1. Welcome and Introductions

Councillor Cowing welcomed everyone to the meeting, introducing all councillors and officers present.

2. Opportunities in West Ealing – Carol Sam

Carol Sam reported on the council in partnership with external organisations including West Ealing Neighbours, A2Dominion, Catalyst Housing and local businesses having submitted a bid to the Mary Portas fund to help strengthen West Ealing. This had not been successful but it did lead to all those involved coming together to form a town team structure to develop and take forward new projects within West Ealing using the High Street Innovation Fund and the Riot Recovery Fund totalling £300,000.

The purpose of the group is to formulate and deliver projects which can help to improve the vitality and vibrancy of West Ealing in light of the high vacancy rate in the town centre (10%) and last summer’s disturbances. A number of projects and themes have been raised and partners have been asked to work up clear proposals. It is emerging that there is a need for a vision for West Ealing. We need to engage widely to look at what’s needed, in partnership with the neighbourhood.
Some of the ideas we are considering include pop-up shops which could host public art and a night market at Dean Gardens. The next meeting will take place at Perceval House on 10th October at 5:30pm.

**Res:** The Kingsdown Residents’ Association was never asked to engage, we should have been included. The ward forum should have been the first place to raise this. I don’t recognise all parties involved.

**Res:** The Neighbourhood Forum should also be involved.

**Cllr Chapman:** To attend you must have a representative role.

### 3. Westside Youth and Connexions

**Karen Jenkins** reported on the improved and refurbished building for 13-19 year olds (up to 24 years for those who have disabilities) at Churchfield Road. There is an extensive youth programme which includes a music studio, cooking facilities, allotments, fashion and textiles and young women’s groups to address relationship matters. There is an after school club and we also help young people achieve their bronze and silver Duke of Edinburgh award.

**Res:** Do you encourage the young people to learn about a broad range of music

**KJ:** We encourage them to explore their musical interests, which do vary.

**Res:** It is very pleasing to know that Ealing have hung on to the Youth and Connexions team, whereas many other councils no longer have one

**KJ:** We are very good at reviewing the service to ensure schools use and buy into it.

**Res:** This meeting would benefit from more young people.

**KJ:** Tan has discussed this with me, we are working together to host one of the 2013 meetings at the centre.

**Cllr Cowing:** How well do the new premises accommodate the young people?

**KJ:** The young people attending previously came from all parts of the borough, whereas now they are predominantly from the local area. It is a very modern building, young people of today are very materialistic and attracted to the facility.

**Res:** Why is there no sign on the building to identify it as a Youth and Connexions building?

**KJ:** We recently had one installed, it is small and discreet to blend in with the surroundings.

**Res:** How can the ward forum help you?

**KJ:** There are projects which could benefit from funding. Part of the community struggles with the building, we need to bridge that gap between the young people and local residents.

**Res:** Why don’t you go back to the young people and ask them to reach out to the community. They may have a preferred approach; there are two residents associations which would support you.

**Res:** It has worked in other locations, where we have had befriending schemes with pensioners. If there is a grandparent missing in the family structure it fits well with the scheme.
4. West Ealing Family Day

David Highton of West Ealing Neighbours reported on the family day which took place on 22 September. An event delivered in partnership with the council, A2 Dominion, West Ealing Traders Association, with funding from Walpole Ward Forum. It was a very popular event, which stretched from Melbourne Avenue to St John’s Church. There were many activities which people could participate in; see fantastic views of London from the top of St John’s tower, take part in cookery lessons, a craft market at St James’s Church, music on Melbourne Avenue, football at Dean Gardens and watch a Punch and Judy show.

Our long-term ambition is to add a specialist food element. West Ealing is very good for food shops and restaurants, an event to promote their food and drink in Dean Gardens has been mooted.

Res: It was a great event, with great music at Melbourne Avenue.
Res: The view from St John’s tower was brilliant.
Cllr Cowing: You were lucky to get the last sunny day of September. The Colombian band was fantastic. The idea of hosting a food and drink festival at Dean Gardens would help generate more business.
Res: Creating greater visibility at Dean Gardens such as a band would help draw crowds.

5. Transport Update

A. Corridor 1c Local implementation Plan for Uxbridge Road

Cllr Cowing reported on the conceptual designs to Corridor 1c, which would be consulted on in November. The plans were disseminated (see attached) to all attendees tonight, to give everyone an early sight of what will be consulted on. Cllr Cowing welcomed all feedback.

