

Reddicap Ward Forum Meeting

WARD: Reddicap	DATE: 24 th April 2023
VENUE: Falcon Lodge Community Hub, Churchill Road, B75 7LB	START/FINISH TIMES: 6.30pm to 8.00pm
COUNCILLOR: Richard Parkin	NOs OF ATTENDEES: 1
OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Beverly Edmead – Community Governance Manager Karl Randall- Senior Local Highways Engineer	VISITING SPEAKER(S): PCSO Dan Walton, Local Police Team, WMP Keith Smith – Highway Steward, Kier Highways

MATTERS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING INCLUDING LOCAL CONCERNS:

1. Introductions

Following introductions, Cllr Richard Parkin welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Notice of Recording

Cllr Parkin advised all that members of the press/public may record and take photographs of the meeting.

Matters Discussed

3. Local Highway's Engineers

Karl Randall, Senior Local Highway Engineer briefly advised of the following:-

- Regular meetings/site walkabouts with Cllr Parkin
- Lindridge Road – double yellow lines due to be painted within the next few months. This was generally welcomed by most residents following the significant increase in traffic to New Hall Cemetery site over the last few years.

It had been acknowledged by Bereavement Services that the rapid expansion of the site had not allowed for the volumes of traffic and visitors; adequate traffic management arrangements had not been put in place on particularly busy occasions (such as Mother's Day), leading to tensions and frustrations from residents and visitors alike.

Speeding, blocked drives, driving along grass verges and gridlocked traffic were some of the problems residents encountered. Temporary traffic management arrangements had been put in place over two days (April 21st and 22nd) for the Eid celebrations, including a one-way system and whilst mostly successful, were not without incidents. Cllr Parkin advised he has arranged a meeting next month with Cllr John Cotton, Cabinet Member Social Justice, Community Safety and Equalities to discuss (amongst other Cemetery issues) the traffic issues and future arrangements on busy occasions for traffic and access management to and from the Cemetery, which over Eid had included the use of Highway Traffic Management Teams at the junctions of Churchill and Springfield Roads. Other neighbouring roads including Wyatt Road and Leigh Road would also need to be monitored to avoid becoming a cut-through for drivers trying to avoid Lindridge Road.

Other traffic calming measures that could be considered going forward are physical barriers, road/junction build-outs and staggered parking restrictions along Lindridge Road. These were long-term measures and would be subject to funding and consultation (although staggered parking restrictions have recently been approved following consultations with residents).

The Cemetery Team were also conducting their own review to see what could be better managed going forward.

- School parking continues to be a problem across the ward. Schools encouraged to consider and promote safer routes to school initiatives, including Modeshift Stars travel plan; car-free streets and alternative modes of travel. New Hall Primary are considering the possibility of signing up to the car-free streets initiative with consultations continuing with parents and residents living close to the school.
- Asda Supermarket – response not yet received regarding the request from the local Highways Engineers to potentially install double yellow lines painted as part of the Planning Condition. Karl Randall would continue to pursue the matter.
- Reddicap Hill – faulty flashing speed sign will be removed as a maintenance budget was not included when the sign was installed; funding would have to be found to replace the sign.
- A co-ordinated approach to traffic measures to reduce speeds in hot-spot speeding areas in the ward – Hollyfield Road and Walmley Road in particular have been highlighted by residents with speeding concerns, which would complement/support the measures implemented a while ago around Fairfax School. Discussions to continue with Cllr Parkin.
- Damage to grass verges/parking on grass verges on housing land in several different locations in Falcon Lodge – letters were sent to all residents by Housing Officers and Karl Randall asking for an end to this practise – there had been some improvement. Other measures and actions were being considered to prevent a minority of resident from parking/driving on these green spaces.

