

**Notes of the Bilston East Partnership Environmental Group Meeting
4th June 2007
Innisfallen House**

Present:

Ann Wheeldon	W.C.C Public Protection
Lisa Parmar	Bilston East NSP
Anwar Ulhaq	BE Neighbourhood Manager
Jas Purewal	BE Administrator
Megan Fitzgerald-Plummer	B.R.A.T.T.S
Joan Oram	
Rev Raphael Duckett	St Martins Church
Ron Wright	BRAGGS
Lisa Ansell	CREST
Matt Potts	Bilston Regeneration
Kevin Parry	Bilston Development Project

Apologies

Andy Hickman, John Goalby

1. Introductions

Anwar welcomed everyone to the meeting, introductions were made.

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record.

Matters Arising

Page 2 – Ron queried what the five neighbourhoods were. Lisa Parmar confirmed that there were Bradley (which included Lower Bradley, Rocket Pool and Old Bradley), Loxdale, Lunt, Bilston Town Centre and Carder Crescent/Ladypool.

Item 5 – Estate Walks/Graffiti Sites

Joan has spoken to John regarding the fencing behind Humphries Crescent and because of the problems occurring with the badger set. Joan suggested that the fencing should be replaced with metal fencing.

Megan suggested that contact is made with the Badger group or RSPCA. Joan agreed to contact the RSPCA and keep this group updated. **J.O.**

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John has made enquiries regarding the housing development site on Batman's Hill and found there were no planning issues that had been contravened

John Goalby to feedback to the next meeting. J.G .

2. Terms of Reference

Anwar circulated the Terms of Reference document, this was discussed again for the benefit of members not present at first meeting. The Group agreed with all the points on the Terms of Reference document.

Anwar asked if members could get signed copies back the Partnership team.

3. Action Plan

The Environment element of the action plan was circulated; Anwar talked through the pre-amble and the matrix table.

Anwar mentioned the 'Zero Tolerance' target in relation to Environmental services enforcement (Flytipping) asked whether any thing has deteriorated since the clean up of alleys. Megan agreed with the zero tolerance target and stated the message needed to be clear to anyone dumping.

Anwar said we needed to spread the message in the Neighbourhood. Megan said she would be happy to put an article in the BRATTS newsletter.

Ann Wheeldon explained the process of moving rubbish that has been dumped; Ann was happy to have anything reported to her department as they will then come out and visit the site. She suggested a visit and threat of a statement under caution sometimes has the desired effect in persuading people to modify their behaviour.

Joan Oram referred to a flat on 36a Bilbow Road as the Officer who has let the flat out is aware of a 3 piece suite that has been dumped in the back yard, it was agreed that the 3 piece suite should have been removed before the new tenants took over.

Ron Wright agreed to make inquiries with W Homes as they have an obligation to move everything before a new tenancy. **R.W .**

Anwar asked the meeting to please let him have any amendments/suggestions to the Action Plan. These would be included in a work plan for the Group.

Anwar said the list of orphan sites and green open spaces that had been identified by the Estate Walkabouts etc. would be circulated for the next meeting. The group could then start prioritising on which projects we would focus on initially.

4. Estate Walks

Anwar referred to the list of Estate walks circulated with the Minutes.

Members of the Group were encouraged to attend any of the walks they felt relevant to their particular area or interest.

5. Neighbourhood Recycling Initiative

Anwar pointed out that we need to identify the area for our next NRI (get RID day) which is scheduled for Saturday 7th July.

Anwar will be speaking to Judy Watton in terms of NRI's. Anwar informed all that around 300 household can be involved in the NRI's. Concerns were raised around the limited number of households and number of NRI's being offered to the Neighbourhood. Lisa Ansell suggested the Lunt estate would benefit from a NRI and that the BE Partnership should be challenging agencies in an attempt to gain better local services.

Anwar agreed but pointed out the NRI was a new initiative that service would be subject to evaluation and review. The Partnership will feedback to Enterprise but realistically we cannot expect them to review the service until all the Neighbourhoods have had 2 NRIs.

Anwar reminded the Group that the Partnership had committed the next NRI for the Royal estate but there may be some scope for Bilston East to have a further NRI later in the year due to some slippage in other Neighbourhoods across the City.

Rev Duckett suggested we confirm the Royal Estate for the 2nd NRI and try to get a further one for the Lunt estate if possible.

Ron talked about the plastic recyclable items and felt that this was missing from the service Wolverhampton were providing. Ron suggested a pilot scheme to collect plastic materials.

Megan suggested that we invite some one from the Recycling Initiatives Team to the next Environmental Team to discuss this and other related matters.

6. Bilston Urban Village

Discussions were held around the wooden sheets that have been removed from the BUV site.

Anwar informed all that a special meeting will take place on 25th June regarding the Dudley Street closure. Rev Duckett said it would be a good idea to give Simon Lucas some ideas of Road improvements so he has time to reflect before the meeting on 25th June. Some suggestions were as follows:

Re-open Bankfield Road, one way up to Salop Street. Implement a traffic controlled system at the Salop Street/ Bank Street junction in conjunction with a pedestrian crossing.

This would need to be complemented by a widening of Highfields Road from Salop Street to Dudley Street junction to enable a right turn filter and traffic lights at the Dudley Street junction.

There would need to be some consideration regarding the car parking outside the shops at the junction.

There was a request to limited access to Baldwin Street to prevent 'rat-running' in the area.

These were noted and would be included in notes to be sent to Simon & Mark at Bilston Regeneration Team.

7. Any Other Business

Ron Wright asked if the Neighbourhood Safety Group could discuss an article he came across in last weeks Express and Star regarding members of the community been asked for statements and youths being told they not be punished if they apologised. Anwar suggested this was likely to be a national issue rather than something affecting Neighbourhoods, he would make some enquires as to the story and feedback to the Neighbourhood Safety Group if appropriate **A.U.**

Joan asked for feedback regarding the cameras at Lower Bradley, Lisa confirmed that there are no matters to report. No one had reported any instances of ASB etc whilst the camera was there and that the Domehawk is likely to be moved to another location shortly.

Kevin informed the group of the GAP site on Bilston High Street which was previously Stuart's restaurant. If any one is interested in using this site free of charge please contact Kevin Parry.

8. Date and Time of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of this group will be held on; Monday 16th July at 2pm, VTBC