

QUINTON WARD FORUM MEETING – ACTION NOTES RECORDING

WARD: Quinton	DATE: Wednesday 21 st June 2023
VENUE: St Boniface Church, Quinton Road West, B32 2QD	START/FINISH TIMES: 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
COUNCILLOR/S: Sam Forsyth and Lauren Rainbow	NOs OF ATTENDEES: 23
OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Beverly Edmead – Community Governance Manager Preety Sohpal – Community Governance Manager	VISITING SPEAKER(S): None

CURRENT WARD ACTION PLAN PRIORITIES:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Young People In Quinton 2. A Safe Quinton 3. Cleaner, Greener Quinton

MATTERS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING INCLUDING LOCAL CONCERNS:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome & Notice of Recording Councillor Forsyth and Councillor Rainbow introduced themselves and welcomed residents attending the ward forum meeting and advised that members of the press/public may be present, could record and take photographs of the meeting. 2. Bleed Control Kits for Quinton Councillor Forsyth reminded residents of the unfortunate incident that took place 7 years ago in a club where Daniel Baird was fatally stabbed. In his honour, his mother had set up the Daniel Baird Foundation which provided bleed control kits in selected venues to be accessible by all.

The purpose of the bleed control kits was to assist people road traffic accidents, children falling off bikes, kitchen accidents etc.

The Faraday Hub had been offered 1 bleed control kit but has since been offered 5 more. Quinton had now been offered cabinets for bleed control kits, however the locations for the cabinets needed to be agreed so they could be allocated as soon as possible. Residents were asked for their suggestions regarding suitable locations and to let Cllrs know. The Co-op, Hagley Road West and Quinborne Centre had agreed to accept one. Supplies would continue to be provided by the Foundation as needed.

3. Quinton Ward Action Plan 2022-2026 and Funding for the ward

The Councillors handed out the Ward Action Plans to residents and asked everyone to break off into three large groups to discuss the three priorities and to get the residents views on this. The three groups were Crime, Youth Prevention and Environmental.

Summary of discussions on Crime

Road safety is an issue in the area as people are speeding, refusing to give way and there is a lack of consideration from drivers in the area. There have been reports of the number 54 bus not being able to pass through at times due to inconsiderate drivers parking and blocking the roads. The number 54 bus route could result in being cut.

Speeding on Ridgeacre Road was brought up by some residents and one resident reported how cars are not stopping for the red lights.

Residents agreed that car cruising and speeding were an ongoing issue in the area. There was an incident of where a young person was knocked down off his bike on the way to school at 8.30 am by a speeding car and because of this, the young person has suffered life changing injuries and is currently still hospitalized. A resident suggested that maybe some roads should be closed off where schools are located to ensure that children/parents can walk to school safely without the risk of cars speeding past them.

Highfield Lane was also mentioned as dangerous as there have been recent reports and cases of gunshots going off, someone walking the streets with a machete and all residents agreed that there is not enough police presence in Quinton. Drug dealing is also happening in the area and the Councillors advised to ensure that all such incidents are reported to the police. A resident raised the concern of there being no

feedback once an incident has been reported to the police. Therefore, residents do not know if anything has come out of their report of various crime reported.

The Councillor explained that there has been a reduction in burglaries, sexual crime and assaults however car crime and car cannibalism is on the increase. The Councillor suggested that preventing measures can be put in place with more community presence as part of the neighbourhood watch groups/street watch. The police does work closely with the neighbourhood groups.

Summary of discussion on Youth Provision

An application to apply for funding was made by a youth group leader. Stacey, the Neighbourhood Action Coordinator (NAC), explained that this application would be going to panel within the next 2 weeks and a decision would be made very soon. Residents suggested that more needs to be done for the youth of Quinton and give them things to do in the area in youth clubs etc. By engaging and speaking with them to see what they want in Quinton would be beneficial to ensure that facilities are provided that they will actually use.

The Councillors advised residents to be more proactive to find solutions by giving 1,2 or 3 hours a week/month/year working in food banks, youth centres etc.

Summary of discussion on Environment

The Councillors explained that they are trying to get more Mobile Household Recycling Centre visits where the need is greatest. Residents were able to check on the link provided when the nearest MHRC would be in the area [Mobile Household Recycling Centres | Birmingham City Council](#).

Some elderly residents mentioned that they are unable to travel to these MHRC's due to lack of transport and not being able to carry many items. The Councillor encouraged residents to help out their neighbours or anyone else that may not be able to drive to a MHRC due to having no transport, being elderly or having a disability. By offering such help could result in the reduction of fly tipping.