4. Highway Maintenance

Keith Smith, Kier Highways briefly advised of the following:-

- Reddicap Heath Road – full road resurfacing currently ongoing and was expected to be completed by 12 May 2023. Road surface was very poor due to the increase in buses using the road.
- Walmley Road – repairs due to be carried out to the road surface – date still to be agreed for works.
- Berryfields Road – whole road is covered by two wards (Reddicap and Walmley & Minworth) and not included in the current highway programme, however the small section covered by Reddicap was due to have large scale patching works carried out due to the poor surface. Inspections would continue to be carried out regularly to monitor the condition of the whole road surface. Cllrs in both wards would continue to be kept informed.
- Cattell Drive/Churchill Road -pavement improvements had been requested. Cllr Parkin to resend photographs to Kier
- New ward highway programme due to be finalised and published in November.

5. Local Policing Update

PCSO Dan Walton briefly advised of the following:-

- Partnership working with housing providers to take prompt action/tackle nuisance behaviour caused by their service users/tenants, particularly where off-road bikes/mopeds had been used.
- Recent successful arrest of an alleged perpetrators involved in car stripping/car cannibalism on Falcon Lodge following intelligence provided by residents.
- CCTV Cameras – Cllr Parkin is liaising closely with local police (and in particular Sgt Patel) to support his campaign to install CCTV cameras on Churchill Road– the exact location was still to be decided but could be deployed to the team for up to 16 weeks once permission had been given. Cllr Parkin would continue to keep pushing for this CCTV deployment having initiated the request several months ago.
Cllr Parkin added that cameras previously used around Carhampton/Churchill Roads had been very successful, and ideally would like to have them in place before June when several environmental activities and enhancements were due to take place in the ward.
- Langley Hall Road- residents had requested extra patrols, particularly at the weekend following an increase in nuisance/anti-social behaviour
- Operation Hercules – ongoing around A38/Bassetts Pole, particularly on Sundays when car meets/races were known to take place.

Local resident advised of an increase in drug dealing/speeding cars along Wyatt Road/Lindridge Road, and perpetrators using the 'cut-through between the roads to avoid being caught. Quad bike use had also significantly increased. Residents were reluctant to report the perpetrators who were well known for fear of reprisals.

PCSO Walton advised of the current 'no chase policy' by West Midlands Police, which was well known by perpetrators; however, an 'Off-Road Team' had specifically been set up to deal with this issue. Patrols had been requested for hot-spot areas across Sutton Coldfield District. Cllrs would be notified when the team were in their respective wards.

In the meantime, residents should continue to report incidents, giving as much information as they were able to and as long as it was safe to do so.

Cllr Parkin thanked the Officers for their attendance and updates.

6. Waste Management Update

Item deferred due to non- attendance of Officers.

7. General ward round-up

Cllr Parkin gave the following updates:-

HIGHWAYS:

Lindridge Road Eid measures (April 21st and 22nd) and proposed parking restrictions measures weekdays 8am to 4pm:

Meeting Cabinet Member John Cotton 11.5.23 re Cemetery issues; review taking place within the cemetery team after last weekend's temporary traffic measures

Resurfacing updates: Reddicap Heath Road (completion est 12.5.23), Walmley Road cut through and Berryfields Rd (Keith at Kier chasing) and Stone Avenue (est 2.6.23 – 12.6.23)

WASTE:

Hardstandings: Glover Rd x 2 done; Carhampton extensions x 2 done; Woodington Rd x 1 done

Flytipping: serious issues on Carhampton Rd, Woodington Rd and Mount View in recent weeks. Enforcement difficult due to need for witness statements

Litter picks:

Fairfax School Yr 9 down Churchill Rd (27.3.23)

Churchill/brook/Carhampton with SCLAG 30 volunteers (inc Fairfax head Sean Castle) collected 41 bags inc TV and trolley from brook (12.3.23)

REPAIRS ETC DONE:

Langley Hall Drive cut back by Town Rangers (after asking BCC for five months) done

Mount View gate installed - but wooden fence repair tbc ref Emma (Housing Officer)

Communal lighting, door and security upgrades to Wyatt Rd flats completed

Newdigate Road: two pavement repairs carried out (one was a temporary repair as trip hazard)

Coleshill Road vines cut back (NB Woodington TBC Emma chasing – s/be this week w/c 17.4.23)

Fairfax Road fence repaired – again!

