

Birmingham City Council
Notes of the meeting of the Weoley Ward Forum
18 October 2017 at 6.30pm at Allens Cross Community Centre

Present: Councillor Steve Booton (in the Chair), Councillor Julie Johnson & Councillor Peter Douglas Osborn

PCSO Hannah Moseley, West Midlands Police
Ken Brown, Neighbourhood Development & Support Unit
Kay Thomas, Community Governance Manager

There were 4 residents also in attendance

1. **Notice of Recording** – Noted
2. **Apologies** – Steve Bedser
3. **Notes of Last Meeting** – Noted
4. **Local Innovation Fund**

Councillor Johnson outlined the LIF process and that the majority of the wards allocation had been forwarded for approval, with £12,858 remaining. The 2 bids outstanding as discussed at previous meetings – We Love Weoley and The Project – Over 25's crisis support services- had now been finalised and submitted for approval. Councillor Johnson briefly explained each proposal and confirmed that The Project had provided Weoley specific statistics and further funding streams would ensure the advice work was sustained. 'We Love Weoley' had split the application into 3 parts but it was felt that the celebration element and café/equipment did not meet LIF criteria. However the Grow, Eat, Cook part of the proposal was felt to be a good idea as there was nothing else like it in the ward and working with Northfield Arts Forum would ensure sustainability. Added to the proposals already agreed these additional ideas covered a balance of core criteria for the City and the ward.

There was some discussion regarding the proposals and in response to questions Ken Brown confirmed that it would be possible to support part of the We Love Weoley proposal as not all of the proposals met the LIF criteria.

During the course of the discussion it was noted that the allocation agreed to Fast Aid at the previous meeting should have been £6,000 (ie the application had been for a total of £24k split between 4 wards) but in error at the previous meeting and on the form signed by the 3 councillors the sum of £3,000 had been agreed and this amount had therefore been reported and approved by Cabinet Committee: Local Leadership. *All 3 councillors agreed that it had been intended to approve £6,000 allocation to Fast Aid.*

Action: a) Allocation to Fast Aid 'Kids Save Lives' and Community Resuscitation Training Project to be amended from £3,000 to £6,000

- b) £5,000 to be allocated to We Love Weoley for NAF art, growing, cooking element**
- c) £7,858 to be allocated to The Project – Over 25's Crisis Support Service**

5. Residents Issues

a) Fortem

The meeting was advised that Fortem, formerly Willmott Dixon, undertook the repairs contract for the City Council's housing stock. The Chair referred to central heating boilers in council properties and then when a repair was needed the council did not appear to have a record of the type of boiler and therefore the engineer came to the repair without relevant information and this slowed down the repair while parts etc were ordered. It was queried whether the contractors appraised the boiler and provided information to the council so that a database could be compiled for future reference. The meeting was advised that that information should be on housing records as a 12 month gas inspection had to be undertaken. The Chair reiterated that if that information was available then Fortem should be able to carry specific parts for the relevant boiler to avoid tenants having to wait.

b) Garden Waste

Concern was expressed that collection of bags of garden waste put out alongside wheelie bins that had been collected during the strike were no longer being collected and bags had been left in the street for weeks. Councillor Johnson undertook to take the details at the end of the meeting.

c) Bus Network Review

The meeting was advised that National Express had extended the consultation period and a revised set of proposals would be out soon. Birmingham Bus Alliance was meeting next week and more information would be available thereafter. A more detailed discussion could therefore be undertaken at the next meeting.

d) Police Update

PCSO Hannah Moseley gave the following update;

- Action had been taken over 2 derelict buildings where it had been reported that children had been playing/vandalising. School visits had been undertaken and the letting agent contacted.
- The house in Jervoise Road was due for demolition and had been secured
- The Square Club building was subject to a meeting with the Inspector tomorrow regarding the security of the building.
- Councillor Johnson reported that The Square Club building had been bought by a church group but due to the amount of vandalism the future was questionable. A meeting had been arranged to discuss the issues of the drinkers in Prices Square. The World Café Event had discussed the

Active Citizens Fund and would be funding a women's/girls group with Northfield Arts Forum and helping the boxing gym, Merritts Brook Lane to put on personal safety, healthy eating etc classes

e) **Cycle Provision, Parking & Highway Issues, Bristol Road**

The Chair said that he was considering setting up a working group in the New Year to look into the above and details would be circulated.

6. Authority to Act Between Meetings

Noted & Agreed

Meeting ended at 7.45pm