

## WEOLEY & SELLY OAK WARD MEETING NOTES

<b>WARD:</b> Weoley & Selly Oak	<b>DATE:</b> 20 February 2019
<b>VENUE:</b> Weoley Hill United Reform Church, Green Meadow Road	<b>START/FINISH TIMES:</b> 6.30pm – 8.10pm
<b>COUNCILLORS</b> Julie Johnson & Tristan Chatfield	<b>NOs OF ATTENDEES:</b> 19
<b>OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:</b> Karen Cheney, Citywide Head of Service NDSU Ken Brown, Community Development & Support Officer Kay Thomas, Community Governance Manager	Apology from Richard Burden M.P.

### MATTERS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING:

#### 1. Ward Plan

Councillor Chatfield explained the ward plan process and opened the discussion on what residents considered priorities for the ward. The following priorities were highlighted;

- **Parking** – especially around schools, on grass verges & footpaths.
- More enforcement was needed as a deterrent. Request to be considered for school exclusion zones around some schools in the ward. Grass verge parking was particularly bad in Weoley Castle Road, Alwold Road, Gregory Avenue
- **Litter/bin collections/clean streets** – litter hot spots: Weoley Park Road, Castle Road (by cemetery), around the former Sainsbury/Home Base sites
- **Parks & open spaces** – BVT were substantial landowners and therefore needed to work as partners.
- Duck pond required cleaning/grass area tidying and general cleaning of the area.
- Manor Farm Park required improvements to the play area – proposal for a car park/toilets in the unused work area not supported.
- Square Park (Barchester Recreation Ground) – Friends of Square Park repaired some of the damage caused when trees cut down – plans for the future of the park required and more volunteers generally to help with the up keep of parks, litter picking etc.

- Litter bin needed at entrance to Square Park & at the alleyway.
- **Amey/Highways** – Pothole & pavement repairs – Weoley Avenue, Bournville Lane highlighted. Maintenance of roads, trees & street lights. Request for one way system & traffic calming around Alwold Road to limit ‘boy racers’.
- **Neighbourhood/ Community Safety** – issue of burglaries and drug related crime
- **Road Safety** – speeding and rat-running particular issues.
- Number of signs along Bristol Road South from Northfield to Selly Oak created cluttered environment and confusion when trying to read
- **Young People** – a similar discussion should be held at the youth club at St Gabriels to engage young people & find out their views rather than expect them to come to a meeting such as this
- **Older People** – meeting advised that Social Services Neighbourhood Network Scheme would be using Selly Oak as a pilot area to register assets for older people & create a more co-ordinated approach between older people and relevant agencies to enable them to stay longer and happier in their own neighbourhood. More information would be provided to a future meeting and could be incorporated into the ward plan.
- British Legion in process of setting up a club in Weoley, including a breakfast club which was an approach that could be included in the ward plan
- **Housing** – more control over HMO’s possible introduction of an Article 4 Direction.
- Better relationship needed with BVT and better management of their properties, gardens & tenant behaviour. Police also need to be involved in relation to ASB & criminal activity.
- **Local Jobs & Skills** – promotion of the good work being done by City & South College & University School. Gaps in social care – agencies were recruiting from all over the world but not the U.K. therefore create a co-operative of care workers to provide the service.
- **Anything Else** –
- The ward plan was linked to the Working Together in Birmingham’s Neighbourhoods paper but that paper had not been promoted and there had been no citizen involvement; there were no local people on scrutiny committees and it appeared that if a document was put onto the council’s website that was considered public consultation
- Resident’s involvement in a plan for the ward was welcomed, as was the opportunity to be involved in ward meetings and areas of local

democracy

- Provision of a community centre with a focus on youth work via a multi-agency approach – The Malachi Trust was interested in developing a facility in view of the current position with the Square Club.
- There were other local centres where facilities could be provided eg St Gabriels, Weoley Community Church
- Protection of local shopping centres

Councillor Chatfield said that the ward plan was the first stage in local people having a say over local issues and this could be extended further through the development of residents groups, community councils or Parish Councils.

**Further discussion at the next ward meeting including draft ward plan.**

## **2. Residents News/Updates/Local Concerns**

- a) Housing Liaison Board AGM** – 20 March – all welcome. Councillor Johnson to put details on Facebook
- b) Buses** – complaints raised regarding changes to local bus services and removal of bus stops without consultation or information. Councillor Johnson said she had raised this with the West Midlands Mayor but was no further forward. There was a bus survey on B31 Voices which she urged residents to complete. Cllr Chatfield said he would raise with the lead councillors on the PTA
- c) School Exclusions** – query regarding the number of children excluded and provision being made. Cllr Chatfield to investigate and pass on the information

Councillors (s) Signed: .....

Councillor(s) Name(s) (please print): .....