

Petitions Committee

Minutes - 26 June 2015

Attendance

Members of the Petitions Committee

Cllr Greg Brackenridge (Chair)
Cllr Val Evans (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Daniel Warren

Councillors in attendance

Cllr Malcolm Gwinnett

Employees

Laura Gilyead
Chris Jones
Dave Millington
Steve Woodward

Graduate Management Trainee
Senior Development Officer
Compliance Manager
Head of Service Public Realm

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item No. *Title*

The Chair thanked the previous chair and vice-chair for leading the Petitions Committee in the last municipal year.

- 1 **Apologies for absence**
Apologies were received from Councillor Bhupinder Gakhal and Councillor Steve Evans in his capacity as Cabinet Member for City Economy.
- 2 **Declarations of interest**
There were no declarations of interest.
- 3 **Minutes of previous meeting**
Resolved:
 That the minutes of the meeting held on 24 April 2015 be approved as a true record.
- 4 **Matters arising**
There were no matters arising.
- 5 **Schedule of outstanding petitions**
Resolved:
 That the following petitions be closed:
 1. Prosser Street Cul-de-Sac Parking
 2. Closure of the Old Tree Nursery for Adults with Learning Disabilities
 3. Various Issues from Householders Lanesfield mainly Mount Road
- 6 **Fencing off Woodcross open space**

Councillor Gwinnett apologised for this petition and explained that it had political motivation from Mr Tom Stokes. Cllr Gwinnett agreed with the information presented in the report and explained that negotiations were underway regarding Woodcross Nursing Home. Cllr Gwinnett explained that when this is presented to the Planning Committee, money from the section 106 funding will be sought to develop the open space at Woodcross. He explained that he had discussed this with residents who were happy with this way forward.

Steve Woodward, Head of Service, Public Realm, explained that the area is an open space not a park and the Council does not have the necessary funding to put fencing around the open space. He reported that fencing off the area would not guarantee a reduction in anti-social behaviour. The committee was made aware that if funding becomes available, the Council would consult with residents as to how to spend at the Woodcross open space.

Resolved:

1. That the decision by Public Realm not to extend the fencing around the perimeter of Woodcross open space be supported.
2. That concerned residents be advised to make contact with the Police and Wolverhampton's Anti-Social Behaviour Team to report any issues raised or identified on the Woodcross open space and, if appropriate, the Police and Wolverhampton's Anti-social Behaviour Team exercise their powers to obtain identities of, and disperse groups of, individuals that are causing nuisance or offending behaviour.