Moseley Regeneration Group

Notes of a meeting held at Moseley Exchange on Tuesday 23rd May 2017 at 6.00 p.m.

Present:
1. Tony Thapar (Chair, and Moseley Community Development Trust)
2. Izzy Knowles (Moseley Forum)
3. Fiona Adams (The Moseley Society)
4. Carole McKeown (RARRA, KHGT)
5. Esther Boyd (Moseley Forum)
6. Jenny Brewer (Moseley in Bloom)
7. David Sandison (Moseley CDT volunteer)

Apologies:
1. Alison Millward (Reddings and Amesbury Road RA)
2. Cllr. Claire Spencer (BCC)
3. Austin Barber (Moseley Community Development Trust, Trustee)

1.0 MRG: Moseley Hall Hospital, Transport and Traffic Review - notes of the meeting held at 5.00pm on 11th April 2017 were approved and the following updates were noted:

1.1 (Points 3.1.7, 3.1.12, 4.0) Cllr. Claire Spencer had arranged with Highways that Garry Dalton, Amey would be nominated to liaise with BCHFT and that she would plan with Kat Rose, BCHFT a further meeting in June involving local community representatives. Cllr. CS was following up with Cllr. Hartley of the WM Combined Authorities Transport Delivery Committee on those to approach about amending the No 1 bus route.

1.2 (Points 3.1.16, 4.0) Alison Millward had written a letter of thanks to Kat Rose and Adam Dandy following the meeting, enclosing the draft Minutes and requesting a collaborative approach in the development of BCHFT’s Transport and Traffic Review, regarding car parking at and around Moseley Hall Hospital. Kat Rose had written in response to Alison Millward and David Low formally accepting RARRA’s 3.04.17 statement. A further community consultation meeting was being arranged through Cllr. CS for June.

Notes of the MRG meeting held at 6.00pm on 11th April 2017 were approved and the following updates were noted:

1.3 Under AOB, Izzy Knowles had brought up the report at the last meeting that rough sleepers were behind HSBC, there was concern over risk to the empty property. IK had visited the site and identified the rough sleepers and with Cllr. Claire Spencer had taken action in contacting the property owners, Council and emergency services to check the property and guide rough sleepers to support
agencies.

1.4 Actions 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.9, 1.10, 2.3 and 4.5 had been completed.

1.5 Meteor site, Section 106 monies (Minutes 11.4.17, point 1.2) – Tony Thapar said that following on from the signing off on proposals by all three councillors, he was waiting for a response from Planning.

1.6 Planning: SPD Policy EA2, maintaining retail use at a level of 50% or over (point 1.4) – David Sandison had joined Keith Watson, Principal Development Planning Officer on a re-survey of property use in Moseley. A first draft of the updated statistics showed A1 Retail within the Primary Shopping Area (PSA) at 48.81%; after correction it was agreed by KW that the figure should be 47.7%. The only property under a temporary change of use was 21 Woodbridge Road, Zindiya Café/Bar, formerly a bakery and outside the PSA. In listing vacant properties it was policy to list the last use, or if a planning application had been approved for change of use, the new main use would be shown; thus the ex HSBC site was included as A4 and ground floor unit at the flats development at 120 Alcester Road as A1.

1.7 Making Moseley, Public Realm Design Group (PRDG) (point 1.5) – Carole McKeown as the Moseley representative to KH GTD would be joining the Moseley Public Realm Design Group meeting on 25th May.

1.8 Moseley Village car park (point 1.6) – under Freedom of Information, Izzy Knowles had gained details of income and expenditure that showed for 2016/17 costs of £12,880 against income of £61,713. Cllr. CS had stated at the last meeting, that if viable she would support an asset transfer to bring the car park under community control. It was now understood that without consultation, BCC were shortly to introduce 24 hour parking charges which would adversely affect residents of Church Lane and surrounding area. The Moseley Society and MiB were concerned about the level of beggars and inadequate car park cleaning and litter collection. They had provided the planting and tidied the car park on a voluntary basis for many years, but felt that they no longer had support from BCC and were not prepared to do the Council’s work. Fiona Adams was pursuing the issues with Cllr. Lisa Trickett and Kevin Hicks at BCC. It was recognised that the car park, its state and appearance and charging policy had a significant impact on local business and the community. A sub group might be set up to address the issues and a council representative be invited to MRG to discuss concerns. Izzy Knowles had spoken with Joe Marsden of the Dark Horse who was keen to help find a solution to the litter problem.

2.0 Listing of Moseley Community Assets

2.1 The listing of Community Assets had been discussed briefly at the March and April meetings. Following the April meeting where the building out and reduction
of the public footpath by Prezzo were discussed, Cllr. Claire Spencer had sought the advice of Neil Reay and Tom Button at BCC Property and Regeneration on protecting the public footpaths and shop forecourts in the village centre as a Community Asset. The objective would be to allow the continuation of markets and street-fairs, as well as protecting the character of the Conservation Area. This nomination would be complicated because it involved BCC Highways and potentially over 100 property owners. Cllr. CS had not been able to get a response before the meeting.

2.2 Tony Thapar circulated a list of 59 potential Community Assets and requested members to consider which sites to nominate. Each nomination would have to be supported by details of the property and ownership supplied by the Land Registry at a nominal fee. The practical consideration was that should any Community Asset come on to the market, the community would have six months to raise the funds to buy the property. A question would be whether the community would be willing and able to raise the necessary funds. Another consideration might be the level of risk of loss attached, given the current function and ownership of the asset. In considering nominating the pavements, would it ever come up for sale? Would existing planning regulations protect them from development by private owners? Might schools be considered if they became Academies and outside Council control? It was suggested that the All Services Club might be nominated.

3.0 Making Moseley action plans - updates

None were recorded

4.0 Current planning applications and Licensing issues

4.1 2017/03268/PA, Kingfisher takeaway, Alcester Road for display of one non-illuminated plastic hoarding sign, 1.8m x 1.2m on the side wall by the car park entrance. The Moseley Society would object to this.

4.2 2017/03757/PA, 4 Oaklands Road, demolition of the former Oaklands Nursing home and building of housing with access from Oaklands Road.

4.3 2017/03372/PA, 82-84 St Mary’s Row, for M&S internally illuminated fascia sign. The Moseley Society had requested Conservation standard signage.

4.4 The Dark Horse had a Licence application under review.

4.0 Any other business

4.1 Action concerning closure of all local banks - Esther Boyd said that if there was a commitment by local people to open accounts, Nationwide would consider
opening banking facilities.

4.2 It was reported that the car park public lavatory was currently closed and that there had been concern that it was being used for drug taking. It was believed to be managed by JC Decaux on behalf of BCC. There was discussion over whether there was a need for the facility and whether bus drivers made use of it. Izzy Knowles agreed to check with the Council and operators.

Date of the next meeting: Tuesday 11th July, 6.00pm at the Moseley Exchange.