



Area Forum South

**To: Members of the
Area Forum South**

AREA FORUM SOUTH AGENDA

14 July 2009 at 7pm

**The Area Forum South will meet at Maxstoke Village Hall,
Church Road, Maxstoke, B46 2QP**

For general enquiries please contact Jo Roberts, North Warwickshire Area Office on 01827 719317 or via e-mail joroberts@warwickshire.gov.uk

This document can be made available in large print and electronic accessible formats if requested.

From 6.00pm – 7.00pm

Branching Out Bus (BOB)

The Borough Council's new 'Branching Out Bus' (BOB) will improve access to services in rural areas. It is a pilot scheme giving general advice on a full range of Council services as well as specialist advice on issues such as finances, debt and housing. The ethos of the service is to reach out into the community it services in an informal positive manner.

Coleshill Leisure Centre

Officers from North Warwickshire Borough Council will be present to hear your views on the future of indoor leisure provision in Coleshill

Core Strategy – Issues and Options – WE NEED YOUR VIEWS

Officers from North Warwickshire Borough Council will be present to hear your views on where potential development should go in North Warwickshire

From 6.30pm – Police Surgery

Call in if you have a specific concern that you'd like to discuss with your local Safer Neighbourhoods Policing Team

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for absence**
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 28 April 2009 copy herewith**
3. **Matters Arising**
4. **Local Development Framework - Core Strategy feedback & update – Dorothy Barratt / Mike Dittman, NWBC**
5. **Safer Neighbourhoods – Partners and Communities Together (PACT) – Sgt Ron Drake (Warwickshire Police)**

Up to half an hour is available for this item. This will include an outline of the purpose and format of PACTs, feedback on actions undertaken since the last meeting and any other updates, details of current Community Safety issues identified with the Forum area and an opportunity for individual members of the public to raise any further concerns, advice on how these issues will be taken forward, and details of communications/publicity planned on Community Safety issue.

Community Safety concerns can be raised verbally or in writing at the meeting, or submitted in advance to Jo Roberts on 01827 719317 or via email to joroberts@warwickshire.gov.uk

6. **Public Questions**

Up to half an hour is available for members of the public to ask questions. Individual members of the public can speak for up to three minutes. To ensure that an answer to a question can be given at the meeting, details of it must be submitted to Jo Roberts on 01827 719317 or via email to joroberts@warwickshire.gov.uk. Otherwise, please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start of the meeting and ensure that Jo Roberts has notice on the matter on which you wish to speak.

7. **Area Pledge (Update) – Dave Clarke (WCC)**
8. **Green Space Strategy Fund - £10K – Alethea Wilson (NWBC)**
9. **Appointment of Representatives on Outside Bodies (NWBC)**
10. **Future agenda items**
11. **Any other business**
12. **Date of next meeting – 22 October, 7.00pm – The Coleshill School**

Incorporating the communities of Ansley, Arley, Astley, Coleshill, Corley, Fillongley, Great and Little Packington, Maxstoke, Over Whitacre and Shustoke

MINUTES OF THE AREA FORUM SOUTH

28 April 2009

The Area Forum South met at 7.00pm at Coleshill Town Hall

Present: Councillor Sherratt in the Chair

Borough & County Councillors Sherratt, Fowler, Gordon, Fox, Smith, Hayfield

In attendance: Joanna Rhodes, Alistair Rigby, Charlotte Carr, Helen Earp (WCC), Richard Dobbs, Robert Beggs, Jaki Douglas, Mike Dittman (NWBC), Inspector Andy Davies, Sgt Shaun Albrighton, PC Andrew Hopkins, WPC Ellen Beaty, PCSO H Waller, PCSO Tim Staten (Warwickshire Police), Andy Bates (Fire & Rescue), Clare Jolly (Coleshill School Cluster), Barry Coton, G Thoridge (Shustoke PC), Brian Martin, (Ansley PC), M Gascoigne, B Gascoigne, Dominic Ferro, S Wallace, Bill Richards (Coleshill TC), June Upton, Brian Gill, Francine Kelly, Jane Jordison, Alad Harding, M Hession, Katy Harper, Derek Axe, Jo Cox, J Hoyle, S Holt, J Holt, Sue Meer, J Akhurst, J Baker, M Baker, BM, Edna Goldman, P Twigge, H Twigge

