RUBERY PACT - Notes of Meeting Held On Monday 14th October 2019 at 7.00pm

At Waseley Hills High School, School Road, Rubery

Present: John Horwood, Chairman, District Councillor Adrian Kriss, Cheryl Welsh, Ian Ring and 30 Rubery residents

1. Apologies: S Nicholls, J Earles

The chairman opened the meeting explaining that unfortunately there would be no Police representation at the meeting due to an incident earlier in the evening that was occupying local officers.

2. Police Report

 The crime data below is supplied by our local West Mercia Police unit and is for the three beat areas in Rubery covered by our Safer Neighbourhood Police Team.

 The chart shows that total key crimes for the third quarter fell by 16 from 68 to 52 compared with the same quarter last year. The main area of change was for Theft and Handling which reduced by 19 crimes year on year. The total of 52 crimes in 91 days is approximately one crime every two days.

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| RUBERY CRIME SUMMARY FOR QUARTER ENDING 30th SEPTEMBER 2019(Covering 3 Beat Areas for Waseley, Central and Beacon) |
| Crime Description | Jul2018 | Aug2018 | Sep2018 | **Total Q3 2018** | Jul2019 | Aug2019 | Sep2019 | **Total Q3 2019** | Change 2019 v 2018 |
| Burglary Residential | 3 | 3 | 1 | **7** | 1 | 4 | 3 | **8** | 1 |
| Burglary - Other | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** | 0 |
| Criminal Damage | 2 | 3 | 5 | **10** | 3 | 3 | 4 | **10** | 0 |
| Drug Offences | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** | 1 | 0 | 0 | **1** | 1 |
| Fraud & Forgery | 0 | 0 | 1 | **1** | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** | (1) |
| Violent Crimes | 3 | 6 | 2 | **11** | 4 | 2 | 3 | **9** | (2) |
| Theft & Handling | 9 | 14 | 4 | **27** | 4 | 2 | 2 | **8** | (19) |
| Other Key Crimes | 4 | 3 | 5 | **12** | 8 | 8 | 0 | **16** | 4 |
| **Total Key Crimes** | **21** | **29** | **18** | **68** | **21** | **19** | **12** | **52** | **(16)** |

 It was not possible to discuss the above data due to the absence of a Police representative.

3. Waseley Hills High School Report

 Assistant Head Teacher, Mrs Joce Williams reported on recent events at the school, as follows.

a) External exam results in the summer had been creditable with 96% passes of A level papers in grades A to E and 60% of students going on to university/higher education. The GCSE year group achieved excellent results and one student achieved the highest mark in the country in the Psychology paper.

b) 6th Form student numbers have grown with 50 new students enrolling for the lower sixth.

 Head girl Lauren Bent announced the dates of two events that members of the community are invited to. Firstly, on Wed 11th Dec - Seniors Tea Party in the 6th Form Common Room from 2.00pm until 3.30pm. In order to assist with catering planning guests who wish to attend are asked to book a place by phoning 0121 457 4767. Secondly on Thurs 5th Dec at 7.00pm, the Annual Carol Service will be held at St Chad's Church. She also appealed for any donations of furniture for the 6th Form Common Room, e.g. chairs, settees, coffee tables, etc, and finally reported that students continue to work closely with the Rubery In Bloom project in various ways.

4. Action Points From Previous Meetings

 a) Speeding cars in Waseley Road. - The local Police SNT are aware of this incident and are monitoring the situation.

 b) Inconsiderate parking outside Beaconside School - Councillor A Kriss has had discussions with the Head Teacher and various solutions are being considered.

 c) Anti Social Behaviour by quad bike riders - The local police have requested that the Safer Roads Partnership conduct some speed monitoring and enforcement.

5. Other Ongoing Issues

 a) New Rose & Crown Development - There has been no change in the status of the sale of the land at the side of the New Rose & Crown by Andrew Grant Commercial, with planning permission for 9 two bedroom properties, planning for which had been approved last October. The pub is not included in the offer for sale.

 b) Waseley Hills Cemetery - There is no additional news about the development of this site in New Inns Lane.

 c) The landlord of the car park at the rear of the Co-op has indicated that they will be installing cameras to record VRN using the car park and levy a charge for vehicles parking for more than two hours. There will be no pay and display facilities, so drivers will need to register a credit card to enable charges to be paid.

 d) A decision on the future of Rubery Library had been deferred by Worcester County Council until their meeting on 12th December and the indications are that any proposals will be phased in over a few years.

 e) There were no representatives of the proposed Rubery Parish Council Steering Group present and no new information available. It was considered that if this proposal were to be progressed it should be done at a separate meeting to PACT.

6. Rubery Regeneration

 Cheryl Welsh, Rubery Realm Enhancement Programme Manager, reported there is £32,000 of the £100,000 allocated to this scheme still to be spent, and a number of projects are under evaluation, including an upgrade to the public toilets at the entrance to St Chad's Park, and the provision of additional seating in New Road. She has also been in discussion with the Rubery Village Association on measures to smarten the appearance of shop frontages.

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7. New Items Raised For Discussion

. a) Disappointment was expressed that Councillor Peter McDonald has not attended the last two PACT meetings. It was noted that he was attending a Bromsgrove Council Planning Committee meeting on this evening. Peter has advised that if any constituent has any issues they wish to raise with him, he holds a surgery at Rubery Library of the first Saturday of every month.

 b) A suggestion was made to alter the PACT meeting time from 7.00pm to 7.30pm to allow people more time attend. One of the reasons for the 7.00pm start is the use of the school hall and the attendance of teachers who stay over after school to be at the meeting

8. Any Other Business

 a) Rubery In Bloom - Lorna Ockendon reported that once again we were awarded a Level 5 - "outstanding" assessment by the Heart of England in Bloom judges. There are currently 157 flower boxes positioned around the village, planted and watered by more than 150 volunteers plus students at WHHS. New boxes are made at Raeside Occupational Therapy Dept using recycled plastic to replicate wood. The delivery of winter pansies for planting is planned for 28th October.

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 b) Neighbourhood Watch - Jim Duggan reported that the recruitment drive for new members in Whetty Lane had been completed with 32 households joining. Two other roads had expressed interest in joining and the canvassing will take place in the new year. He stressed that it is essential that any new group that is formed has a coordinator to deliver newsletters, collect annual subs of £1 and be a point of contact for the group.

 c) Rubery Drama Group - The drama group's next production will be "Stepping Out" and will be performed at the Beacon Church Hall from 17th to 20th October.

9. Date of Next Meeting

 The next PACT meeting will be held on Monday 20th January 2020 at 7.00pm at Waseley Hills High School.

10. Closing Remarks

 The Chairman closed the meeting and thanked everyone for attending and for their contributions, and also thanked the School for the use of the hall and the audio visual equipment for the meeting.