

# Neighbourhood Governance

## Note of Southall Green Ward Forum

held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2012 at the Dominion Centre, The Green, Southall UB2 4BQ

**Present:** Councillors, Swarn Kang (Chair), Jasbir Anand, Kamaljit Dhindsa

**Attendees:** 6 residents attended the meeting

**Officers present:** Sgt Richard Moelwyn-Hughes, PC Anne Marie Pilkington – Southall Green Safer Neighbourhoods Team  
 Mark Wiltshire – Head of Regulatory Services  
 Mark Reynolds – Community Safety  
 Dennis Frost (DF) Neighbourhood Governance Coordinator

| No. | Note   | Question /Action Point |
|-----|--|------------------------|
| 1.  | <b>Chair's welcome and introductions</b>   |                        |
|     | The meeting began at 7.06pm, with <b>Councillor Swarn Kang</b> welcoming those present. He introduced the council's supporting officers noted above.   |                        |
| 2.  | <b>Notes of the last Southall Green ward forum – 20<sup>th</sup> September</b><br>- to confirm accuracy  |                        |
|     | The notes were confirmed as being an accurate account of the meeting.  |                        |
| 3.  | <b>Matters arising</b><br><b>- licensing matters – item 3, pages 2/3</b><br>In answer to residents' requests for an update, Councillor Kang reported that the Special Area policy, designed to |                        |

| No. | Note   | Question /Action Point   |
|-----|--|--|
|     | <p>limit the number of licensed premises in The Broadway / South Road area, would be extended to The Green / King Street, following representation from councillors.</p> <p>Councillor Dhindsa noted that other licensing matters would be discussed in Item 6.</p>  |  |
| 4.  | <p><b>Local police update from Safer Neighbourhoods team - Sgt Richard Moelwyn- Hughes</b></p>   |  |
|     | <p>Sgt Molewyn-Hughes reported that his team continue to be heavily engaged identifying houses in multiple occupation and back land developments. A recent visit had been to a property accommodating 20 people – far more than was legal or safe.</p> <p>Two of the team’s PCSOs had been promoted to police constables, leaving him short staffed. However replacements were being recruited.</p> <p>The new police commissioner had given a strong commitment to high profile policing. In response, Sgt Molewyn-Hughes reported on lots of arrests for drug dealing. His team also continued to work with local betting shops, to discourage customers from loitering outside.</p> <p>Regular Friday patrols were continuing at the Central Jamia Mosque, Montague Way – to deal with traffic congestion and illegal parking.</p> <p>Councillor Kang asked if there were questions for the police.</p> | <p>Southall Green Safer Neighbourhoods Team – details</p> <p><b>Team members</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sgt Richard Moelwyn-Hughes</li> <li>• PC Anne-Marie Pilkington</li> <li>• PS Gwyn Hunt</li> <li>• PC Rebecca Rowland</li> <li>• PCSO Rosalind Hyatt</li> </ul> <p><b>E-mail:</b><br/> <a href="mailto:SouthallGreen.snt@met.police.uk">SouthallGreen.snt@met.police.uk</a></p> <p><b>Web site:</b><br/> <a href="http://www.met.police.uk/saferneighbourhoods">www.met.police.uk/saferneighbourhoods</a></p> <p><i>What is being done to tackle anti-social behaviour in Southall Recreation Ground?</i></p> |

| No. | Note  | Question /Action Point  |
|-----|---|---|
|     |   | Sgt Molewyn-Huges replied that the Rec. is patrolled regularly. DF added that the current improvement programme included installing a ward funded CCTV camera in the Rec., to help with identifying anti-social behaviour and illegal activity.   |
| 5.  | <p data-bbox="271 424 1025 523"><b>Envirocrime report</b><br/>- written report from Seema Patel and Ruston Wyatt – Envirocrime Officers</p> <p data-bbox="271 563 1025 692">Councillor Kang introduced a written report from the ward envirocrime officers covering the period September 2011 - March 2012. Copies of the report were available at the meeting.</p> <p data-bbox="271 732 1025 861">Officers continue to be engaged in a range of work, including clearing rubbish from private land, getting street cable boxes repaired, dealing with street trading and illegal fly posting.</p> | <p data-bbox="1072 499 1563 528">Council’s Envirocrime Team – details:</p> <p data-bbox="1072 563 2007 628">Ruston Wyatt (Seema Patel is currently on maternity leave) Envirocrime Prevention Officers</p> <p data-bbox="1072 668 1839 764">Ealing Council, Customer Service Centre, Perceval House,<br/>14 -16 Uxbridge Road, Ealing W5 2HL<br/>Tel: (020) 8825 6000</p> <p data-bbox="1072 804 1487 833">Office hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm</p> <p data-bbox="1072 873 1771 938">From the front page of the council’s web site, click on:<br/><i>Report or request it</i></p> <p data-bbox="1072 978 1536 1007"><a href="http://www.ealing.gov.uk/customers">http://www.ealing.gov.uk/customers</a></p> |
| 6.  | <p data-bbox="271 1082 1025 1179"><b>Licensing update</b><br/>- betting shops, licensed premises ans HMO enforcement: update from Mark Wiltshire – head of regulatory services</p> <p data-bbox="271 1219 1025 1382">Mark dealt first with betting shops. He confirmed that the council appreciated Southall residents’ strong desire that no more betting shops should be licensed. The council’s cabinet had now adopted a ‘strong presumption’ against granting new licences. However the council faced a</p>  |   |

