

rooftop

Dr's Yr

Officials Changing G11  
10.5m<sup>2</sup>

Plant Plant G13  
8.3m<sup>2</sup>

ENTRANCE

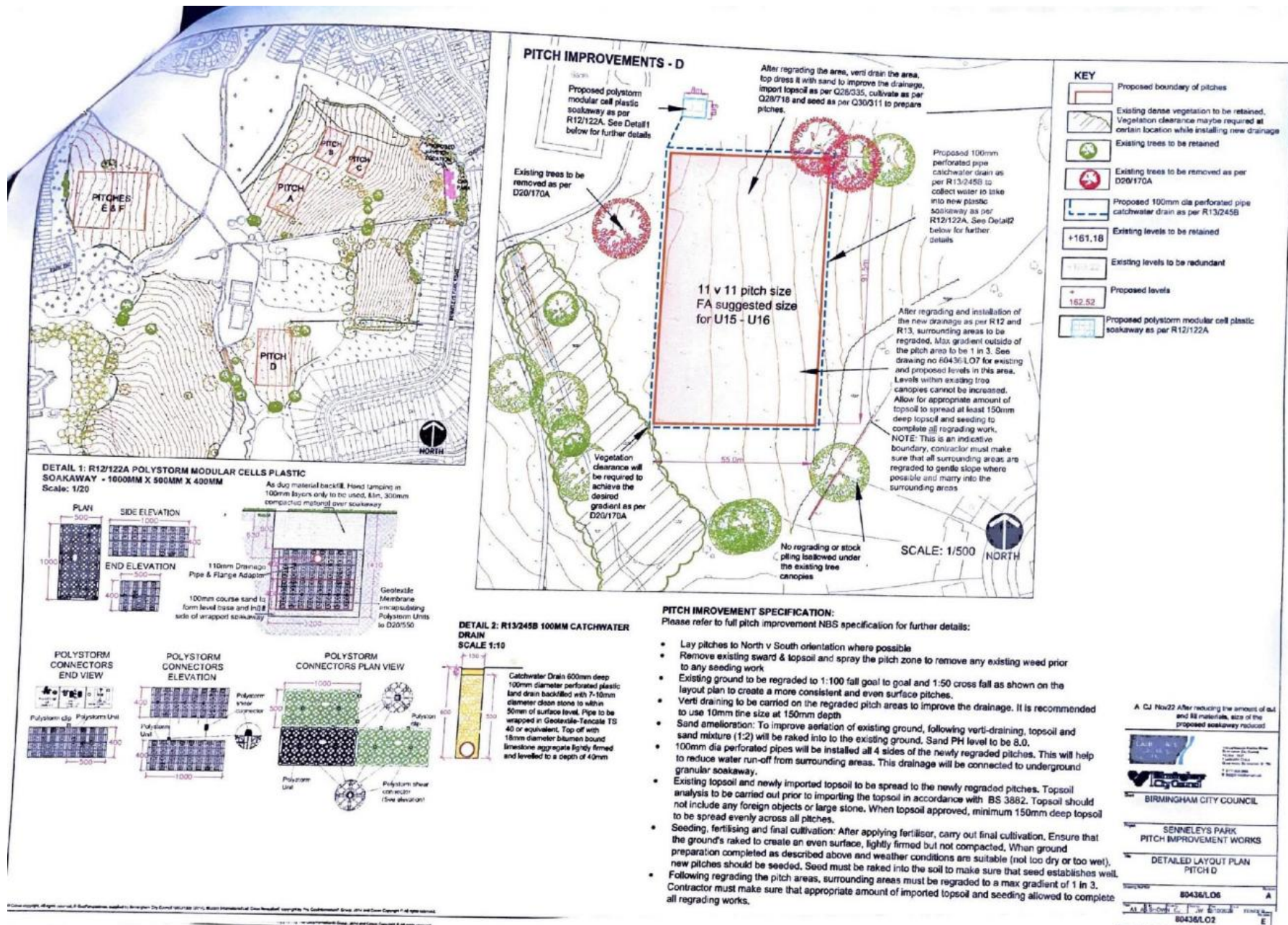
TOTAL EXTERNAL AREA ( GEA ) is 274M<sup>2</sup>  
TOTAL INTERNAL AREA ( GIA ) is 254m<sup>2</sup>

Rev A - revised showers to 4 with privacy screens and shower area upped to 8m<sup>2</sup> each - 01-04-2021

scale is 1:100@A3 Scale

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