Town Rangers swept up broken glass on pavements on Fairfax Rd and Sir Alfreds Way

FLORALS:

Approved by Town Council: wildflower meadow to be extended by 100sqm, also approval for 22 hanging baskets and planters along Churchill Rd and the three green island areas at bottom of Carhampton Rd

OTHERS:

Planning applications: rejected for HMO 68 Reddicap Hill but approved for jet wash on RHR on Sundays (Town Council and myself objected to both)

Coronation events I know of over Bank Holiday weekend: St Martins Rd street party on Sunday, Falcon Lodge Methodist Church

Party on Sunday and Newdigate Fields event on Monday (hopefully)

Lindridge Chase: going to BCC Planning 27.4.23; North Warks BC separate

POLICE:

The Town Council has strongly objected to station closure plans and written letters to the new Chief Constable (29.1.23) and PCC Simon Foster (9.3.23) with 10 key questions – still no answers from either which was incredibly disappointing.

Walkabout with PCSO Dan Walton on 21.3.23, preceded by Speedwatch on 20.3.23 on Rectory Road in which 17 motorists were identified driving comfortably in excess of the limit

NEW FUNDING:

£110k approved by Town Council for Falcon Lodge Community Centre over 5 years; Community Centre leaders now seeking funds from elsewhere to repair roof before signing 5yr lease with BCC.

New Councillor Funds (£44,300):

1. £20k 'Brum Breathes' CAZ funds approved per Councillor for next two years with criteria attached (ref Cabinet Member Liz Clements email – further details TBC):

"To support a number of locality-based schemes and projects that improve air quality and help build awareness around the health impacts of poor air quality and its sources.

- Improvement of air quality
- Active travel and the incentivisation of public transport
- The development of zero emission and sustainable infrastructure and actions in and around the city to improve air quality"

2. £10k p/a Community Chest funding per Councillor (details TBC):

"Localised funding to fix issues or kickstart initiatives that would realise benefits to local residents and the local place"

3. £14,300 Beyond Birmingham 2022 – Celebrating Communities' (details TBC)

"Local funding for community projects based on three themes aligned to Commonwealth Games legacy objectives:

- Getting Active
- Celebrating Culture (supporting communities to showcase the culture of their local area)
- Ready Steady Fun – Connecting Communities"

Ref the above – Council Leader Ian Ward email to all Councillors 17.4.23:

"With the exception of the Celebrating Communities Fund, the release of funding to wards will require a live ward plan to be in place and all recommendations for spend will require a formal minute of a constituted Ward Forum meeting.

Celebrating Communities Fund is to connect local communities to the Birmingham Commonwealth Games Legacy Festival taking place in the summer. As advised, timescales for this festival are tight and therefore for this year only, spend against this budget can be recommended without a ward plan being in place. However, a formal Minute of a constituted Ward Forum meeting will be required.”

On-going funds still remaining:

£10k p/a Highways and approx. £12k (tbc) p/a for Housing (Capital and HLB)

Highways: Lindridge Rd and see what’s left (eg SLOW markings Walmley Rd)

Housing:

- Last year’s budget 2022/23 still not completed:

New hardstanding bay for Wilson Drive

Nine signs for flats

Surplus to hopefully carry forward (although we did have plans in place to spend it!): £1,272.39

- Emma/RP priorities list 2023/24 after meeting 17.4.23:

Capital (budget last year £17,286 – expect less this year):

1. Two hardstanding areas – and bins – for Woodington Rd flats (38-66) by junction with FLC. Ideally space for 6 off 360l bins (4 household; 2 recycling) per bay x 2
2. One hardstanding area for Wyatt Rd flats (68-84) (7 off 360l bins already present)
3. Two hardstanding areas for Goodeve Walk (1-35) (space for 6 off 360l bins x 2 bays – bins may already be in situ)

Any surplus funds to be used for Stone Ave; poss top up funding from elsewhere?