Res: Before the consultation takes place a meeting with transport planners is needed to fully understand the plans
Res: Thank you for bringing these plans to the ward forum, we would appreciate it if the planners meet to explain.
Cllr Chapman: Leeland Terrace has been tweaked, but wider consultation will take place before any improvements are implemented.
Res: All of Green Man Passage should be looked at, not just one end.
Cllr Cowing: Crossrail are coming back to look at the possibility of a station entrance south of the tracks.
Res: There needs to be a balance between recognising Uxbridge Road as a major trunk road and making it safer for pedestrians and cyclists. We could lose the bus lanes but this may also lead to an increase in the time to get up the Uxbridge Road. Uxbridge Road is a disgrace for cyclists, until the council resurfaces the route, there is no point in adding more cycle lanes.
Res: Parked cars and lorries loading and unloading have damaged the carriageway.
Res: From Ealing Common along to Coldershaw Road you have a lovely cycling route away from the noise and the traffic.
Res: There is lots of emphasis on improving the East to West cycle routes, which at first sight is helpful. However, it needs to be complemented with cycle parking at locations where people regularly shop. Residents who live in the South of the borough would go to the farmers’ market in Brentford, they stopped when there was nowhere to park. We need to encourage cycling clusters.

B. Lido Junction

Res: At the Lido junction, the pedestrian crossing at the top of Northfield Avenue at the allotments always has waiting at this point. Please change it to a toucan or pelican crossing (with flashing amber).

Cllr Chapman: We need to press for a review of Lido junction, there are noticeable East/West and North/South delays. Planners have stated that they are currently tweaking these delays.

Res: The irony is that people are still crossing the same old way, they don’t wait for the green man. When buses are turning right on to Northfield Avenue, they do so right on the green man.

C. Ealing Dean Controlled Parking Zone

Cllr Cowing reported that since the extension of CPZ JJ, there has been a negative impact on businesses which have to rely on their motor vehicles to ensure they can make it to work on time. Very early starts, deliveries and making bank deposits had all been adversely affected by the changes in the CPZ.

Business: Traders that need to get into work by car have very little available parking. The restrictions from 10-11am and 3-4pm, are affecting business. The areas in which we can park will soon become a CPZ too. Traders are part of the community, the residents advocate traders as part of the neighbourhood. Most of our employees cannot afford to live in the Queen of the Suburbs.
I have asked Cllr Cowing to address this matter with highways, to find a reasonable solution. They have currently offered us an annual permit at the cost of £600, whereas local residents pay a fraction of this cost. We need residents to understand that parking permits are not the sole domain of residents, CPZs have a detrimental impact on businesses. More CPZs will discourage businesses from coming into this area.

Res: Anyone with a business becomes a target for mugging especially when they have to deposit their takings.
Cllr Chapman stated there was an obvious anomaly in the price of parking permits for businesses, the cost had increased substantially compared to the cost of residents parking permits.

**Res:** The cost of a business permit should be linked to the size of a business, with small businesses paying less.

**Res:** The poor are subsidising the rich; we value these businesses, half the value of my house is based on the viable nature of these local businesses. Many of the people who can afford to buy these houses are far richer than these businesses.

**Res:** CPZs are very difficult territory to change, to find a way to share this space is an ultimate goal. We should look at extending shared use.

**Res:** I have a business at which patients park their cars before the restriction begins, half way during their appointment they have to leave to move their car.

Cllr Chapman: We spent many hours building in additional stop and shop and pay and display provision, there are available spaces.

Cllr Cowing: People are unaware of where the available parking is.

**Action:** TA to liaise with highways to create a map of all available parking, detailing restrictions and costs.

**Res:** As a resident of Bernard Avenue I regularly have to park on a different street simply because I cannot access any parking on my street. Parking charges are killing businesses, I have to carry a large ladder from Mayfield Avenue to Bernard Avenue.

Cllr Cowing asked the attendees to vote on whether they agreed that £600 was far too expensive for a business parking permit; there was unanimous agreement.

### 6. Ward Forum Projects

The budget summary sheet detailing all ward forum projects was disseminated. Cllr Chapman reported that the ward's CCTV unit had been deployed to Sherwood Close.

**Res:** Can we have two trees at Waldemar Avenue.

**Res:** There is a housing steering group at Sherwood Close which you should liaise with in respect to the CCTV unit.

### 7. Have Your Say – Q&A with Councillors

**Res:** There is displacement from the Homezone at all hours, the rotation of the stop and shop bays is unable to accommodate us with sufficient parking.

**Res:** At Leeland Terrace the stop and shop provision has changed to half an hour with additional time available by purchase on your mobile phone.

Cllr Chapman reported that a traffic order in the Gazette detailing the changes had been published, but councillors had not been advised nor contacted for advice.
**Res:** There is a car park at Leeland Terrace, if motorists wish to park then they need to use this area.

**Res:** The new relaxed planning laws are going to lead to the development of unfriendly extensions. We need to prevent outhouses from taking place.

**Cllr Chapman** reported that these are proposals going to consultation. Having discussed the relaxed planning laws with the planning team, at this time it is merely a proposal.

**Res:** A current issue is 'overlooking', for example, to prevent from looking into someone's living room. There is a 21 feet rule, however, this has been omitted from the revised document which is being consulted on.

**Res:** At the junction of Northfield Avenue and Leighton Road there has been a planning application requesting a roof garden, the developer is using outdated plans.

**Cllr Chapman** noted that this application had in fact been refused.

The next meeting will take place on Monday 11th February 2013 at 7:00pm at St John's Church.