



Your Focus Team

Malcolm Gwinnett, Mike Heap,

Richard Whitehouse & Sandra Terry

*Wish you all a happy Xmas
and a prosperous New Year*

Garage sites

Your Focus Team have submitted Housing Minor Works bids for a range of improvements to our garage sites. They have asked for gating at the Swann Road site. Re-surfacing, painting, gating and lighting at the Genge Avenue site, and painting at a number of sites across Woodcross. Sandra Terry, "I know your Team are making it a high priority to improve our rather neglected garage sites and this should be another step towards this goal."



Green Corns



Cllr Malcolm Gwinnett addressed an outdoor meeting of Woodcross residents and advised them that Green Corns had not followed correct planning procedures.

Cllr Malcolm Gwinnett can confirm that Green Corns have decided to pull out of the area. He said "A whole host of people have been responsible for this victory; I can only say that I, along with my fellow councillors, am proud to be part of this success."

Street Lamps

As promised by Cllr Mike Heap in the last Focus the street lights in Pritchett, Crawford, and Hill Avenues have now been erected and are awaiting wiring. Sandra Terry can now also report that because of ongoing illegal activities at the top of SpringVale Park new improved lighting has been installed in Ettingshall Park Farm Lane. She can also report because of representations by Cllr Richard Whitehouse, new street lamps are planned next year for Fieldhouse Road and Genge Avenue.



Cllr Mike Heap makes progress on new street lighting

New Fencing

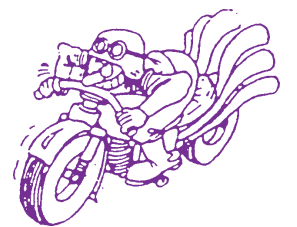
Cllr Richard Whitehouse has obtained new fencing for the maisonettes at the junction of Beach Avenue and Brynmawr Road. He hoped to get more substantial metal fencing but it proved too costly. However, the new fencing is a vast improvement over the old dilapidated lot and a great improvement to security.



Fencing Hilton Playing Fields

The residents of Hilton Road estate have been plagued with motorcycles across Hilton playing fields. Your Focus Team have been in consultation with the Police who have already arrested two persons involved in this. They have assured us they will continue to take action over this matter.

Through the Area Forum Cllr Whitehouse has pressed with Lanesfield Tenants and Residents Chair, Gladys Pearson, for fencing across the top of the site. £3000 has been allocated and we are now trying to get match funding through the Housing Minor Works programme. Cllr Heap said, "Local people should not have to put up with the noise of these bikes and the danger they pose to legitimate users of the field."



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Dovedale Road Improvements



Many idiot drivers are still speeding along Dovedale Road, passing the bollards on the wrong side, and threatening the lives of others. Your Focus Team has had Road Safety look at the issue and they are prepared to put in high level repeater signs and perhaps double-bollards to aid people crossing the road. However, there is no money available to do such work in the short term, but your Focus Team is confident that it will be done in the future.

Hill Avenue School playing fields, Ward Grove

Agreement has been reached, in principal, for Leisure Services to take over Hill Avenue School playing fields in Ward Grove. However, such land transfers involving Education owned land have to be agreed by the Department for Education and Science in Whitehall, London. This can take time and if transfer is agreed then Leisure Services will want to construct high fencing behind the goal areas to protect residents' gardens. In the meantime the school is still responsible for the fields but have no money for their upkeep and so they are likely to remain overgrown for a while. Your Liberal Democrat councillors will continue to assist in any way.

Minor Concerns

Cllr Richard Whitehouse has had the hawthorn bush at the junction of Fieldhouse Road and Kenilworth Crescent removed since it was a danger to pedestrians.

He has also reported the missing sign at the top of Fieldhouse Road and the broken one at Sherrans Dell. In addition the sign on Wolverhampton Road East opposite Dovedale Road has been cleaned.

Alleyways in Woodcross

The alleyways between Clare Crescent and Smout Crescent; Dawson Avenue, Beach Avenue and Woodcross Lane; Bate Street and Brynmawr Road have become quick getaway routes for thieves and thugs. They are also being used as illicit drug and drinking dens.

Your local Cllrs along with the local police are working to get these closed. However, legislation does make it difficult and long winded and results will not be immediate. Cllr Mike Heap said, "We have to start action because of the obvious problems of antisocial behaviour that residents are experiencing."

Bus Shelters in Woodcross



Centro has agreed to install bus shelters in Woodcross. Their plans for their proposed three new sites are presently out for consultation

Environmental Enforcement Officer

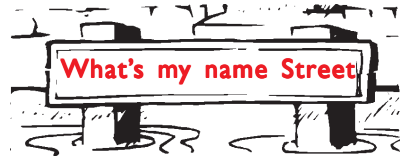
Springvale/Blakenhall Area Forum has employed for a year our very own officer to deal with rubbish, fly tipping etc. He is Mark Whittard and you can contact him on 01902 551262.

Flats Mount Road and Falcon Crescent

Thanks to action by your local Liberal Democrat Cllrs all the communal windows of these flats have been, or will be, replaced with uPVC and all blocks will have door entry systems. Sandra Terry said, "It has taken three years of Minor Works programme to achieve this but it has brought great benefits to residents in the end."

Street Name-Plates in Lanesfield

Following the success last year of Lanesfield Tenants and Residents bid for new street-name plates, Hill Avenue residents made a similar bid. Cllr Richard Whitehouse then listed all the signs that were required and also managed to get extra money to replace some that had been missed last year.



Footpath Repairs, Woodcross

Following reports from your Focus Team some months ago concerning the general state of many pavements in Woodcross there is now an ongoing programme of repair. Recently, as part of this programme, Miller Crescent was patched.

Liberal Democrats get Council Tax Revaluation Dropped

The Liberal Democrat campaign initiated at the last general election to have Council Tax Revaluation scrapped on the basis of huge increases in tax for many home owners, has been accepted by the government. David Murray, the Liberal Democrat Parliamentary Spokesman for Wolverhampton South East said, "This is, we hope, only the initial step before scrapping the tax altogether and replacing it with a much fairer tax, such as Local Income Tax".



Phone your Focus Team

Cllr Whitehouse 659835 1 pm- 5 pm
 Cllr Gwinnett 398800 10 am -1 pm
 Cllr Mike Heap 754030
 Sandra Terry 650088
 Office 555005 3 pm - 5 pm
24 hour answerphone at our office
Email:
 Richard.Whitehouse@wolverhampton.gov.uk

If you have a problem

you can always write free of charge to

Liberal Democrats
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Councillors' Saturday Advice Centres

no appointment necessary

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Hill Avenue School 11 am to 12 noon
 Manor School 12 noon to 1 pm

3rd Saturday in the month

Springvale School 11 am to 12 noon
 Lanesfield School 12 noon to 1 pm

Except Bank holiday weekends