

Birmingham City Council
Notes of the meeting of the Sparkbrook Joint Police Tasking & Ward Meeting
18 January 2017 at 6pm
at The Bordesley Centre, Stratford Road B11 1AB

Present: Councillors Tony Kennedy, Mohammed Azim & Victoria Quinn
Sergeant Andy Lewis, West Midlands Police
PC Hamilton, West Midlands Police
Austin Rodriguez, Neighbourhood Development & Support Unit
Kay Thomas, Neighbourhood Development & Support Unit

There were 30 residents also in attendance

1. **Election of a Chair** – Councillor Azim was elected as Chair
2. **Notice of Recording** – Noted
3. **Apologies** – none
4. **Petitions** – none submitted

5. **POLICE TASKING ISSUES**

Sergeant Lewis circulated an update and made the following main points;

- Main Street – joint action team was undertaking a joint operation, further update to next meeting.
- Speeding – working with Highgate Fire Station officers to collect data which would be useful for education & enforcement. Residents suggested that speed enforcement was required on Lincoln Street, Edward Road, Anderton Road & Ladypool Road. More prominent 20mph signs were needed in Montgomery Street and surrounding roads. Sergeant Lewis said he was looking at the 20mph limits for enforcement and for action with schools and the community.
- Parking – Councillor Quinn had taken up the issue of enforcement and enforcement officers would now be coming into the area. Residents identified Ladypool Road as an area where parking was a particular issue that had become worse since charges had been made for parking in the car park. At night the situation was worse with staff and visitors to the restaurants parking on the street and on pavements. The car park in Oakfield Road was in a disgraceful condition and this deterred its use. Sergeant Lewis confirmed that he was taking action. Councillor Kennedy advised that it was hoped to revitalise the BID proposal and that a new way of working in March would also help to improve the situation. Other areas that required enforcement action included Trafalgar Road and Woodbridge Road. Councillor Quinn said that Sparkbrook had not been receiving its share of enforcement action but that had now been rectified. Residents parking schemes could be considered as they would be enforceable.
- Drugs – residents advised that Cannon Hill Place was a hot spot for drug activity and had been reported to the police. Sergeant Lewis undertook to generate an anti-social behaviour number. Sergeant Lewis reported that reports from residents helped to build intelligence. Balsall Heath Park, Pickwick Park and Calthorpe Park were all hot spots and were included in patrols. Other areas of concern were highlighted as garages at Whitby Road junction and Braithwaite Road where drug dealing was happening during daylight hours.
- Performance – Street robberies, violent crime, burglary dwelling and knife crime were all areas of concern.

6. LOCAL INNOVATION FUND

Austin Rodriguez gave a brief outline of the criteria for the Local Innovation Fund and process for applications. In response to questions he confirmed that the funding of £48k was a one off and needed to be spent by March 2018. Councillor Kennedy confirmed it was not an application process like previous Community Chest funding. Councillor Quinn said that projects needed to be sustainable and that consideration could also be given to finding match funding from other sources. She added that ideas for spend should come from the community. Councillor Kennedy suggested that any groups with an idea send in an outline proposal to Austin by 3 February at Austin.rodriques@birmingham.gov.uk to then be forwarded to the Councillors.

7. RESIDENTS ISSUES

a) Rubbish Dumping

A local resident referred to the amount of rubbish dumped on the corner of Clevedon Road and queried whether the camera on the corner of Cheddar Road was working.

b) Moseley Road Baths

It was reported that a group was working to try to prevent the closure of Moseley Road Baths and was working with Heritage England and the National Trust to this end. A meeting with the ward Councillors was requested so that further details could be explained. **The Chair said he would welcome a meeting with the group.**

c) Rubbish Dumping

In response to reports of quantities of furniture being dumped on Braithwaite Road (near to The Children's Centre) and near to Christ Church school the **Chair and Councillor Kennedy undertook to action**

8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

It was requested that a representative from Amey be invited to attend the next meeting to discuss a number of issues within the ward.

9. AUTHORITY TO ACT BETWEEN MEETINGS

Noted and agreed

Meeting ended at 7.30pm