

NOTES of AREA FORUM EAST

10th June 2014

The Area Forum East met at 6.30pm

Present: Borough Councillor L Dirveiks – Chair
County Councillors, N Dirveiks, C Clark
Borough Councillors, T Wykes, M Davis, D Pickard, K Johnston

In Attendance: A Rigby, C Jagers – WCC
PC Carter, PC Baxter – Warks Police
R Jones – Office of Police & Crime Commissioner
D Clews, R Jarvis, M Shaw – Atherstone TC
T Hopkins – Mancetter PC
D McMurdo, J McMurdo, R Cockayne, N Dyson, R Barrow, D Draper, J Draper, K Harper,

1. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from A Forwood, T De Kretser, R Beggs, L Freer, Jill Mawson, Jean Marshall

2. Notes and Matters Arising of the meeting held on 4th February 2014

Minutes were agreed. L Dirveiks fed back on the actions from the last meeting.

Matters Arising:

Margaret Road, Atherstone – update requested on approved scheme to install signs, markings and wooden posts to improve school and road safety.
Update requested on scheme to provide bus shelter, Hartshill.

3. Police Update

PC Baxter presented the Safer Neighbourhoods Team update. The following comments were made:

- PCSOs withdrawn from issuing car parking tickets due to case law. PCs issuing tickets for 'no waiting' offences
- Request for CCTV camera to cover Stratton Street / Fishers Walk, Atherstone – nearest lamp posts are unsuitable
- Youths congregating in cemetery, Atherstone causing anti-social behaviour
- Cars parking across dropped kerbs in The Woodlands, Hartshill
- Cars parking outside Bates butchers, Market St, Atherstone causing congestion

Three priorities were chosen:

Priority: Anti-social behaviour by youths in Atherstone Town Centre hotspots including cemetery

Priority: Parking outside Hartshill School, Church Road, Hartshill at school times

Priority: Speeding on Manor Road, Mancetter towards Mancetter Road end

R Jones introduced himself as the new Community Safety Ambassador (CSA) for the local area and handed out his contact details.

R Jones was asked to seek clarification from the Police & Crime Commissioner about his comments at a Warwickshire Association of Local Councils (WALC) meeting about the attendance of CSAs at Town & Parish Council meetings.

4. Local health issues

C Jagers, Public Health gave an overview on the health of the local community which included feedback from the county-wide Living in Warwickshire survey. Approximately 25,000 questionnaires were sent out. 7,600 were returned of which 200-250 were from Area Forum East residents.

84% of local residents said they were satisfied with where they lived but wanted to see improvements in the following areas: Crime levels; Health service provision; Street cleanliness; Accessibility to countryside; Shopping facilities

Overall the rate of long term illness or disability among Area Forum East residents is well above the Warwickshire average. The proportion of adult smokers in North Warwickshire is well below the county average however the rate of hospital admissions for alcohol related harm in North Warwickshire East is above the North Warwickshire and county average.

The projected population in North Warwickshire Borough expected to have dementia between 2012 and 2020 is expected to increase by 36%.

C Jagers to report back on how the figures for smoking were collected and to give further details on the evidence for a projected raise in dementia.

5. Tell us your issues

Concern raised over the length of time taken by the Highway Agency to improve safety at A5 Witherley Island roundabout following two recent accidents.

Concern raised over upkeep of yorkstone cobbles in Market Square, Atherstone. Problems with reporting issues at NWBC One Stop Shop, Athertone. The green, Manor Road, Mancetter - grass not being cut as neatly as usual.

6. Any other business

Representation on Outside Bodies - Borough Councillors agreed to reappoint the following Councillors:

Hartshill Hayes Country Park Advisory Committee – Cllr Wykes; sub Cllr Johnston Rowan Organisation – Cllr Forwood

2014/15 WCC Councillor Grant Fund is open to applications. Cllrs N Dirveiks and Clark have £5,000 each to award to local groups for projects that benefit the local community. Closing date 30th September.

7. Suggestions for items / themes for next meeting

Update on new school build at QE School, Atherstone
Civil Parking Enforcement in North Warwickshire

8. Date of next meeting

Thursday 11th September 2014. Venue tba