

## HALL GREEN SOUTH WARD MEETING NOTES

<b>WARD:</b> Hall Green South	<b>DATE:</b> 20 March 2023
<b>VENUE:</b> Highfield Hall, Highfield Road B28 OHS	<b>START/FINISH TIMES:</b> 6.30pm - 8.05pm
<b>COUNCILLOR</b> Timothy Huxtable	<b>NOs OF ATTENDEES:</b> 9
<b>OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:</b> Garry Dalton, Local Highway Engineer Andrew Lindrop, Principal Development Planning Officer Matt Stevens, Pell Frischmann Kay Thomas, Community Governance Manager	

### MATTERS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING:

#### **1. Welcome & Notice of Recording:**

Councillor Huxtable welcomed all to the meeting and advised that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there were confidential or exempt items

#### **2. Police Update** – apologies from the police but Councillor Huxtable undertook to pass on the following issues raised by residents to the Police Sergeant –

- Drug use in Baldwins Lane
- Speeding Acheson Road
- ASB/quad bikes Gracemere Road/ Scribes Lane cutting across to Tritiford Park

- Obstructive parking Baldwins Lane/Primrose Lane/Scribers Lane & Delrene/Acheson

### **3. Plans for Robin Hood Island**

Andrew Lindop, Principal Development Planning Officer, provided an update on the Regeneration Programme and outlined the details. Residents were then given the opportunity to view maps and plans of the proposals. The meeting was advised that 3 main priorities had been identified through the Hall Green Development Framework –  
Fox Hollies Road/Stratford Road junction safety issues  
Robin Hood junction safety issues  
Public realm improvements.

Other considerations included studies around cycle routes and local centres.

Matt Stevens outlined the project brief to bring out a sense of place and improve traffic flow around the island through signalisation with the aim to prevent junction blocking and tail backs.

Councillor Huxtable advised these plans were being put forward for costing and when that had been completed there would be a public consultation with more project details, for residents to comment.

Residents made the following comments –

- Cameras would be needed to enforce traffic signals
- Query regarding shared space for cyclists/pedestrians with raised junctions to slow speed
- Request for traffic modelling to be made available
- Flooding around the island required addressing
- Road safety issues Fox Hollies Road/Highfield Road/Stratford Road
- Measures to reduce speeding vehicles, including on Baldwins Lane/ Scribers Lane

- Average speed cameras along the Stratford Road would assist in slowing traffic speeds

Councillor Huxtable also referred to green space infrastructure and landscaping that was being costed as part of the plan but could be funded via local funding pots in conjunction with Hall Green North ward. Get Grants might also be able assist by working with local groups, ideally on Local Centres to advise and support bid writing/grant applications. There were also plans for a Safer Routes to School scheme around Chilcote Primary School which could involve speed reductions and would involve resident consultation. More details would be reported to a future meeting.

Councillor Huxtable touched on the Sprint Bus programme and that he was working with TfWM on the proposals for 6 priority routes including one that would bring good connections to Hall Green and junctions around the island would be future proofed to enable those plans. Average speed cameras had been installed in Solihull and Councillor Huxtable was looking to see how the experiences in that Borough could be used in Hall Green.

#### **4. Highway Issues**

Garry Dalton, Local Engineer, provided updates on the following  
Local Highway budget spend for 2021/22 –

- Implement grass verge protection signage on Smirrells Road
- Highfield Road – install metal posts on grassed central reservations

And for 2022/23

- Slow Markings on carriageway by sharp bend on Webb Lane
- Metal railings on green space along Robin Hood Lane, between The Holdens & Highfield Road (to prevent pavement parking)
- Metal railings Watwood Road

- Clean Air Zone Funding of £20k to be allocated to wards for spend on projects in the ward that had to meet transport priorities to reduce air pollution.
- In response to queries regarding damage caused by contractors to paving slabs in Robin Hood Lane, the meeting was advised that Kier Highway inspectors should check the work and take action in respect of any highway damage. Councillor Huxtable undertook to take a look when he next did a walkabout with the Highway Steward. A new Street Work Permit Scheme was due to come into force soon which would enforce work undertaken by utility companies.
- With regard speeding issues on Baldwins Lane this would be part of the Safer Routes to School scheme around Chilcote School. A raised bed with pedestrian crossing was part of the Robin Hood Island proposals which would also benefit Baldwins Lane and surrounding roads.

## **5. Ward Action Plan**

Councillor Huxtable explained the ward planning process and said the previous ward plan had been agreed in November 2021 and therefore was little change to be made going forward. However, the new plan had been written to reflect the priorities in that plan that had been carried forward, discussions with residents and the priorities set out in his election manifesto. There was some discussion on the ward planning process and input from residents and Councillor Huxtable said the plan was subject to constant review and therefore any new priorities brought forward could be incorporated. He had also listened to resident's views, community groups and local feedback.

Councillor Huxtable stressed this was a draft ward plan that could be discussed further at future ward meetings to look at priorities and refresh where necessary. He would include the issues discussed at this meeting around the Robin Hood island plans and include the ward plan as a standing agenda item.

**6. AOB**

In response to queries regarding a planning application for change of use of the Kitchen Shop opposite Baldwins Supermarket to an education centre, Councillor Huxtable undertook to find out the details.