1. Apologies for Absence

Astley Parish Council

2. Minutes of the meeting held of the Forum held on 27 January 2009

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

Barry Coton, Shustoke Parish Council requested WCC (Safer Routes to School Team) to involve PC Hopkins and PCSO Boulter in making further investigations on the congestion outside Shustoke Primary School at the beginning / end of the school day.

4. Safer Neighbourhoods - Partners And Communities Together (PACT)

Sgt Albrighton presented a summary of the progress and actions that had been undertaken on the PACT priorities chosen at the last meeting: Speeding - Herbert Fowler School, Old Arley & Gun Hill, New Arley.

Robert Beggs gave an update on the work undertaken by the North Warwickshire Community Safety Partnership to deliver diversionary activities to young people through Activities 4U and Call4Sport programmes and supporting performances by Crag Rats Theatre Group on alcohol and drugs misuse at local schools.

The priorities for the 2009 – 2010 Partnership Plan were also highlighted.

These include:

- Violent Crime
- Criminal damage
- Anti social behaviour
- Community Cohesion
- Serious Acquisitive Crime

Town / Parish Councils who are interested in receiving a free 'Graffiti Removal Kit' should contact Lori Harvey, NWBC tel. 01827 719356

A full copy of the joint presentation including results of actions taken are available on the County Council's website www.warwickshire.gov.uk

Sgt Albrighton reiterated the new "Policing Pledge" adopted by Warwickshire Police that was introduced at the last meeting. The full pledge can be viewed on the Police website www.warwickshire.police.uk

Sgt Albrighton also advised that from 1 April 2009, Warwickshire Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams had made a commitment to 100% delivery of agreed policing activity in support of the priorities set at each Area Forum. To deliver the new Pledge only three clearly identified priorities from each Area Forum meeting would be taken forward.

The following points were raised as policing issues. However many of those raising a concern found it difficult to give precise details to support their request.

Birchley Heath – speeding motorbikes on Pipers Lane every Tuesday night.
A 'Speedaware' sign is due to go in shortly on Pipers Lane.

Ansley Common – speeding traffic up Nursery Hill going out of Nuneaton.
A Village Traffic Plan is being developed to address road and traffic issues in the village.

Coleshill Youth Centre, Temple Way – anti-social behaviour outside the youth centre in the early evenings.
PCSO & PC Hopkins to meet with caretaker and Town Council

Coleshill Town Centre – request to share police strategy in addressing anti-social behaviour in the Town Centre

Coleshill – parking in Parkfield Road and on pavement, Bridge View – obstructing mobility scooters, pushchairs
PCSO to record registration numbers

The two agreed Priorities were:

- Ansley Common – speed checks within 100 metres either side of Nursery Road

- Coleshill Youth Centre, Temple Way – anti-social behaviour. Times & dates to be confirmed with caretaker

There was general concern that by focusing priorities to specific locations and times, the Police would be spending less time on responding to Safer Neighbourhood issues in the future.

5. Public Questions

Derek Axe asked for a response from NWBC to the declining state of Coleshill Hall Farm which has been subjected to more vandalism and graffiti. Mike Dittman, NWBC responded that there is very little that the Council can do beyond serving an urgent works notice ensuring the place is made safe (wind and weather tight). Beyond that the Council would have to consider using Compulsory Purchase powers, which were unlikely to be promoted until all alternative options are investigated due to the financial implications this would have for the Council. Finding a viable alternative economic use was the best way of protecting/retaining the building. He suggested that observations are diarised and the option of setting up a Trust is investigated. Similar comments were made about Park Hall Cottage.