HLB (last yr £6,400):

1. 14 flat signs needed for Stone Ave, Coleshill Rd and Goodeve Walk (circa £2k)

Walkabout planned with Housing Officer 25.4.23 to finalise the above projects and get quotes etc.

OTHERS:

Garages: replacement doors, gate etc separate funding – in discussions with Natalie Smith at BCC; Fowler Road garages gate: TBC hoping to be installed

S106: still in discussions with BCC re New Hall Valley, Newdigate Fields and Duncumb Rd (replicate measures elsewhere?)

ASDA: Highways have requested funding for road measures; Highways Officers chasing

Wyatt Rd: one row of trip rails to be replaced by Housing (nos 42-58); other trip rail (nos 81-99) through CAZ (pedestrian safety?) or **S106** (re Duncumb) – residents received letters; two other locations on Wyatt Rd either need replacement trip rail, new trip rail or repaired metal trip rail (both under investigation)

Chadwick Road large open space: Parks Officers looking into trip rails TBC (Todd Hale)

Area on Chadwick Road (near Falcon Lodge Crescent): Parking on grass verges; residents received letters from Council

CCTV and Safer Travel drone Churchill Rd (supported by local police): liaising with Sgt Rads Patel (spoke to him this morning; he is getting forms filled in etc for CCTV application in Sgt Heather Jones absence; if successful would be in place for up to 16 weeks but will push for longer)

Churchill Rd and Carhampton Rd public waste bins: six need replacing (being actioned by Will Owen in Waste Dept)

Pavement/road sign repairs: list of approved jobs across the ward for summer (Kier)

Churchill Road guttering above shops: full of moss and needs removing (Housing)

Broomie Close flats and Coleshill Rd flats: tiling repaired but other work required (Housing)

Coleshill Rd flats: carpet to be removed (fire hazard) and bare flooring to be covered – no dates yet tbc (Housing)

Stone Avenue: bush to be removed outside 24-26 (too large, covers flytipping etc); Emma from Housing is sourcing a quote and will need to consult (Housing)

Wilson Drive and Woodington Rd: outside peeling brickwork needs attn TBC (Housing)

Mount View flat railings: need to be painted TBC (Housing)

Frontage to 85-91 Coleshill Road: needs repairing and painting after vines damage (Housing)

Overgrown bush outside 5/7/9 Goodeve Walk: needs cutting back (Housing)

Severn Trent road repairs on Sir Alfreds Way: (following water burst in November) planned early June

Romulus FC: meeting last week; looking for more involvement with community by making use of Newdigate Fields; meeting has been arranged with resident who currently organises football camps on the Fields; trying to arrange meeting with BCC – might also have bearing on improvement measures being discussed for the Fields.

DIARY DATES:

MHRC TRUCKS: Monday May 1st Leigh Rd (first one BCC have trialled on Bank Holiday) and Weds June 7th on Preston Ave

Speedwatch: Weds May 3rd at Hollyfield Rd (probably); this will be the 13th Speedwatch in less than two years – 125 motorists have been caught to date and received Police letters; previous Hollyfield Rd campaign identified 22 drivers in less than one hour; keen to introduce mandatory 20mph zone here

Walkabout: scheduled for Tuesday May 23rd around Falcon Lodge and surrounding area

Cemetery perimeter litter pick: Sunday April 30th

Advice Surgeries dates: third Thursday every month St Chads Church

Next Ward Meeting date: Monday June 19th

Meeting closed at 8.00pm

Councillors (s) Signed:

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