	JOINT SPRINGFIELD WARD & POLICE TASKING MEETING 7 MARCH 2018 AT MOSELEY SCHOOL, HEALTH & FITNESS CENTRE, SPRINGFIELD ROAD ACTION NOTES	
In Attendance	Councillor Shabrana Hussain & Councillor Mohammed Fazal Also attending – Sergeant Chughtai, West Midlands Police Susan East, Highway Steward, Amey Kay Thomas, Neighbourhood Development & Support Unit	
	There were 12 residents in attendance.	
Apologies	Roger Godsiff M.P.	
Agenda Item		Action
1.	Notice of Recordings	Noted
2.	Notes of Last Meeting	Noted
	 Local Innovation Fund Update – Springfield Project Sue Round, Assistant CEO gave a brief update on the progress of the Healthy Village Project funded through LIF and made the following points; A range of activities aimed at helping people who might be isolated, frail or suffer mental health issues to promote emotional well being Activities ranged from Zumba to chair aerobics to dance clubs and healthy cooking sessions. Activities for pregnant women would also be organized at Sparkhill Leisure Centre Gardening projects on allotments and community orchard to help promote well-being and physical fitness Most groups would be volunteer led to help with confidence and pass on skills The Springfield Project had worked with Active Parks and was looking at organizing pop up games in roads and have pop up stands along the Stratford Road in conjunction with Health Exchange for health checks A time table would be produced and would be shared with councillors to help promotion. Highway Issues – Susan East said that since Amey had taken on the contract 50% of roads in Springfield had been treated. The next programme of works was waiting sign off by the council and as soon as it was the list would be shared with councillors. Residents sought information on priority roads for Springfield and suggested that Court Road and Showell Green Lane were in serious need of repair whereas Hayfield Road had been resurfaced but had not needed repair. The meeting was advised that roads were assessed and defects were found underneath 	

the road surface which required repair as in the case of Hayfield Road.

The meeting was advised that each road was assessed and an independent organization scanned the roads to assess conditions in the layers beneath the surface. Every effort was being made to repair as many potholes as possible but the situation had been made worse due to the recent severe weather. Potholes were made safe and Susan undertook to take details from residents at the conclusion of the meeting. Residents urged councillors to request the programme be signed off as a matter of urgency. Reference was made to a tree in Ivor Road that had been radically pruned and Susan undertook to look into the matter and report to the councillors. There was also concerns regarding fly posting and advertising signs being attached to railings and street furniture that had a detrimental effect on the area – Durham, Stratford, Ladypool, Taunton, Springfield & College Roads were all affected. Susan undertook to look into the problem and refer to the specialist team.

3. Ward Priorities

Sergeant Chughtai gave a brief update on crime statistics for the ward as follows;

- Overall crime had increased by 19%, 267 extra crimes in a vear
- Burglaries had increased by 16%, violent crime increased by 6%, robberies increased by 33%
- Half of the violent crime related to domestic abuse, 30 additional calls were being received per month.
- Parking most complaints received on this issue. PCSO
 Martin Peach had been appointed as the lead officer and
 he was also the lead officer for begging.
- Pavement obstruction visits had been made to shops on the Stratford Road with an instruction that they remove the obstruction and this had been done. A meeting had been arranged with a senior manager from Highways to discuss the matter further.

It had been agreed at the previous meeting that the following 2 areas be the focus for ward meetings, to discuss and find possible solutions.

a) Domestic Violence

Half of violent crime reports were related to domestic abuse and therefore a team had been set up to deal with low level abuse where an arrest was not warranted. Officers would visit the home and provide support and advice on anger management, drink, drugs, mental health issues to prevent the situation escalating. In January 25 low level cases had been dealt with by the team and there had not been any repeat calls to the police so far. The team was also trying to raise awareness and had so far been on Unity FM radio and was working to involve mosques. Coercive control was a new offence governed by new legislation to assist in

Sgt Chughtai

dealing with all types of domestic abuse. Increase in reporting was due to people having more confidence to seek help. There was some discussion and Sergeant Chughtai undertook to bring figures on key triggers to the next meeting. In response to questions the meeting was advised that the police worked with local agencies and it was suggested that local schools would benefit from knowing what the police were doing. The meeting was assured that the team did speak to the children in homes they were called to but that reports of assault or serious domestic abuse was referred to a multi-agency team.