Questions about Coleshill Leisure Centre and car park were taken under agenda item 9 – Coleshill Leisure Centre (update).

6. Area Pledge (Update) - Joanna Rhodes (WCC)

Following the introduction of the Area Pledge at the January meeting (previously known as the Locality Pledge), J Rhodes provided an update on the key issues identified by the public consultation exercise that followed the January round of Forums and the headline results from The North Warwickshire Place Survey, which approximately surveyed around 300 households in Area Forum South.

A discussion then took place and it was agreed that the priority for Area Forum South Pledge would be 'Rural Transport'.

7. Coleshill Leisure Centre

A statement was read out on behalf of NWBC by Jaki Douglas. It highlighted the request by Community & Environment Board to consult with local residents and users of Coleshill Leisure Centre over its future.

The statement reads:

Further to consideration of the future of Coleshill Leisure Centre at the Community & Environment Board meeting held on 23 March, 2009 and subject to the outcome of further deliberations at next week's meeting of the Executive Board, there will be a need to undertake consultation with local residents and users into a range of issues associated with any such undertaking. Initially at least, this consultation may focus on the location of, and nature of service to be provided within any new indoor sports facility.

Given the extent of any project to replace Coleshill Leisure Centre, the associated consultation programme will need to take a number of forms and would, for example, include meetings with relevant Town and Parish Councils, local schools and sports clubs and other interested organisations. Given the success of similar events held in Arley (in respect of proposed developments at Rectory Road), it is intended to hold at least one Open Day at the Leisure Centre (and possibly one at the Secondary School). These events will be well publicised, including through local media outlets, on posters and through the Council's website.

It is proposed that an initial (consultation launch) Open Day be held at the Leisure Centre on 1st July. It should be noted, however, that as the Authority is a signatory to the Warwickshire Compact, which states that there should be a 12 weeks period within which organisations such as Town and Parish Councils and voluntary sector clubs are consulted on major projects, the consultation period will remain open until the end of September. It is likely, therefore, that at least one further Open Day will be held in this period, hopefully after further discussions have been held with WCC in relation to the Building Schools for the Future programme, which is pertinent given that a potential site for any new indoor sports facility is The Coleshill School.

Reassurance was given by the Chair that no decision on the future of the Leisure Centre would be taken by NWBC or by any of its committees prior to the conclusion of the public consultation exercise.

8. Area Forum Fund

The Forum was asked to consider one application to the Area Forum Fund.

Shustoke Allotment Association requested funding for:-

Construction of raised beds - £4,500

Borough Councillors agreed to support the application.

9. Affordable Housing Policy – Mike Dittman, NWBC

Mike Dittman introduced the policy and highlighted the work of Warwickshire Rural Community Council's (WRCC) – Housing Enabler project.

The requirement to provide Affordable Housing in the Borough is dependant on where the housing project is located. The Local Development Framework sets a hierarchy of settlement sizes at 4 levels:

Market towns (eg Coleshill, Polesworth)
Selected villages (eg Water Orton, Kingsbury)
Other villages
Everywhere else

Developments in lower level settlements would effectively be for 100% Affordable Housing. So for example development infill in Ansley Village would be for 100% Affordable Housing with rents in line with local Registered Social Landlord (Housing Associations) rents.

The Housing Enabler who works independently for WRCC, looks at potential sites for Affordable Housing projects by undertaking Housing Needs Surveys. Funding for the post comes to an end in June.

10. Local Development Framework, Core Strategy Options – Mike Dittman

Mike Dittman provided an update on the Options for the Local Development Framework Core Strategy, which replaces the Local Plan. The options deal with how and where the Borough will deliver the housing and employment land requirements allocated in the latest Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS).

A 6 week consultation exercise is planned in the near future. Any one wishing to be included in the mailing list should contact Mike.

Tel. 01827 719 451. E-mail mikedittman@northwarks.gov.uk

Mike encouraged Town / Parish Councils to look at the development proposals for Keresley and Solihull by viewing Coventry City Council and Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council websites respectively.

