

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL
STECHFORD AND YARDLEY NORTH
WARD MEETING
THURSDAY 5 OCTOBER 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 16 residents present.

Cllr Neil Eustace in the Chair

1. 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 recovering from illness.

3. NEWS UPDATE FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Poolway Development - A ceremony took place 3 weeks ago to officially launch the start of the redevelopment.

Manor Park Play Area- A new play area would be developed behind Cascades.

Iron Lane Road Works Improvements – the scheme had been agreed and work set to commence in February 2018.

Refuse Collection Services – the strike had been temporarily suspended pending a court case due to be heard on 27 November 2017. Normal collection services had been resumed and crews, including Agency staff would be actively working to clear the backlog of household waste and recycling.

Residents expressed disappointment that separate collection vehicles had not been used and that mixed material recycling was emptied in the same vehicle as household waste. Whilst acknowledging that clearing the backlog had been the priority, residents felt that every effort should have been made to keep the waste and recycling collections separate. Green/garden waste still remained uncollected and residents were unsure when this was likely to be done, given that it was a paid for service.

Members thanked residents for their positive attitude in dealing with the lack of collections and for continuing to separate their household and recycling waste as well as keeping their roads clean.

There were no further updates.

Action: All to Note

4. WARD LOCAL INNOVATION FUND

Residents were advised of the following ward proposals:-

- Glebe Farm Library – the joint proposal by the Ward and neighbouring Shard End Ward had been submitted to the Neighbourhood Development & Support Unit for appraisal before submission to Cabinet Committee Local Leadership for approval.

Residents would continue to be kept informed of the plans for use once the proposal had been agreed.

- Stechford In Bloom – amendments had been made to the proposal following several discussions and suggestions from Pat Whyte, LIF Support Officer, and would be sent on to the Unit for appraisal following the meeting.

Faydene briefly advised of the recent success for the Stechford In Bloom team following the results of the Britain In Bloom competition.

Members congratulated Faydene and the rest of the In-Bloom team on their success, which was excellent news for the ward.

- SARA Group (Speed Awareness Responsive Action) – there was still some work to be done following a meeting with the City Council's Transportation & Road Safety Unit. A further meeting to discuss and amend the proposal was to still to be arranged. The Chairman requested this was done as soon as possible.
- Holiday Kitchen – the project was run over the summer holidays to help support families suffering hardship and poverty. The scheme had now finished but had been very successful and provided social interaction and basis cooking/life skills for many of the families that had attended. Ongoing contact had been maintained with the families, and discussions/networking with other churches was ongoing to see how the scheme could be maintained.

New Proposal

- Stechford Stars – Nicola Toms, Arts in the Yard briefly outlined the proposal to create an Art Walking Trail featuring local landmarks and new pieces of public art. A number of local partners, groups and organisations would be involved in with the proposal.

Residents were actively encouraged to contact AITY directly with ideas and suggestions for the walking trail/public art.

Whilst welcoming the proposal, Members and residents expressed concerns regarding the location/protection/maintenance of the artwork and who would have responsibility for it.

Further clarity was sought on how the project would be promoted/residents would be made aware of the project and how they could get involved, and the plans for the long-term sustainability of the project.

Nicola explained that an electronic version of the walking trail would be created and always available. The project would be promoted through a wide range of forums, including social media, newsletter/flyers and word of mouth as well as having a presence in local shopping centres.

Use would also be made of existing popular and well used public places like Glebe Farm Library, Cascades, the Meadway/Poolway centres and Stechford Station.

The Chairman thanked Nicola for her presentation.

Action: All to Note

5. RESIDENTS UPDATES, ISSUES AND CONCERNS

- Anti-social behaviour continued to be a concern in hot spot areas within the ward.

The Place Manager confirmed that he had been made aware of the issues and locations; discussions were ongoing with partner agencies to deal with the issues, including the fencing to Manor Park, which was expected to be completed within the next few weeks.

Action: All to Note

- Nicola Toms (Arts in the Yard) briefly advised of the low number of applications to the Big Lottery from the ward. An officer from the Big Lottery Fund was currently based at the District Office and was available to help with any funding applications.

Action: All to Note

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. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 6 December, 6.30pm – St. Edburgha’s Church or Trust School subject to venue availability.

8. 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 7.10pm