In response to questions the meeting was advised that this was a new approach to offer help and support to the victim and perpetrator. The police did not attend in uniform or marked car and worked with local agencies such as The Springfield Project to offer a different perspective.

Sergeant Chughtai welcomed any ideas or offers of help.

b) Parking

Sergeant Chughtai suggested that 2-4 roads be agreed for PCSO Peach to concentrate on as a priority. Parking was an issue across the ward but unfortunately resources were not available to deal with all roads therefore if hot spot areas could be tackled successfully that approach could be replicated across the ward. Residents suggested a community initiative where the police could meet with groups of people who were interested in assisting the police to ensure that the right evidence/photos etc was collected by the community so that prosecutions could be made. Sergeant Chughtai advised it was difficult to prosecute for obstruction via a photo and that often residents were unwilling to act as a witness. Parking was the most complained about problem and it was evident that the community knew how to report.

In response to further comments Sergeant Chughtai said that a social media campaign had focused on prosecutions for obstruction but the message had not reduced the problem, few had challenged the tickets and had repeated the parking. It was felt that pay and display car parks eg Durham Road had exacerbated the problem.

It was acknowledged that part of the problem was the number of cars that households had and there was little that could be done about that but due to inconsiderate and illegal parking cars were driving on the pavement or parking wholly on the pavement putting the safety of pedestrians at risk and it was this that required action. Parents on the way to school and the elderly were particularly at risk from having to walk in the road due to pavement parking. Ivor Road had numerous illegal dropped kerbs that enable cars to be parked across the pavement.

Action:

After some discussion the following roads were agreed as the hot spots for PCSO Peach's attention in the first

Sergeant Chughtai

instance;

Baker Street, Ivor Road, Solihull Road & Grove Road

Sergeant Chughtai undertook to report back to the next meeting on ticket numbers, complaints and whether complaints had reduced in view of actions taken.

Petition – Durham Road Residents Parking Scheme – a resident from Durham Road referred to the parking difficulties in the road and that she had spoken to neighbours about requesting a residents parking scheme. 85% of people had responded in favour and therefore a petition in support of a residents parking scheme for Durham Road was handed to Councillor Hussain who undertook to submit it to the City Council meeting on 13 February.

Cllr Hussain

The meeting was advised that due to car parking charges more people were parking in Durham Road and the double yellow lines in Taunton Road had also added to the problems. There were a number of disabled bay markings in the road but many were no longer valid and the cars parking did not have blue badges. Councillor Hussain said that she had spoken to the District Engineer regarding the disabled bay situation and she would be meeting with him to see if something could be done. Sergeant Chughtai undertook to put information onto WMNow and regular updates on Twitter. A local resident said that she had difficulty accessing the information she wanted on WMNow and she could not recommend it. She felt that as the WMNow system had not been set up in Birmingham there was a local element missing that affected the information provided. Sergeant Chughtai undertook to report that back.

4. Residents Issues

- a) Durham Road, Ambulance in response to comments made regarding an ambulance parked in the middle of Durham Road preventing cars passing and the suggestion of dedicated parking spaces for emergency vehicles in one way roads Councillor Hussain undertook to take up.
- b) Ward Boundary Changes Councillor Hussain briefly outlined the changes to ward boundaries from the local elections in May. The meeting was advised that the police had indicated that the boundaries for neighbourhood policing would not be changing until at least 2019.
- c) Police Station Closures Sparkhill station would be closing and all of the neighbourhood team would be working from Woodbridge Road. Any comments on the closures should be sent to g.chana_57666@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk by Friday.
- d) Councillor Fazal thanked Councillor Hussain for chairing the meetings and for her hard work for the work over the last 2 years.

Cllr Hussain

6.	Authority to Chairman and Officers	Agreed

Meeting ended at 8.45pm