Mike advised that the deadline for consultation on Warwickshire County Council's Mineral Core Strategy had been extended to 8 May 2009 and encouraged Parish Councils to view the consultation.

11. Future Agenda Item

None

12. Any Other Business

Ansley Common – old railway line footpath – request to re-instate boulders across the entrance.

Request for a portable PA system to be used in future at Area Forum meetings

13. Next Meeting

14 July at Maxstoke Village Hall

Area Forum South – 14 July 2009

Green Space Strategy Fund

Report of the
Assistant Director
(Leisure and Community Development)

Green Space Strategy Fund

1 **Summary**

- 1.1 This report sets out proposals for the allocation, through the Area Forums, of funding that has been made available for projects that help to deliver the key priorities of the adopted North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy.

2 **Background and Proposed Process**

- 2.1 At its meeting held in December 2008, the Borough Council's Executive Board formally adopted the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy and approved, in principle, the supporting Action and Funding Plan. £10,000 has now been made available to each Area Forum for the implementation of projects that deliver key priorities identified in the Strategy. These projects may be on land within the control of parish and town councils, other organisations or on land owned by the Borough Council.
- 2.2 The Authority will be writing to each parish/town council and partner organisations to draw their attention to the key priorities in the Strategy, particularly those identified for their sub-Area, and to ask them to indicate which of these they would most like to see taken forward. If their choice is a project on land that they control, they will also be asked to complete an Expression of Interest form to indicate how much support they would be seeking from the Fund and, in outline, how this money would be spent in the delivery of the project. Submissions for projects that are not specifically identified within the Green Space Strategy will also be considered, provided that applicants clearly demonstrate how their proposal will advance the priorities of the Strategy itself.
- 2.3 The deadline for the return of this information will be early November 2009, in order to allow the necessary time for local consultations and the preparation of "bid" submissions. The results of the submissions from parishes and partners and any received Expressions of Interest will be reported to each Area Forum at its meeting in January 2010. The decision on the allocation of the Green Space Strategy Fund will then be made at those meetings, based on the criteria that the proposed projects should:
- help to deliver the priorities of the Green Space Strategy
 - comprise physical improvements to green space, or the preparation of feasibility studies, plans or landscape designs to deliver such improvements
 - provide value for money
 - be sustainable

- be inclusive

Applicants would not be required to provide match funding. However, the use of the Green Space Strategy Fund as “match” to lever in other external grant aid, including third party support for the Landfill Communities Fund, would be encouraged, provided the overall project meets these criteria.

- 2.4 Applicants will be notified of the outcome of the Area Forum decisions in early February 2010, subsequent to which it is anticipated that projects will be completed by March 2011.
- 2.5 The Borough Council’s Landscape Management and Partnership and Development sections will provide continuing support and advice to parish and town councils and other organisations during the development and implementation of projects to ensure a successful outcome that meets Green Space Strategy priorities.
- 2.6 Should there be no feedback or Expressions of Interest in any one or more of the Area Forums this will be reported to the relevant meeting and appropriate projects at Borough Council sites that meet the criteria set out in paragraph 2.3 above will be put forward for consideration.

Area Forum South – 14 July 2009

Representation on Outside Bodies

Recommendation

That the Forum make recommendations for appointments to the outside bodies listed in the report.

1 Introduction

1.1 The Borough Council has requested that Area Forums be consulted for recommendations for appointments to the outside bodies 'local' to the area covered by this Area Forum.

1.2 The Area Forum is invited to recommend to the Borough Council the appointment of representatives to the following outside bodies:-

Coleshill Grammar School Endowment Foundation

Market Towns Initiative, Coleshill

1.3 The memberships previously comprised:-

Coleshill Grammar School Endowment Foundation – Mrs S Wallace and Dr Andrew Watkins

Market Towns Initiative, Coleshill – Councillors Gordon and Fowler.

1.4 The appointments are made for a period of one year expiring in May 2010.

The Contact Officer for this report is David Harris (719222).