

WARD MEETING NOTES

WARD: BROMFORD AND HODGE HILL	DATE: WEDS 26TH SEPT 2018
VENUE: ST. WILFRIDS'S CHURCH CENTRE, SHAWSDALE ROAD, BROMFORD, B36 8LL	START/FINSH TIMES: 7.00PM – 8.20PM
COUNCILLORS: CLRS DIANE DONALDSON & MAJID MAHMOOD	NOs OF ATTENDEES: APPROX 30
OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: BEVERLY EDMED, COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE TEAM PAT WHYTE – NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT & SUPPORT UNIT	GUEST SPEAKERS: IMKE GOALBY – ENVIRONMENT AGENCY RON WILLIAMS – PRINCIPAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT OFFICER, BCC
APOLOGIES: NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM, WEST MIDLANDS POLICE	
WARD PRIORITIES: N/A AT THIS STAGE	

MATTERS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING:

- 1. Welcome and Introductions** - given by Cllr Donaldson
- 2. Notice of Recording** – noted by all present at the meeting
- 3. Local News and Updates**
 - i) Cllr Updates**
 - Flytipping hot spots in the ward included Hodge Hill Common and Bromford Drive (behind the parade of shops). The perpetrators had been identified followed recent investigations carried out by the Waste Management Enforcement Team.
 - Ward Highways Budget – pedestrian crossings; vehicle activated signs and bollards to entry of Stechford Hall Park had been identified as priorities for the ward. Discussions were ongoing with the District Engineer to agree how the funding should be used.
 - Housing Environment Budget – new street lighting was being considered.

- Heathlands Academy – parking problems had been resolved. Pedestrian/traffic refuges would also be installed.
- Hodge Hill Schools/College – pedestrian crossings had been installed across the 3 sites; finishing times for each site had also be adjusted which has had a positive effect on traffic congestion/pupil movement.

- Joint meetings with neighbouring Ward End Ward, which was part of the former Hodge Hill Ward could be considered and would be useful, especially as the Neighbourhood Policing Team remained unchanged and the limited officer resources/support at meetings was not always available.

ii) **West Midlands Police** – Officers unable to attend. Defer to next meeting.

iii) **Community Groups/Organisations** – residents were advised that food had been made available on a ‘pay as you feel’ basis at the end of the meeting by the Real Junk Food Project which operated from the Church Centre. Funding had also been provided through the Ward’s Local Innovation Fund to support the aims and ethos of the project.

4. Flood Defence Works & Housing Development Proposals

The Chair and residents welcomed Ron Williams, Principal Housing Development Officer, BCC and Imke Goalby, Customer & Engagement Specialist, Environment Agency, who had attended the meeting to give an update and display the set of proposals for the redevelopment of the Bromford Estate. Several large display boards with details of the proposals were on show around the room, which gave details of the redevelopment and how the estate would look following the redevelopment, which would include a mix of 2, 3 and 4 bedroomed family houses on the former Stoneycroft House and Bayley sites. The first 28 homes would be on the former Stoneycroft site, followed by 25 homes on the former Bayley House site. Play/recreational facilities in the area would also benefit from the redevelopment.

HS2 and several other Departments/agencies were also involved in the discussions and work-planning for the redevelopment of the estate. Officers added that the Planning Application for the redevelopment would be submitted in due course; however it was important that local residents were made aware and consulted on the proposals prior to the formal submission of a Planning Application.

Residents were advised that parts of the land to be redeveloped was sitting in a flood plain, and a series of flood defences had to be developed to enable the land to be built on even though there had been no history of flooding from the River Tame on the site.

However in order for homes to be adequately insured/to be able to obtain household and building insurance at a reasonable cost, the Environment Agency and Local Authorities were required to ensure that appropriate flood defence mechanisms were in place and that residents given confirmation of this.

Residents' were further advised that the new homes would have to be allocated in accordance with the City Council Housing Allocation policy.

Cllrs felt that local residents should be given first refusal on the homes to be developed and that the Allocation Policy should allow for this.

Action: Cllrs agreed to raise the matter with Cllr Thompson, Cabinet Member on residents' behalf, especially as most of the residents had lived on the Bromford Estate for a significant majority of their lives.

Action: Following further discussion, it was agreed that Cllrs would arrange a 'drop-in' event/residents meeting in November for those residents living on the Bromford Estate, with all the partner agencies involved with the redevelopment present.

5. Residents News/Updates/Local Concerns

The following concerns were raised:-

- Brockhurst Road/Tesco Superstore:

Problems with Tesco delivery drivers, litter and general nuisance/anti-social behaviour including drug taking/smoking, aggressive begging/bushes in need of cutting back. Local resident Ishmael had raised the concerns with the Store Manager who had agreed to address the concerns. The Store Manager had also agreed that the local café in the store could be used after 6pm for community meetings, and was happy to become more involved in local issues/help Tesco to become a good community neighbour.

- Flytipping: remains a cause for concern across the ward. Other hot spot areas included Heathlands Avenue/surrounding areas and Folkestone Croft. Several residents suggested that letters/flyers should be delivered to households in these areas periodically as a reminder to dispose of household items responsibly.

Cllr Donaldson briefly advised of concerns regarding the ownership and responsibility of the plot of land on Heathlands Avenue which was regularly fly-tipped; discussions were ongoing to resolve the matter as tactfully and smoothly as possible.

Residents were reminded to remain vigilant and to report all incidents of fly-tipping to Cllrs with details and evidence (i.e. photos, vehicle registration number, description etc.) if it was safe to do so. Consideration should also be given to the type of tradespeople used by residents, as some had been found to be acting irresponsibly with disposal of rubbish they had been paid to remove.

- **Real Junk Food Project**

Karen, Project Co-ordinator briefly advised of the work of the project, which was operated from the Centre on Wednesdays between 12 – 2pm, providing meals on a ‘pay as you feel’ basis. A weekly shop from the Project was also available for local residents experiencing financial hardship or difficult times. Residents could also offer their time as a voluntary helper if they could not afford a financial Morrison’s Supermarket was the main supplier of food to the project.

6. Petitions – None submitted

7. Working Together in Birmingham’s Neighbourhoods – residents were briefly advised of the document which was currently out for consultation, which sought residents’ views on working together in partnership with the City Council/partner/public sector agencies and how things could be done better/differently. Suggestions included different models of Local Governance, including Parish/Neighbourhood and Community Councils. Residents were actively encouraged to submit their comments and views before the consultation closing date on 28 September 2018. Copies of the Executive Summary of the document were circulated at the meeting.

8. Any Other Business – None raised.

9. Date of Next Meeting – Weds 26th September, 7pm, Colebourne Primary School, Stechford Lane, Hodge Hill, B34 6BJ

The Chair thanked residents for their attendance and participation.

Meeting Closed at 8:20pm