

JOINT KINGS NORTON NORTH & KINGS NORTON SOUTH WARD MEETING NOTES

WARD: Kings Norton North & Kings Norton South	DATE: 1 March 2019
VENUE: St Nicholas Place, The Green B38 8RU	START/FINISH TIMES: 7- 8.40pm
COUNCILLORS Alex Aitken & Peter Griffiths	NOs OF ATTENDEES: 14
OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: PCSO Sharon Lilley, West Midlands Police Chris Richards, Amey Kay Thomas, Community Governance Manager	Richard Burden M.P. also in attendance

MATTERS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING:
1. Police Update PCSO Sharon Lilley provided the following update; – Heathside Drive – spike in burglaries due to doors not locking properly. Visiting residents to provide advice & reassurance and additional overnight patrols had secured some arrests. Advice provided regarding anti-snap locks. Councillor Griffiths said he would lobby the housing department to replace the locks with anti-snap locks. – PSPO for The Fold still in place but operation had been postponed due to officers working on the recent stabbing incident. Officers regularly patrolled The Fold area. – Visits being made to schools to help the relationship with the police, talk about ‘county lines’ drug issues, knife crime and offering courses to children put forward by their schools across all age ranges – Knife crime was an issue as it was across the West Midlands but there was no threat to the public and recent incidents were not gang related. – A team of 3 PCSO’s were undertaking safety visits to schools and recent new powers enabled them to ticket for obstructive

parking. Also trying to educate via schools

- Active Citizens Fund – hope to be able to arrange a day event to promote.

Residents acknowledged the lack of funding for the police and the cuts to officer numbers and queried what they could do to lobby the government for more resources. Richard Burden said that despite an increase in the council tax precept there was still a shortfall in the police budget as, in Birmingham there was less ability to raise money through council tax than other parts of the country and he undertook to keep lobbying for additional resources.

Councillor Aitken encouraged residents to let councillors know about any issues of concern such as Heathside Drive and advised of a meeting he was arranging with the police around fear of crime/community safety.

In response to concerns raised regarding an incident in Pamela Road involving threats made to an elderly lady PCSO Lilley undertook to speak to the Northfield Team and ask they contact the resident concerned.

2. Waste Management

Councillor Griffiths gave an update on the latest position with regard to the industrial action. Today the council had lost its legal action to seek an injunction against the strike and therefore talks with Unite would resume finding a solution.

Residents reported missed collections in The Fairway and part of The Green which was still not part of a collection route. Councillor Aitken said he & Cllr Griffiths would continue to report missed collections as they were reported to them & therefore residents should continue to let them know about problems. In response to questions regarding the strike Councillor Aitken said that if information had been withheld action needed to be taken and this was being pursued.

3. Ward Minor Transportation Measures

Chris Richards reported that 50 new trees had been planted across Kings Norton, winter maintenance had now finished and weed spraying would commence in April.

In response to issues with street lighting, Chris undertook to take details at the conclusion of the meeting and to provide councillors with details of roads where street lights were due to be replaced. Richard Burden said it would be helpful for the meeting to have a forward programme of works and asked Chris to report this back.

In response to comments made regarding the closure of Wychall Road bridge Chris said he would find out the reasons and report back to Councillor Aitken.

Dangerous pot holes were reported in Longdales Road & Vardon Way & Chris undertook to request an inspector to visit.

Minor Works Budget – Kings Norton North - Cllr Aitken circulated maps of where last year's minor works budget had been spent as follows:- Oakridge Road- No Through Road signs, Popes Lane new signs for cyclists, relocation of Heathleigh/Nearhill Roads name signs, Keep Clear road markings at junction of Green Acres/Redditch Roads, new signage & Slow Road markings at junction Beaks Hill/Rednal Road & new Give Way signs at junction of Wychall Lane/Westhill Roads. These works were as a result of concerns raised by residents. With regard Wychall Lane speeding issues the Local Engineer was drawing up a plan but it would take 2 years budget to put into action. **Kings Norton South** – Councillor Griffiths reported that this year's budget had been allocated for dropped kerbs in Green Lane to enable access to the health centre, double kerbing by Cadbury College, Mass House Lane & replacement of missing road signs on the Lazy Hill estate.

Residents were encouraged to send ideas for the future spend.

4. Ward Plan

Meeting advised that there would be a ward planning meeting on 18 May at 11am at St Nicholas Place for residents to share their thoughts and ideas on ward priorities/solutions. Residents were encouraged to attend as it would be a good opportunity for the community to come together and share ideas.

5. Other Issues/ Councillors Updates

- a) The Navigation** – in response to questions regarding the future of the building/site Councillor Aitken said he had contacted the land owner and had been advised the site was being put up for sale.
- b) Redditch Road Supermarket** – Councillor Griffiths reported that the planning application for an Aldi supermarket and road system had been approved at yesterday's Planning Committee
- c) Alleyway, rear of Lime Tree Walk, Meer End- Fly tipping** – Councillor Griffiths said he had reported this and action was being taken to clear the rubbish

d) Fairway Day Centre – it was reported that the council was being taken to court regarding the closure and had opted to keep the Centre open and was taking new referrals. The Campaign Group was monitoring.

e) Rough Sleeper, The Green – referral made through Street Link

Councillors (s) Signed:

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