

RUBERY PACT – Notes Of Meeting Held On Monday 6th June 2016 at 7.00pm
At Rubery Social Club, New Road, Rubery

Present: J Horwood, Chairman, Rev. I Ring, County Councillor & District Councillor P McDonald, J Duggan (NHW), and 19 residents of Rubery (list on file) and a representative of the Bromsgrove Standard

Apologies were received from C McDonald, Rev. C Turner, E Dodds, J & J Fitzgerald, D Dewson, G Wiseman, L Shaw, C Barrett

1. Police Report

PC Tim Burling gave details of 48 reported crimes in Rubery from 1st May to 6th June, which can be summarised as follows

Burglary	3
Criminal damage	4
Drug offences	7
Violent crime	9
Theft & handling stolen goods	11
Other recorded crimes	14
Total	48

A more detailed copy of his report will be distributed to email recipients of these minutes.

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2. Matters Arising From Previous Meeting

a) Grit Bins on Rednal Hill Lane

There has been no progress to remove the damaged grit bin, but Peter McDonald will make arrangements for this work to be actioned.

b) Damaged Grass Verges in Segbourne Road

Action to rectify the damaged grass verges has been requested, but the timing of the work is in the hands of the contractors.

c) The Poor Condition of Road Surface in Whetty Lane

Peter McDonald stated that this area of road is planned for resurfacing by the end of July 2016

3 Progress of Action Points from Earlier Meetings.

a) Unsafe Footpath Outside Lloyds Chemists

The pavement outside Lloyds Chemists has been resurfaced following refurbishment of the shop.

b) Cleaning Blocked Drains in Beacon Hill

Peter McDonald said that the drains in Beacon Hill are scheduled to be cleansed on a regular basis by the District Council engineers. Checks by various residents on revealed that the majority of the drains in Beacon Hill are still full of silt which prevents the drains from functioning. It was thought that the drains silt up after heavy rain, but the situation should be monitored for review at the next meeting.

c) The Height of Earthworks in Callowbrook Park

Peter McDonald reported that he had held discussions with the local water management team, and work will take place to spread the excess soil across the park at a convenient time so as not to restrict the use of the park by children on holiday from school.

4. Rubery Regeneration

Peter McDonald was asked to update the meeting on any developments since the last PACT meeting on 7/03/16.

He said that there had been one meeting of the Regeneration team and a decision made not to use external consultants and use internal resources to complete the review. It had been noted that Rubery had a lower level of empty shops than other communities and one reason for this was thought to be a higher level of parking spaces which allowed shoppers to shop more conveniently.

5.. New Issues Raised During The Meeting

a) Parking on Pavements in Brookend Drive

Concern was expressed about the habitual parking of cars on pavements in Brookend Drive which obstruct pedestrians, push chair users and mobility scooters. A long but inconclusive discussion took place in which P C T Burling said that every incident is different, and parking offences are the responsibility of Bromsgrove District Council, and difficult for police to take action, but he will request that local PCSOs focus on this location in the near future.

b) Motor Accidents on the A38 dual carriageway

It was noted that there have been an abnormal number of traffic incidents on the A38 Rubery by pass. P McDonald said a speed reduction plan had been agreed several years ago but not implemented due to cut backs. There needs to be some traffic management focus to identify if circumstances have changed and action is required.

6, Combined Local Authorities

P McDonald advised the meeting that discussions are taking place to decide if Bromsgrove District Council will vote to enter a dialogue with the proposed West Midlands local government body which will have an elected mayor. Worcester County Council has decided to remain independent.

7. Contribution From Waseley Hills Students

There were no representatives from the School at the meeting due to examination activities.

8, Community Announcements

a) Jim Duggan stated that the local Neighbourhood Watch group in Rubery was well supported with over 450 members and an exercise is currently in progress to reactivate the scheme in Maple Road, The Group holds four meetings a year at the Hawthorns Social Club and issues two newsletters a year to members.

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b) Lorna Ockendon gave an update of the activities of Rubery in Bloom which now has 140 plant boxes on the corners of most roads in Rubery, and also maintains the large planters in front of the shops in New Road. The group are planning to plant out the 'recreational area' next to Oulsnam's in New Road. The Scheme will be assessed for the Heart of England in Bloom Competition on 26th July and hope to retain the top grade (Level 5) that was achieved last year.

They will also be repeating their best front garden and best container competitions this year which will be judged in mid July. Anybody wishing to participate should register their plans with Stan Hawkesford on 453 9675 by 9th July.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next PACT meeting will be held on Monday 5th September 2016 at 7.00pm at Waseley Hills High School. School Road

The chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm and thanked the staff and members at the Social Club for the use of the hall.