

SOUTH YARDLEY WARD FORUM ONLINE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

THURSDAY 13TH MAY 2021

6.00PM – 7.00PM

MEETING NOTES

ATTENDANCE

Chair: Cllr Zakar Choudhry

Officers

Jo Davis – Lib Dem Group Office Manager (Observer)

Beverly Edmead - Community Governance Team, BCC

Members of Public - 3

MATTERS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING:

1. Welcome and Introductions

Cllr Choudhry welcomed everyone to the meeting

2. Notice of Recording

Cllr Choudhry advised the online meeting was being recorded and would be available for future record.

3. Ward Plan – Priorities and Action Plan

Everyone was advised that each of the City council's 69 Wards were required to develop a ward plan and identify key concerns and priorities in partnership with residents/partner agencies/ community and voluntary group etc in the South Yardley Ward boundary. The Plan was designed to be a working document for the tenure of the Elected Member (May 2018 – April 2022) and should be reviewed on a regular basis (every 6 months or so) as priorities were addressed or new ones identified.

Where a Ward Plan had not been developed during this time, an Interim Plan and Priorities should be completed for the next 12 months and was required if Wards were to be able to access the Commonwealth Games 2022 Celebrating Communities Fund, which was money made available to each ward to help fund activities and events in celebration of the Commonwealth Games.

Cllr Choudhry advised that having had discussions with local groups, the following key priorities and concerns had been identified:-

- Swan Shopping Centre – littering, graffiti, general clean up required
- Grass Verges & Parking– being damaged routinely across the ward due to off-road parking
- Drug Dealing/Street begging/Anti-social behaviour in hot spot areas in the ward; Coventry Road by the former Bill & Bull Public House was a particular problem.
- HMOs/Supported Accommodation were also problematic due to insufficient support staff and a mix of the different vulnerable client groups being housed together

Cllr Choudhry further advised that he had been involved with setting up two local community groups – including South Yardley Litter Champions which had in excess of 150 active members and would seek to get them more involved with the Ward Plan Priorities.

It was agreed that the Ward Plan Priorities would be sent out to contacts in the ward for wider circulation and consideration, and that these should be returned no later than Friday 4th June.

4. Commonwealth Games 2022 Celebrating Communities Fund

Details of the Fund was given. Each Ward had been allocated a small amount of funding to help residents, community and voluntary groups celebrate and make the most of the Games.

The amount allocated per ward had been based on the Indices of Deprivation and the amount for South Yardley Ward was £14,300

The funding was available to help deliver projects/events under the following themes:-

Getting Active

Ready, Steady, Fun

Celebrating Culture.

There were three levels of funding for projects/activities:-

Between £100 and £1,000

Between £1,001 and £5,000
Between £5,001 and £10,000.

There were two funding rounds in which interested groups could submit their application for funding – the first round was currently open 1 June 2021, and the second round being 1 October – 30 November 2021.

Events/activities would also have to comply with relevant Covid-19 restrictions/social distancing measures in place at the time.

Support/advice and guidance for groups interested in submitting an application was available from Birmingham Community Matters and Locality – two organisations appointed by the City Council specifically for this purpose. Full details could be found on the City Council website.

There were no further issues raised.

Cllr Choudhry thanked everyone for their attendance.

Meeting closed 6.50pm