

Neighbourhood Governance Note of Southall Green Ward Forum

held on Thursday 16th September 2010 at the Dominion Centre, The Green, Southall UB2 4BQ

Present: Councillors, Jasbir Anand (JA) and Kamaljit Dhindsa (KD) Swarn Kang (SK) (Chair)

Attendees: 31 residents attended the meeting

Officers present: Dennis Frost (DF) Neighbourhood Governance Coordinator
PC Gwyn Hunt – Southall Green Safer Neighbourhoods Team

No.	Note	Question /Action Point
1.	Welcome and Introductions	
	<p>The meeting began at 7:03 pm, with Councillor Swarn Kang welcoming those present. He introduced his fellow councillors Jasbir Anand and Kamaljit Dhindsa and the supporting officers noted above</p> <p>Apologies: Anjul Malhotra and Jane Strachan – Ealing Council Envirocrime</p> <p>Councillor Kang announced that he proposed taking agenda item 3) Local police update first. This was because PC Hunt was required at a meeting of the Safer Neighbourhoods Panel, which was taking place at the same time as the ward forum.</p> <p>PC Hunt circulated the ward's most recent crime figures and</p>	<p>Southall Green Safer Neighbourhoods Team – details</p> <p>Team members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sgt Richard Moelwyn-Hughes

No.	Note	Question /Action Point
	<p>spoke about recent police activity in the ward.</p> <p>A Police raid on a property in Balfour Road had recovered various illegally held items, which another raid in Hammond Road had uncovered a cannabis factory.</p> <p>The Police team were working closely with Featherstone High School and Belmont Health Centre, providing assistance and support.</p> <p>PC Hunt welcomed the extension of the Alert Box scheme, which allowed shopkeepers to contact each other in case of trouble.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC Anne-Marie Pilkington • PC Gwyn Hunt • PCSO Daniel Fellows • PCSO James Fulton <p>Address</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 4, The Arches Business Centre, Merrick Road, Southall UB2 4AU <p>Phone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 020 8721 2047 <p>E-mail: SouthallGreen.snt@met.police.uk</p> <p>Web site: www.met.police.uk/saferneighbourhoods</p> <p>SK asked for questions</p> <p><i>What are the Police doing about the growth of unregistered houses in multiple occupation (HMOs)?</i></p> <p>PC Hunt agreed this was a significant problem and his team were working closely with Ealing Council on tackle this.</p> <p><i>Would installing CCTV help catch more criminals?</i></p>

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		<p>PC Hunt replied that, while CCTV was a useful tool, it does not offer a solution to all criminal activity. For example, drug dealers are often aware of CCTV cameras, and hide their faces to avoid detection.</p>
2.	<p>Notes of the last Ward Forum – 22 July 2010 - matters arising</p>	
	<p>These were noted as being a correct record of the meeting</p> <p>SK worked through the notes and asked for matters arising</p>	<p>Page 4 – Featherstone High School</p> <p>Rabindara Pathak, Chair of Governors at Featherstone High School, spoke about a petition opposing the school’s use of Southall Recreation Ground. Mr Pathak countered what he believed were a number of inaccuracies in the petition, in particular that the school wished to buy part of the Rec., thereby excluding the public.</p> <p>Councillors Anand and Dhindsa declared their interest in this matter as governors of the school, although Councillor Anand noted that she had indicated her wish to stand down from this position due to pressure from her other council commitments.</p> <p>The ward councillors confirmed that Ealing Council would not be either giving or selling part of this public open space to the school.</p> <p>Gerry Wadwa, head teacher at the school, reiterated his comments at the last meeting – that the school wished to work with the local community to enhance the facilities in the Recreation Ground, for use by both the school and the public.</p> <p>A long discussion then took place, during which a number of residents expressed their reservations and objections about the school’s intentions. Councillors proposed, and it was agreed, that the school should put their proposals in writing, to be considered at the</p>

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		<p>next ward forum.</p> <p>Item 1 matters arising (page 4) <i>What progress has been made with the items listed under headings 5.8 – 5.13?</i></p> <p>Councillor Anand replied that:</p> <p>Items 5.8 and 5.9 were the subject of continuing dialogue with Hounslow Council</p> <p>5.10 Filter Lane – Brent Road to Western Road. This planned road improvement scheme was being considered by councillors, with the intention that the council’s Cabinet would discuss the proposals at its October meeting.</p> <p>5.11 – Scotts Road – pavement parking. This scheme had been approved and was being scheduled for implementation</p> <p>5.12 – Brent Road – waiting restrictions. These were part of the scheme noted in 5.10 above</p> <p>5.13 – Johnson Road / Balfour Rad – mini roundabout. Council officers had examined this proposal, and had advised that it should not be implemented.</p> <p>7. Public Forum – Unauthorised mosque in Hayes Road (page 5)</p> <p>DF reported that he had facilitated an ongoing discussion between residents and the council’s planning department, in order that concerns could be relayed to Hounslow Council.</p>
4.	Envirocrime report	

