

**BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**  
**HODGE HILL WARD MEETING**  
**TUESDAY 25 APRIL 2017**  
**7:00PM**  
**COLEBOURNE PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**STECHFORD LANE**  
**HODGE HILL**  
**B34 6BJ**

**MEETING NOTES**

**Present:** Councillors Diane Donaldson, Majid Mahmood and Fiona Williams

**Officers:** Insp. Helen Bailey – West Midlands Police  
Beverly Edmead – Community Governance Team  
Pat Whyte – Community Support & Development Officer

**Guest Speaker:** Andy Holding, Corporate Responsibility Manager, Birmingham International Airport

There were 13 residents present.

**Cllr Donaldson in the Chair**

**1. NOTICE OF RECORDING**

The Chair advised that members of the press and public could record and take photographs except where there were confidential or exempt items.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. APOLOGIES**

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Sgt Mark Webb, West Midlands Police.

**3. BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT – RUNWAY 33 UPDATE**

Members and residents welcome Andy Holding, Corporate Responsibility Manager, Birmingham International Airport.

Mr Holding advised that Birmingham Airport was required to implement new flight paths because of a national programme to modernise UK airspace. As such, there were changes in the technology used to navigate aircraft, which aimed to deliver a more efficient air space for the UK.

As a result of these changes, the Airport would be carrying out consultation regarding the proposed new flight paths for aircrafts departing the Airport to the north from Runway 33. Most of the flights from the Airport were to European destinations.

Locally, there would be little or no change to the flight path; the north of the city towards Sutton Coldfield would see more of a change; however it was important for residents to be made aware of the consultation and for them to submit their views, comments and concerns.

Several residents felt it would be useful for a local consultation meeting to be held with Airport staff to enable residents to learn more about the changes and how (if at all), they are affected.

**Action: Mr Holding to contact residents with meeting arrangements**

Responding to residents comments regarding traffic congestion implications, noise limitations and air pollution, Mr Holding explained it was unlikely that the changes to the flight path would have a direct impact on traffic flow/congestion in the Bromford area of the ward. However, the airport was a very well used, had excellent transport links from other parts of the country and as such, passenger usage was expected to exceed 13million by the end of the year.

The Night Flight Policy was due to be reviewed by Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council, and would take into account noise limitations as well as a number of other issues. Extensive scientific testing on aviation fuel had also been carried out by the City Council's Laboratories which showed there were no links with dust and pollutions on residents' cars, windows and other reported areas.

Residents were advised of the Birmingham Airport Community Trust Fund, which made grants of up to £3,000 available to community groups in areas most affected by the Airport's operations. Residents were further advised to contact the Airport directly if they had concerns about damage to their property as a result of airline activity.

Members and residents thanked Mr Holding for his attendance and update.

#### **4. LOCAL NEWS/INFORMATION UPDATE FROM WARD COUNCILLORS/POLICE**

##### **- Local Innovation Fund (LIF)**

Cllr Mahmood briefly outlined the criteria for the use of the Local Innovation Fund of £48,000 allocated to each ward.

Suggestions regarding how the Fund could be used included a Local Handyman/Community Enterprise Scheme, and Outdoor Gym and Exercise Facilities.

Residents welcomed both suggestions, and felt that Hodge Hill Girls Secondary Girls School would be an ideal base to facilitate the Outdoor Gym/Exercise project given the recent excellent OFSTED report and their active involvement in the community. Several residents added that community gardening/skills development including the use of Mulching Bins and composting should also be included in the Handyman/Community Enterprise proposal as this would also be hugely beneficial to everyone across the ward.

Further ideas and suggestions should be submitted to the Ward Councillors for consideration as soon as possible. Officer support and guidance regarding the

proposals would be provided by Pat White, Community Development & Support Officer.

Pat's email address was [pat.whyte@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:pat.whyte@birmingham.gov.uk)

The Fund was available until March 2018.

