

MOSELEY WARD MEETING NOTES

WARD: Moseley	DATE: Wednesday 13th February 2019
VENUE: The Moseley Exchange, Alcester Road	START/FINISH TIMES: 6.30pm – 8.20pm
COUNCILLORS: Kerry Jenkins & Martin Straker-Welds	NOs OF ATTENDEES: approx. 35
OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Beverly Edmead – Community Governance Manager Joe Green – Transportation Change Manager, BCC Sgt Tom O’Keefe, West Midlands Police GUEST SPEAKER – Cllr Waseem Zaffar, Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment	<u>Mr Trevor Hocking Chaired the meeting</u>

MATTERS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING:

Update on School Road

Cllr Jenkins briefly advised of the feedback received from residents following the engagement events. Additional events would be arranged to ensure that all residents were given the opportunity to contribute/comment. Initial discussions were ongoing with officers regarding the responses thus far. Cllr Zaffar, Cabinet Member had agreed for the formal consultation process to be brought forward to the spring and it would focus on what could realistically be achieved. Details of the consultation would also include the findings of the traffic modelling surveys carried out.

Representatives from Blenheim Road Action Group requested that the additional events and consultation process was arranged as quickly as possible, and that it was made clear what was **not** possible in order to avoid false hopes and expectations. Residents also requested that a holistic approach to the issue was taken, including the impact on neighbouring roads if measures were introduced. Residents would continue to be kept informed.

Community Speed Watch & Related Issues

Discussion around key issues raised by residents, including;

- Increased speeding on residential roads and the effect on the local environment
- The Clean Air Zone

- Community Speed Watch
- Enforcement & 20mph limits
- Modeshift Stars Initiative & Parking around Schools

Neighbourhood & Street Watch

Discussions included:-

- WM Now Initiative
- Community Speed Watch
- Neighbourhood Watch Scheme
- Parking around Schools

Issue	Action
<p>1. Community Speed Watch & Related Issues, including The Clean Air Zone (CAZ)</p> <p>Following introductions, Cllr Waseem Zaffar, Cabinet Member acknowledged the difficulties experienced by residents living in or around School Road, and the importance of ensuring that the consultation was appropriate and focussed on what could/could not be done.</p> <p>A shift in the mode of public preference of travelling was essential in order to decrease traffic congestion, air pollution and the illnesses/diseases linked to poor air quality/pollution.</p> <p>The introduction of a Clean Air Zone around the A4540 Middleway Ring Road aimed to address the traffic pollution and to ensure that all vehicles travelling into the city centre were compliant. Discussions were ongoing with taxi firms/unions and bus companies to ensure that their vehicles were fully compliant in readiness for the introduction of the Clean Air Zone from 1 January 2020.</p> <p>Residents were advised of the reasons and requirement from Central Government for large cities like Birmingham to introduce a Clean Air Zone. A further consultation on the Clean Air Strategy/ air pollution was due to be published on the City Council's Be Heard website. The consultation period would be 13th February to 26 April 2019.</p>	

<p>Regular updates on the CAZ would be made available to residents leading up to its implementation.</p> <p>Residents were also advised of the publication of the Road Safety Strategy, with its main aim and focus to reduce accident related injuries and deaths on roads and to make its use safer for everyone. A Speed Reporting Process had also been launched, which allowed residents to report speeding vehicles in their local area. This could be done on the council website and reports made via the portal would help to build a profile of hot spot areas to enable the Speed Indication Device (SID) to be fitted.</p> <p>Community Speed Watch – reference was made to the work of the Sheldon Traffic Action Group (STAG) and their intensive and ongoing work in monitoring and recording the speed levels of vehicles travelling through the ward. Details of excessive speeding were then forwarded to the police for review and action as appropriate.</p> <p>Parking outside schools was a problem across the city. Schools were actively encouraged to sign up to the Modeshift Stars Initiative, which was a national scheme to encourage safe walking/cycling to school. School Exclusion Zones were also being considered. Many of the parents driving their child/ren to school lived locally and were travelling less than a mile. Changing the mind-set and practices of parents was essential if school traffic congestion was to be successfully reduced. A holistic approach to tackling school traffic including how school places were allocated was needed if the issues were to be successfully addressed.</p> <p>In the meantime, residents were encouraged to continue to submit their comments and concerns so that the ward could be considered as one of the trial wards for the School Exclusion Zone</p> <p>Other initiatives also being considered included the procurement of new electric charging contracts and additional charging points across the city, and the current policy for dropped kerbs.</p> <p>2. Neighbourhood & Street Watch Community Safety – Sgt O’Keefe reported that burglary remained a major concern for the ward following an increase of 14.8% compared to last year. Additional resources had been requested to help provide reassurance and support in general</p>	<p>Joe Green agreed to speak to/pass on the contact details of STAG to Russell Road Residents Association, Swanshurst Lane Neighbourhood Group and other residents/groups interested in learning more.</p>
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neighbourhood policing issues.

WM Now (West Midlands Now) Information Service - details of the service was given; residents were encouraged to sign up the scheme to receive information/alerts and advice from the police of incidents relating to their area/neighbourhood.

Street Watch Initiative – details of the initiative was residents would be given training by the police and carry out general patrols/monitoring of traffic in designated areas of the ward. Residents would also be included on the WMP Public Liability Insurance. There were currently two active Street Watch Groups in the ward – St. Agnes Road and Britannic Gardens.

Speeding in Russell Road/Billesley Lane/Yardley Wood Road – proactive action had been taken against speeding drivers and a number of fines issued; more work was needed to change the mind-set and behaviour of speeding drivers.

Residents were given details of the Community Speed Watch Initiative, which was similar to that of Street Watch. The initiative was community led in partnership with the police and the Road Harm Reduction Team.

Neighbourhood Watch Groups had also been relaunched by West Midlands Police

Several residents felt it would be useful if all the networks of community groups worked together on a regular basis as this would have a greater impact across the ward.

Sgt O’Keefe advised the police team had returned to Kings Heath Police Station for the foreseeable future.

3. Any Other Business

Nothing raised.