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	<p>DF reported that unfortunately, a combination of staff leave and bereavement meant there was no report on this occasion.</p>	<p>Council's Envirocrime Team details:</p> <p>Anjul Malhotra, Envirocrime Prevention Officer</p> <p>Ealing Council, Customer Service Centre, Perceval House, 14 -16 Uxbridge Road, Ealing W5 2HL</p> <p>Office hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm</p> <p>Tel: (020) 8825 6000 (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm)</p> <p>E-mail: graffiti_flytipping@ealing.gov.uk</p> <p>KD asked for questions:</p>
5.	<p>Ward funded projects for 2010/11 - to finalise the ward budget – attached</p> <p>Councillor Kang introduced. He drew the meeting's attention to the published budget, which had been updated following proposals made at the last meeting.</p> <p>A number of suggested projects had been added to the budget. However, council officers had advised that a roundabout at Williams Road / Regina Road junction would not improve road safety.</p> <p>Councillor Anand asked that two of the benches scheduled for relocation to Southall Recreation Ground, should be fitted with shelters – and that the cost of these be added to the budget.</p> <p>The budget proposed spending £19,080 of the available £48,000</p>	

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	<p>and – with the additional cost of the two park bench shelters – was approved.</p> <p>SK asked DF to prepare a report for the Leader of the Council, recommending that these funds be approved for spending on the ward projects listed in the budget.</p>	
6.	<p>Council initiatives involving ward forums</p> <p>A briefing note was available at the meeting, advising residents that ward forums will be able to bid for additional future funding for parks and open spaces projects – and that improved ward recycling rates will attract more funds.</p>	A copy of the briefing note is attached to these notes.
7.	<p>Dagmar Mews / Rear of 74 King Street</p> <p>DF reported that Mr Kotecha – chair of the ward Safer Neighbourhoods Panel – had asked for this item to be placed on the agenda. However as Mr Kotecha’s panel was meeting at the same time as the ward forum (see item 1 above) this matter would have to be deferred.</p>	
8.	<p>Public Forum - issues and questions from residents</p> <p>Councillor Kang asked for questions</p>	<p><i>Why have Purple Parking been granted continued use of the Southall Gas Works site? Should they not relocate elsewhere?</i></p> <p>Councillor Anand explained that the ward councillors had opposed the renewal of Purple Parking’s application. However the decision did not rest with them. Councillor Anand understood that the company was considering relocation to their premises in the Bath Road.</p> <p><i>When will the Brent Road Traffic Scheme be available for public</i></p>

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		<p><i>consultation? Also the impact of the right turn from the Tesco site at Hayes Road continues to cause congestion.</i></p> <p>These had been dealt with already in item 2 <i>matters arising</i></p> <p><i>What has been the reason for the growth of unlicensed houses in multiple occupation (HMOs) in recent years?</i></p> <p>Councillor Anand explained this had already been raised with the Police – see item 1 above. The cause was continued and increasing pressure on existing housing. A council officer would be invited to the next meeting, to explain the licensing process.</p> <p><i>Traffic Lights in Norwood Green</i></p> <p>DF replied that he had asked Norwood Green councillors for their views on whether the lights should be replaced with a roundabout. He awaited their responses.</p> <p><i>When will the Recreation Ground toilets be refurbished?</i></p> <p>Councillor Anand explained that councillors had discussed this project at length with council officers – who had recommended that refurbishing the adjacent pavilion and finding an occupier, would allow the toilets to be re-opened safely.</p> <p><i>Praying on the highway is unlawful. Why does the council not take action?</i></p> <p>Councillor Kang replied this is a sensitive matter and would not be resolved by simply moving people.</p> <p><i>When will the benches outside Featherstone Primary School and the</i></p>

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		<p><i>New Bharat Coach Station be replaced?</i></p> <p>Councillor Anand replied that replacing the benches was not recommended, because the locations will become the focus for street drinking and other anti-social behaviour.</p> <p><i>Placing litter bins at Ellison and Witley Gardens</i></p> <p>DF replied that Jane Strachan, council's Envirocrime Manager, was taking charge of this project. He will check with her.</p>
9.	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>This was confirmed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thursday 10th February 2011, Dominion Centre, The Green, Southall 	<p><i>Why cannot the ward forum meet much more regularly – once per month?</i></p> <p>Councillor Kang replied that holding such frequent meetings was not realistic.</p>

Dennis Frost
20: September: 2010