

JQNF Open Meeting

17 April 2018

Held at St Paul's Church

Welcome from Vicar at St Paul's

Andrew Gorham is the interim Vicar, since the previous vicar resigned. The Bishop and his senior team will be making decisions regarding the future successor. The church itself will remain open for business.

Question regarding opening more hours:

There is a need to have someone present to steward the place during opening hours. Perhaps there could be volunteers to help in covering these times. Suggestion has been made that other organisations would be interested to use this for purposes other than religious services. Andrew says he is open to exploring that and to bring in other sources of revenue.

RBSA Gallery Development – Suzanne Carter

There are plans for the development of the frontage, these were shared for input and comments. It is not possible to re-use the corner door as the main entrance due to the configuration of the fire escapes. They are going to be applying for heritage lottery funding because the works held within the archive date back to 1809 that is currently not displayed. It is due to go to planning and conservation for approval. This development includes work on the interior for holding of art and also the area for researchers and volunteers. The plans are for this to be done in 2020, which would be twenty years since they moved into the Quarter.

Adopt a Canal

Canal and River Trust are engaging local groups to adopt a section of canal and be involved in activities to maintain and improve the surroundings. The Jewellery Quarter group have now done six sessions, across our section which covers the Farmers Bridge flight of locks. They will be planting a herb garden in one of the beds. It has been a great way to be involved in the community and see good results from the before and after works. The Canal & River Trust provide all the equipment, all you need to do is turn up in comfortable clothing.

You can turn up for one session or as many as you like and they are once a month alternating between Saturday or Sundays. Next is on 5th May at 1pm. Dates through until October are on the website.

Suggestion: The Round House, Coffin Works and Standard Works are doing activities along that stretch of the canal and it would be an idea to tie in with them.

Question: The railway arch further down could be an area for further development. This might be something further down the road as we build trust with the Canal & River Trust.

Police Update – Sgt Ashcroft

In the last twelve months, national crime figures have gone through the roof. Although there has been a small reduction in this area. Robbery and burglary has been down. The vehicle crime is the main type of crime that affects this area.

- There had been one individual at the end of Feb from the city centre, who was opportunistic in trying car door handles.
- Theft of vehicles – PCC has raised this with the manufacturing industry.
- Trying to be more intelligence led in ANPR, to be smarter in how we are tackling crime.

Issues of homelessness in the area – which is an emotive and difficult issue. City centre guidelines doesn't cover into this area, but where they can they try to attend.

There are those who do sit out to beg for money to fund a drug addiction. Referrals are made to the Street Intervention team. There are instances of professional begging where they do have an address but are doing this as a source of income. It is possible for these to be addressed and for CBOs to be applied for.

Feed in any concerns via street link. How to help that individual that is tailored to their needs. "Change into Action", is the Council's alternative giving campaign so that rather than giving to people on the street you can give to support them through this organisation.

Question: Livery Street Subway, recent fires in that area and other anti-social behaviour. Is there any CCTV of this subway? He is meeting with the CCTV architect for the quarter that would help for building lines of enquiries.

Issue: Cars driving the wrong direction down the wrong way. They can only be served a ticket when they are seen driving rather than just from parking. There may be a third party reporting mechanism.

Concern about the lack of enforcement for the twenty mile an hour. Road harm reduction team will be coming to give them training. Enforcement is one way but also reconfigure the design of roadways.

New Standard Works project

We have been talking about this since 2014, third phase of redevelopment. 2015 Ruskin Mill land task. Hive cafe bakery open until 7:30pm. Next phase is spending heritage lottery funding to take it back to its original facade. Plans to include a tourist Information area, interpretation of the history of the building and also a functions for visitor place. Community workshops and craft workshops with traditional crafts that are affordable and invite people from the wider Ladywood area. Top floor will be a few life work units for students for the college. Plus on the roof a micro farm, with seed to table philosophy. 2019 will be the arrival of the bees!

Heritage Hub will open at the end of July as part of JQ festival.

Air your views – Comments & Feedback

JQ looking healthy with bright times to come. Clean! In compared to other parts of the city. Looking forward to the JQ festival as community event, partners and businesses.

Feeling of chance in the quarter. Becoming more around hospitality, raised question of how this fits in with the traditional businesses. There are positive and negatives if this in bringing more people in but not having appreciation if the heritage.

Parking: Issues about permits in residents v businesses.

Good open spaces are being closed in. This is a concern. It is become a transient community of people renting six months. We can consider how to be a welcoming community. Closing streets for parties.

How to combat loneliness by building community.

Two senior schools don't have a good reputation and isn't an incentive to stay in the quarter for families. Primary schools are fine but the next stage is of concern. One to watch for family living, lack of open spaces that families like to have.

Changes that we are seeing are for the better. UCB George street development extending for a whole campus. Lots of construction. There will be a strong student hub there now which we see as a positive thing.

In the next twelve months there will be the completion of a number of key developments.

Parish Notices

Great Get Together in Ladywood Community Centre - 23 & 24 June

Reminder that there are local elections on Thursday 3rd of May. Encourage you all to vote. Ward boundaries have been redrawn.

3500 People registration to vote, there are 7000 living here. St Paul's will still be a polling station.