



Cllr. Albert Bore & Cllr. Kath Hartley



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Dear

Update- Central Ladywood Regeneration

We are writing to update you on the latest news on the Central Ladywood Regeneration initiative and to answer the questions that some of you have raised.

When will we meet?

We planned to call everybody who had registered an interest in helping to steer the consultation process to a meeting in the early Autumn. However, the Council has not yet appointed a person to work for and together with us all to ensure proper engagement in developing the plans and to support the Steering Group. We want the consultation to be full and open to the residents of Central Ladywood— so, we should wait for the person to be in place and not rush into things.

Once the Steering Group has met, we will set up workshops and organise visits to regenerated neighbourhoods around the country to help us all to work out what we want for Central Ladywood.

What has the Council done so far?

Over the Summer, the Council drew up a short list of development partners, all of whom have sound experience in working with communities to work up plans and deliver new and improved housing, open spaces and facilities.

Here are the Council's principles:

- To secure high quality, sustainable new homes as part of a well-designed neighbourhood;
- To provide a safe and attractive network of connected public open spaces and pedestrian routes;
- To create a new local centre with facilities and amenities to serve the local community;
- To enable the enhancement of the canal through improved access and greater levels of utility and interface with development;
- To create improved connections across the Middleway including boulevarding;
- To create a complementary mix of commercial and other uses to support a vibrant active neighbourhood;
- New, high quality social housing;
- Ensuring that the existing community is retained and involved in the development of the new neighbourhood.

The Council is now providing more technical information to the short listed partners. We will appoint the partner who puts forward an outline plan that **best reflects the principles and shows the clearest understanding of the Central Ladywood Community**.

You will be helping us to ensure that the partner sticks to the principles and delivers the best regeneration for Central Ladywood.

Other, more immediate, issues

Central Ladywood Regeneration is about the longer term future of your area– big issues such as, upgrading homes, building new homes, making your environment cleaner and greener, designing out crime, refreshing community facilities.

There are other important issues in Central Ladywood and elsewhere in Ladywood Ward that some of you have asked about, such as:

The Icknield Port Loop– what's in it for us?

We've been working on the Loop since 2004! The Recession and slump in land values set us back. We saw to it that work re-started when there was a change in control of the Council in 2012. A partner was appointed and we established that the first big improvement was a new swimming pool for Ladywood to replace the one that closed nearly 30 years ago.

After reviewing possible sites for the pool, we decided on the Council-owned land behind the Fire Station. The Council has no funding of its own for big building projects, so we had to look to Planning Development Gain funding from the first housing development in the Loop. That is why the first 250 homes are for private sale and not for social rent.

We know that Central Ladywood residents have been looking at the expensive new homes and are understandably disappointed. But, be assured that homes for social rent will follow as work in the Loop moves forward. We want Central Ladywood Council tenants to be a priority for the new homes for rent in the Loop as well as for those within the Central Ladywood Regeneration area.

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We will be back in touch when our Steering Group organiser is appointed. We are eager to get started on involving you and your fellow Central Ladywood residents. But regeneration isn't a quick process and we want to get it right. So, please bear with us.

We'll write to you again once things start to move again.

Thank you, again, for offering to help. We look forward to working with you for improved homes and a better environment for present and future residents of Central Ladywood.

Best wishes

We've also enclosed our contacts card. Please get in touch with us with questions about the Regeneration or for help with other matters.



Cllr. Albert Bore



Cllr. Kath Hartley

P.S. We've enclosing an invitation to the
Ladywood Ward Forum
7-9pm on Tuesday 15 October,
at Ladywood Health & Community Centre
St. Vincent Street West
which we have emailed out to you already. We're looking at 2 parks outside of the Central Ladywood Regeneration area. The open space in the Regeneration area. e.g. St. Marks Crescent Park, will be up for your consideration as part of the Steering Group and within the wider consultation. We'll have a video report on the opening of the new pool and Leisure Centre at the start of the meeting– are you in it?