- Hodge Hill Girls School – plans for an orchard to be planted on the land at the back of the school would be included in the Birmingham Trees for Life programme.

#### Police Update

Insp. Helen Bailey advised of the following:-

- Sgt Spike Webb's retirement at the end of July after 30 years continuous service
- a reduction in burglary since November following the arrest of known prolific offenders. There was also a reduction in violent crime.
- Vehicle crime was still a cause for concern, with taxis in particular amongst the most targeted. The theft of number plates had also increased significantly; there were concerns and suggestions these were being stolen to order.
- The launch of WM NOW. Residents were encouraged to sign up/register their contact details to enable them to receive news alerts/useful information from WMP.
- A Day of Activity with WMP and Partners would take place on 4 May 2017

Residents and Members advised of the following concerns:-

- Increase in prostitution/sexual activities around Pound Green/Ward End Park
- Threats of vigilante groups/actions by residents against known prolific offenders, several of whom had not been investigated by the police despite repeated calls.
- Inconsiderate and obstructive parking around schools continued to be an issue across the ward. Residents living in Twycross Grove were regularly threatened and verbally abused by parents dropping their children off at the school nearby, and that it was only a matter of time before the behaviour became physical.

Responding to the comments made, Insp. Bailey advised of increased patrols around the Park/Pound Green area over the last three months. However, there had been no additional or new calls logged or reported regarding nuisance behaviour or prostitution. Residents must continue to report the nuisance if the area was to be identified as a hotspot/problem area so that patrols/resource could be appropriately deployed.

Acknowledging concerns regarding ongoing school parking issues, Insp. Bailey advised that officers would continue to work with residents, schools and Traffic Enforcement Officers to tackle the issue, however adopting a zero approach to obstructive parking around all schools was not sustainable. Targeted proactive action for a short time could be considered locally, and officers were happy to

continue working with residents and schools to plan a week of activity and disrupt the patterns of behaviour of persistent offenders.

**Action: All to Note**

Heathlands Primary School/Ashville Avenue

Residents living in Ashville Avenue advised there had been no change to the parking problems experienced on a daily basis despite regular meetings with the new School Head Teacher and local police officers.

Car registration numbers had been forwarded to the school as agreed and the school newsletter sent out to all parents/carers had listed the car registration numbers in an attempt to 'identify, name and shame' the perpetrators.

The Council's Camera Enforcement Car had also been deployed and fines issued, however the problems were still ongoing and the perpetrators continued to blatantly disregard all attempts, including the offer of free parking at the Hunters Moon Pub.

Requests had also been made for the police to send a strongly worded warning letter to the perpetrators, but this still had not been done.

Residents further advised of their anger, frustrations and disappointment that repeated requests for robust enforcement action had not been fully followed through despite the agreements made and felt bitterly let down, and stressed that the only course of action was to block Ashville Avenue and force the closure of the entrance gate to the school.

Several residents referred to a similar situation in Springfield Ward where the local residents, police officers and the School Head worked together to effectively tackle the parking nuisance.

**Action: Insp. Bailey agreed to speak to her colleague Sgt. Jugtal to find out more and advise residents accordingly.**

Residents also requested that a further meeting was held with the School Head, Cllrs and the police to agree the way forward.

**Action: Insp. Bailey to discuss the matter further with residents at the end of the meeting.**

**5. RESIDENTS NEWS/ISSUES AND UPDATES**

Residents advised of the following concerns:-

- Flamborough Crescent - increase in nuisance behaviour caused by youths/young people (approx. 12yrs – 13yrs) riding bicycles on the pavement.

Insp. Bailey advised of ongoing work with known offenders, several of whom were subject to an Acceptable Behaviour Contract.

- Ashville Avenue/Flamborough Crescent – GPO van regularly parking obstructively and driving along the pavement. Double yellow lines had been requested, however

residents had been advised there was no funding available.