| No. | Note  | Question /Action Point |
|-----|---|------------------------|
|     | <p>possible challenge from the gambling industry if it adopted a unilateral 'no more betting shops' policy.</p> <p>The public consultation last autumn had given very robust feedback in favour of such a policy, but further work was now required. This included a proactive programme of policing around betting shops, to deal with anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>Councillor Kang noted that this approach had already made a marked difference to the street scene around betting shops, which he welcomed.</p> <p>Mark then spoke about the work of the new Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) enforcement team. Over 1,000 inspections of HMOs has taken place in recent months, and illegally constructed outhouses and buildings have been targeted.</p> <p>There is some frustration for officers, who have to give 24hrs notice of inspections, thereby allowing owners and occupiers to disguise any overcrowding or illegal occupation.</p> <p>The planning route – of obtaining orders to demolish illegally built structures – is a drawn out matter, with the necessary delays in the process.</p> <p>Mark confirmed that the council was funding a three year programme of joint working between council officers, the police and the UK Border Agency, to both identify illegal immigration, and the link between this and HMOs.</p> |                        |

| No. | Note   | Question /Action Point  |
|-----|--|---|
|     | <p>Councillors welcomed Mark's report and were pleased to note that the council was taking a number of initiatives to tackle these long standing issues.</p> <p>Councillor Kang asked for questions:</p>   | <p><i>Can CCTV help identify problems around betting shops?</i></p> <p>Mark Wiltshire replied that CCTV was a very important tool in identifying individuals and groups involved in illegal activity.</p> <p><i>Shouldn't there be more afford able housing for people in need?</i></p> <p>Councillor Anand commented that the Southall Gas Works development would generate a considerable amount of affordable housing. In addition the council's criteria for access to public housing was being re-written, to take account of matters such as long term, stable residency and a record of community involvement.</p> |
| 7.  | <p><b>Ward funded projects for 2011/12</b></p>   |   |
|     | <p><b>-Update on 2011/12 ward funded projects in progress</b></p> <p>DF reported that the projects to put parking restrictions in Dagmar Mews, and The Common were complete.</p> <p>The improvements to the grassed areas in Western Road and Dudley road were still being worked on. DF will chase these.</p> <p>In Southall Recreation Ground:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- additional public exercise machines had been installed</li> <li>- the two park bench canopies were now on order</li> <li>- quotes for new footpaths and borders were being sought</li> </ul> |   |

| No. | Note   | Question /Action Point  |
|-----|--|---|
|     | <p>The two ward grants, to <i>The Southall Story</i> exhibition and to Havelock Family Centre, had been made.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Consideration of additional 2011/12 projects</b><br/>DF reported that £5,500 revenue funds remained, and it was agreed that these funds should be carried forward to the new 2012/13 financial year</li> <li>- <b>Early suggestions for 2012/13 projects</b><br/>A number of projects were suggested, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- parking restrictions at Featherstone Terrace, outside the social club</li> <li>- creating an ambulance bay outside the clinic in Featherstone Road</li> <li>- fencing the paved area by the Sri Guru Singh Sabha Gurdwara in Havelock Road</li> <li>- community allotment scheme on land near Featherstone Primary School</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |   |
| 8.  | <p><b>Public Forum</b></p> <p>Councillor Kang asked for questions and comments</p> <p>Councillor Anand welcomed the recent close to £7m funding allocation to Southall, including the plans to improve The Broadway. She also urged residents to contribute to the Southall Big Conversation, which was taking place shortly. Details were available at the meeting.</p>   | <p><i>Can the canal bank be cleared of rubbish?</i></p> <p>Councillor Anand noted that the problem was particularly on the Hounslow controlled side – Ealing had a well-established volunteering scheme, which cleared the towpath regularly. DF agreed to approach Hounslow Council, to ask for their help improving the canal bank.</p> |

| No. | Note  | Question /Action Point |
|-----|---|------------------------|
| 9.  | <p data-bbox="264 284 595 316"><b>Dates of next meetings</b></p> <p data-bbox="264 320 1003 352">Early notice was provided of the next round of meetings:</p> <ul data-bbox="286 384 629 488" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="286 384 589 416">- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June</li> <li data-bbox="286 421 618 453">- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September</li> <li data-bbox="286 458 629 488">- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2013</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="264 520 999 552">To be held at the Dominion Centre, The Green, Southall</p> |                        |

Dennis Frost  
03: April: 2012