

WARD MEETING ACTION NOTES

WARD: BROMFORD AND HODGE HILL	DATE: WEDS 25TH JULY 2018
VENUE: THE COMMUNITY ROOM, AMBRIDGE HOUSE, FOLKESTONE CROFT, BROMFORD DRIVE, B26 8QY	START/FINISH TIMES: 7.00PM – 8.15PM
COUNCILLOR/S: CLLR DIANE DONALDSON	NOs OF ATTENDEES: APPROX 30
OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: BEVERLY EDMEAD, COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE TEAM PC JASON BERRY, NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM, WMP	GUEST SPEAKER(S): NONE
APOLOGIES: CLLR MAJID MAHMOOD and PAUL WRIGHT, OPEN DOORS PROJECT	

WARD PRIORITIES: N/A AT THIS STAGE

MATTERS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING:

- 1. Welcome and Introductions** - given by Cllr Donaldson
- 2. Notice of Recording** – noted by all present at the meeting
- 3. Local News and Updates**
 - i) Cllr updates** – new ward boundary details given. New ward is now served by two Cllrs - Cllrs Donaldson and Mahmood.
 - ii) West Midlands Police** – PC Jason Berry briefly outlined the changes to the neighbourhood policing team. A new Sgt had recently joined the team
(Sgt Lloyd), which was made up of 4 PCs and 4 PCSOs.
The following concerns were raised by residents:-

- Increase in crime and anti- social behaviour across parts of the ward – hot spot areas included Collingbourne Avenue, the Hunters Moon Public House, and the areas around Bromford Park. Drugs deals were openly and brazenly carried out in full view, cars speeding/dangerous driving; increase in car crime/break-ins.
- An increase in violence/serious crime, involving the use of weapons (guns and knives).
- The lack of visible policing was a real cause for concern; more officers and beat patrols were needed, and the re-installation of CCTV cameras should also be considered. Residents felt that parts of the ward had become ‘no-go’ areas and a real sense of lawlessness , and called for urgent action in addressing these concerns.

PC Berry explained that intelligence/evidence gathering was ongoing in several parts of the ward, including around the Hunters Moon pub. Officers were currently working with the Manager/staff at the pub to help deal with a number of issues at the premises. Residents should continue to report incidents, and to provide as much evidence as possible (where it was safe to do so). In the meantime, increased patrols as well as a more proactive approach were being planned for the known hotspot areas in the ward. Residents were also advised that data protection legislation regarding the use of CCTV cameras would need to be thoroughly investigated before cameras could be installed in public places.

The Chair and residents thanked PC Berry for his attendance. The Chair added that the local Cllrs across the wider district would continue to work

with Liam Byrne MP to lobby the Government for the cessation of policing budget cuts and an increase in officers.

iii) Community Groups/Organisations Update – none given

4. Local Innovation Fund (LIF) Projects Update

The Chair and residents welcomed representatives from the projects that had received funding from the Local Innovation Fund, and invited the Project Lead Officers to give an update on their respective project.

- Firs & Bromford Community Centre/O’Dells Boxing Club

Tina O’Dell briefly advised that the Business Plan had been completed in readiness for the Community Centre being transferred over to the Boxing club. A meeting was recently held with Council Officers regarding the possible transfer; however the final decision had

not yet been made. Currently, the club was still operating and had 90 young people signed up to the club. A more detailed update would follow once the future of the community centre had been decided.

- **Cleaner Greener Firs & Bromford**

Dan Smith, Worth Unlimited briefly advised of the aims of the project and the work carried out to date. This included regular community clean ups, with groups of residents meeting up every Friday at 9:30pm outside the Community Hub. Volunteers and helpers were treated to refreshments afterwards.

The Forest Space at Tame Valley – a part-time worker had been appointed to help with harnessing and developing local people's skills, talents and passion for gardening, craft activities and woodwork, which would also help develop and enhance their employability skills.

Copies of work of the project were circulated to residents at the meeting.

- **The Real Junk Food Kitchen**

Paul Wright, Project Lead had been unable to attend the meeting, but had submitted a brief written update. Written quotes for the refurbishment of the kitchen had been submitted; it was hoped that the refurbishment would be completed by September 2018. In the meantime, the project was still continuing to provide meals using the existing facilities, and the number of local people using the Real Junk Food Kitchen for a hearty and healthy meal continued to increase, along with an increase in the number of volunteer helpers.

A Holiday Kitchen was also provided during the school summer holidays to ensure that children in receipt of free school meals were still able to have a meal.

The Chair thanked the Project Lead Officers for their attendance and updates.

5. Petitions – None submitted

6. Residents News/Updates/Local Concerns – None given.

7. Any Other Business – None raised.

8. Date of Next Meeting – Weds 26th September, 7pm, St. Wilfrid's Church Centre, Shawsdale Road

The Chair thanked residents for their attendance and participation.

Meeting Closed at 8pm