**6. REVIEW OF OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**

Consideration was given to the summary of residents issues/concerns raised at the last meeting and the actions required:-

(See Outstanding Actions List attached)

04: Former Clock Garage site – approval had been given for the demolition and refurbishment of the site. No further action required.

**Action: All to Note**

**7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS**

The following matters were suggested:-

Amey - Ward Highway Issues and Information Update

**8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

To be agreed.

**9. AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS**

Noted and agreed that:-

In an urgent situation between meetings, the Chair jointly with the relevant Chief Officer has authority to act on behalf of the Committee.

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The meeting closed at 8.15pm

**6. REVIEW OF OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**

Consideration was given to the summary of residents issues/concerns raised at the last meeting and the action(s) required:-

Ref No	Concern raised by/Date raised	Concern/Issue	Action to be Taken	Responsible Officer	Target Date for Response
01	Residents 27/07/16	Public right of way – Twycross Grove/Bromford Road – general anti-social behaviour, acts of vandalism and criminality	Extra patrols to be arranged; diary incident log sheets to be issued to residents; positioning of appropriate signage; ongoing monitoring	Sgt Webb/WMP	Next mtg/ongoing
	25/04/2017	No further update available.  No further update available		Insp. Bailey/WMP	Ongoing  Ongoing
02	Residents 23/03/2016	Heathland School Parking – Ashville Avenue Ongoing concerns and problems regarding obstructive car parking/traffic congestion/abusive parents	i) meeting to be arranged with new School Head ii) increased police patrols and proactive enforcement action at peak times iii) Planning Enforcement to be contacted re revised positioning of school extension and outstanding traffic management plan	Cllr Mahmood/Ward Chair Sgt Webb/WMP  Cllr Williams	Next meeting
	25/04/17	Problems still ongoing. New Head now in place. Urgent meeting to be arranged.  Update given – no change to	Further meeting to be held	Ward Chair	Next meeting

		current situation	with the School Head, residents, Cllrs and WMP Insp Bailey to contact colleague Sgt Jugtal for information regarding a similar issue in Springfield Ward to see how the matter was resolved	Cllrs/Insp Bailey/WMP	Next meeting
03	Residents 27/07/2016	Cheltenham Drive – increase in rubbish dumping/fly tipping; bushes/shrubs/trees also in need of cutting back	To be referred to Amey re pruning Use of mobile CCTV Camera to be considered	Cllr Mahmood	Next meeting
	25/04/2017	Further update given - use of mobile CCTV cameras to be arranged		Cllr Mahmood	Next meeting/ongoing
		Further update given – tree policy currently being reviewed. Locations for use of mobile CCTV still to be determined	Ongoing – further update to be given at the next meeting	Cllr Mahmood	Ongoing/Next meeting
06	Residents 27/07/2016	Tree pruning/pot holes/gully cleansing across the ward	Amey to be invited to attend the next meeting	Community Governance Manager/Cllrs	Next meeting
	25/04/2017	Issues still outstanding			
07	Residents 15/11/2016	Warren Road speeding concerns – request for traffic calming measures/one way	Ward Chair to raise with relevant officers Cllr Mahmood to arrange	Ward Chair Cllr Mahmood	Next/future meeting

	25/04/2017	traffic flow Matter still ongoing.	Speedwatch activity with concerned residents Further update to be given at a future meeting	Ward Chair/Cllr Mahmood	Ongoing/Next meeting
08	Residents 15/11/2016	Overgrown trees across the ward in need of cutting back- obscuring the street lighting	Site visit requested with Amey	Cllr Williams	Next/future meeting
	25/04/2017	Update given – tree policy currently being reviewed.	Amey to be invited to the next ward meeting	Cllrs/Governance Manager	Next meeting
09	Residents 15/11/2016	Rogers Road – newly fitted street lighting quite dim and not throwing enough light	To be referred to Amey for inspection	Cllr Williams	Next/future meeting
	25/04/2017	Update given – repairs still outstanding	Amey to be invited to the next ward meeting	Cllrs/Governance Manager	Next meeting