

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL
STECHFORD AND YARDLEY NORTH WARD MEETING
THURSDAY 20 JULY 2017
6.30PM
ST. EDBURGH'S CHURCH TRUST SCHOOL
CHURCH ROAD
YARDLEY
B33 8PD

MEETING NOTES

Present: Councillors Neil Eustace and Carol Jones

Officers: Beverly Edmead – Community Governance Team
Dave Prosser – Place Manager
Pat Whyte – Community Development and Support Officer
Sgt Ken Walters – West Midlands Police

There were 14 residents present.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Following nominations, Cllr Neil Eustace was duly elected Chairman for the Municipal Year 2017 – 2018.

Cllr Neil Eustace in the Chair

2. NOTICE OF RECORDING

The Chairman advised that members of the press/public could record and take photographs except where there were confidential or exempt items.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Cllr Dad who was currently quite poorly. Members and residents wished Cllr Dad a speedy recovery.

3. NEWS UPDATE FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Refuse Collection

Residents were advised of the severe disruptions to the Waste Collection Service as a result of the current strike action undertaken by Unite Union bin members regarding the proposed changes to the service which included a reduction in the number of GR3 posts and change to the working pattern from 4 days to 5 days per week.

A list of missed/non collections was being kept and updated on a daily basis for each ward and was available to view on the website.

Residents were advised to let Councillors know if their road had a missed collection and had been omitted from the list.

Household/residual waste, particularly black bags would continue to be a priority for collection, followed by the garden waste as the latter was a paid-for service by residents. Mixed material recycling would be collected as and when it was possible.

The opening hours at the Household Recycling Centres (HRC) had been extended to enable those residents who preferred to dispose of their rubbish to do so.

Action: All to Note

Van Removal

The abandoned white van had been removed – Members and residents thanked Sgt Walters for his involvement and proactive action.

Poolway Development

Work had commenced on the redevelopment of the site. The current shops and GP Surgery were earmarked for clearing by the end of September. Not many new/returning shops had been earmarked for the site; however this was could change depending on the demand for this provision.

The Place Manager was continuing to work with the developers to ensure the site remained secure and free from rubbish. Residents would continue to be kept informed.

Grass Cutting/Parks & Open Space Maintenance

The Grass cutting and general maintenance service continued to be irregular, with sections of grass remaining uncut

Bus Services

The No. 59 bus service had now been removed from the route. A petition had been submitted at the last City Council meeting opposing the withdrawal of the service. The bus service provision across the ward was very poor, with no direct bus service available to residents.

Glebe Library

Discussions were ongoing with the Councillors in neighbouring Shard End Ward regarding the use of the library and its facilities.

Stechford in Bloom

Members and residents commended the efforts of Faydene and the rest of the team for the fantastic floral displays for the In Bloom competition. The judges had been out and about and the final results would be announced in due course.

Iron Lane Road Works Improvement Scheme

A Planning Application had been submitted for the reconfiguration of the parking in the retail park.

A date had not yet been agreed for the commencement of the improvement works.

Stechford Station

A date had not yet been agreed for the commencement of improvement works to the station. Residents would continue to be kept informed.

There were no further updates.

4. WARD LOCAL INNOVATION FUND

Pat Whyte, Community Support and Development Officer advised of the following:-

- The Holiday Kitchen Proposal had been submitted to the Neighbourhood Development and Support Unit (NDSU) for appraisal, and was successfully approved for funding at the recent Cabinet Committee Local Leadership meeting.
- Stechford In Bloom Proposal – a meeting was held with two of the Assistant Leaders and the NDSU Team Leader to discuss and agree the way forward for the proposal, which had the full support of the Ward Cllrs. The discussions were positive and it was agreed that further work needed to be done to develop the proposal to enable funding to be approved.
- SARA Group (Speed Awareness Responsive Action) Proposal - further work needed to be done to develop the proposal. It was agreed that further discussions with the project leads would take place at the end of the meeting.

Members and residents welcomed the update.

Action: All to Note

5. RESIDENTS UPDATES, ISSUES AND CONCERNS

Co-op Sports Ground

Residents advised of recent drilling work in the lower fields, and sought an information update and further clarity regarding the proposals for the site.

The Chairman advised that soil core sampling was currently being carried out by the Co-op. Several residents had met with members of the Co-op Management Board to discuss the future use of the land as well as to discuss the Business Plan put together by residents who wished to safeguard its future for its retention in the community. However, the Board Members appeared to be very reluctant to cooperate. Jess Phillips, MP had requested a further meeting with the Co-op.

Action: All to Note

Northmead Sheltered Housing Scheme

Several residents living on the complex advised of the ongoing nuisance behaviour of

one tenant, whose behaviour was well known and documented. The nuisance behaviour had escalated into threatening behaviour and acts of damage and criminality; however no action appeared to have been taken against the tenant.

Residents further advised that several incident logs had been completed and returned to officers as requested, however, officers still appeared reluctant to take any action even though several residents' lives had been made a misery by the tenant's actions and behaviour.

Following a further request from the Chairman, Dave Prosser, Place Manager agreed to meet with the residents affected following the meeting to discuss the concerns and course of action.

Residents also advised that many of the shrubs and hedges had been removed against the residents' wishes. However, the ivy around the grounds was in need of cutting back.

Action: The Place Manager agreed to investigate

There were no further updates or issues raised.

6. REVIEW OF OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

Consideration was given to the following outstanding actions:-

Ref No	Concern raised by	Nature of complaint	Action to be taken	Responsible Officer	Response Target Date
01	Resident	Vacant land adjacent to police station - plans for long-term use unknown Update given – land part owned by City Council. long term plans still to be decided Update given – long term plans still unknown	Ward Chairman to investigate	Ward Chairman	Ongoing/next meeting
02	Resident	Flaxey Road Shops and Flats – ongoing problems with rubbish dumping by premises owners and tenants Update given – most of the site had been cleared by the Council and costs charged to the landlord Update given – Cllr Jones had recently visited the site; cleanliness appeared to be maintained	Cllr Dad had been dealing with the issues and agreed to continue to investigate Continue to monitor Continue to monitor	Cllr Dad Cllr Dad Cllrs Dad & Jones	Ongoing/next meeting Ongoing Ongoing
03	Resident	Flaxey Road Shops – ongoing problem with obstructive parking on the pavement; a blue Skoda was regularly parked across the dropped	Cllr Dad currently dealing with the issues. Proactive action had been carried out		

		kerb	by Civil Enforcement Officers, and several cars issued with Fixed Penalty Notices	Cllr Dad	Ongoing
		No further update available as Cllr Dad was unable to attend the meeting due to illness		Cllr Dad	Ongoing

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

Poolway Redevelopment Update
Iron Lane Road Works Improvement Scheme
Co-op Sports Ground Redevelopment Update
Northmead Sheltered Housing Scheme Update

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be agreed and residents advised accordingly.

9. AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS

Noted and agreed that:-

“In an urgent situation between meetings, the Chair, jointly with the relevant Chief Officer had authority to act on behalf of the Committee”.

The meeting closed at 7.20pm