The MHRC had so far been a success however the Councillor did ask residents to be more mindful when using the MHRC's as there was an incident recently where a paint pot was thrown at the truck however it hit it and splattered everywhere including a car passing by causing damage. If such behaviour were to continue, they could potentially lose the MHRC's in Quinton.

Residents also mentioned that bins outside shops are constantly overflowing with black bags placed next to them full of rubbish by the businesses and that them being emptied more often may solve this problem or having more bins.

Funding for the Ward

The current list of funding available is:

- Community Chest - £20,000 (£10,000 per councillor)
- Brum Breathes - £40,000
- CCF Funding - £10,000
- NAC funding - £10,000
- Beyond Birmingham Celebrating Communities - £28,600
- Minor Transport Measures - £20,000

Stacey gave details of weekly drop-in sessions held every Friday from 2-4pm in Quinton Library if anyone has any queries regarding the funding pots available and how they can apply to use this for any projects.

4. Councillor Updates

The Councillors advised that the City Solicitor had been dealing with the matter and an audit was completed recently regarding the TAWS investigation. The outcome of this audit was that no fraud or misuse of public money had been detected. A report had been written following the audit; residents requested a copy of this report, and for this to be read out at the next Ward Forum meeting.

The Councillors explained that they would try to obtain this document ahead of the next meeting. A resident commented on how strict the Councillors are being now with all new funding applications and thanked them for this.

5. Other Local News and Updates from:

NAC – Stacey Kettner

Stacey explained that she had recently met with Birmingham Open Spaces Forum in Cotteridge Park in relation to a project that residents would like to work on for Highfield Farm Recreational Ground. They had spoken about a project that had been worked on with the Friends of Cotteridge Park and how this was achieved with planning permissions and consultations.

Birmingham Open Spaces Forum (BOSF) were willing to work on the new project with volunteers from HFRG, Stacey and other interested residents.

Highfield Farm Recreational Ground

Several residents commented on the paths in the park not being user friendly for wheelchairs or prams and the grass not being mowed recently due to “No Mow May”. Some residents’ perception of the fear of crime/being a victim of crime had increased following more gatherings of groups of young adults, however encouraging more residents, particularly families to use the open space had always been one of the key aims, and for its use as a more active recreation ground for everyone, which would in turn increase feelings of safety as it used by residents of all ages.

Vina Campbell, QMCC briefly advised of the inaugural meeting arranged to discuss setting up a Friends Of Group for Highfield Farm Recreation Ground. Unfortunately, the meeting was poorly attended with no new volunteers coming forward despite over 200 leaflets being issued locally.

Quinton Meadows Consultative Committee

A written update was presented to residents who attended which is included in Appendix 1 as part of this report.

Pitts Wood

A shelter was vandalised which the police had helped to clear up. A grant request has been put in to be used for the wildlife group and the shelter. Dates relating to this have been placed on noticeboards around the area.

A Quinton Newsletter was suggested as a way of sharing information with residents across the wider ward as well as highlighting the ongoing work of the volunteers and community groups.

Future Ward Forum Meeting Date

Councillors thanked residents for their attendance and that the next date for the ward forum meeting would be Wednesday 20th September 2023, starting at 7PM – venue to be confirmed.

ACTIONS/ RECOMMENDATIONS MADE	WHO	BY WHEN
1. Residents to send a list of suitable locations on where to house the cabinet of the bleed kits.	1. Residents	1. ASAP/Update to be provided at next ward forum meeting

Appendix One

QUINTON MEADOWS UPDATE JUNE 2023

Quinton Business Park (which forms part of Quinton Meadows) changed hands at the end of May. Threadneedle sold the business park to PCPVI Limited and QMCC has been in touch with the managing agent for the new owner requesting an early site meeting and inviting him to our next quarterly meeting in September.

QMCC had a good relationship with Threadneedle and their managing agent. Threadneedle provided funding of £2,000 in 2022, which was used to supply and install metal benches at various points around the nature reserve. Threadneedle provided a further £2,000 in 2023 and these funds are currently held by Birmingham City Council. Discussions are ongoing between the park ranger service and a landscaping contractor for this funding to be used to improve drainage at three locations on the access track within the nature reserve. These locations currently become very waterlogged and muddy after periods of rainfall making access difficult. The aim is for the drainage improvements to make the access track fully accessible all year round.

Note that this is now an ideal time to visit the nature reserve as the wildflower meadows are in full flower and very colourful. The wild orchids located in the area adjacent to the swales (just south of the business park) are currently coming into flower and there is only a short window of opportunity to view these before the flowers die.

I urge everyone to take a walk through the nature reserve and enjoy the site of the meadows in full flower.