

Area Forum South

Tuesday 19 April 2011

The Area Forum South will meet at Coleshill Town Hall, High Street, Coleshill, B46 3BG

Report available in large print if requested.

For general enquiries please contact Jo Roberts, Warwickshire County Council on 01827 719317 or <mailto:joroberts@warwickshire.gov.uk>

For enquiries about specific reports, please contact the officer named in the report.

6.30 – 7.00pm - Police Surgery

Call in if you have specific concerns that you would like to discuss with your local Safer Neighbourhoods Policing Team.

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for absence.**
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2011, copy herewith, to be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.**
3. **Matters Arising**

4. Safer Neighbourhoods Update (Warwickshire Police)

Up to half an hour is available for this item. This will include feedback on actions undertaken since the last meeting and any other updates, details of current Community Safety issues identified within 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 issues.

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

5. Police Authority Representative

6. Health & Wellbeing in North Warwickshire (Rachel Robinson, NHS)

7. Public Questions & Parish Issues

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 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.

8. Area Forum Fund, Jaki Douglas (NWBC)

9. Any Other Business

10. Future Meeting Dates

Please note the dates for the future meetings of Area Forum South are as follows;

Tuesday 12 July 2011

Thursday 27 October 2011

MINUTES OF THE AREA FORUM SOUTH

THURSDAY, 20 JANUARY 2011

The Area Forum South met at Corley Village Hall, Corley at 7.00pm.

Present: Councillor Hayfield in the Chair.

Councillors Fowler, Gordon, Sherratt, Fox

In Attendance: Cheryl Bridges, Bob Trahern, – North Warwickshire Borough Council

Joanne Rhodes, & Martin Gibbins – Warwickshire County Council

Sgt Sean Albrighton, Inspector Mike Smith & PCSO– Warwickshire Police

Andy Bates – Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service

John Poole – Shustoke & Maxstoke Parish Council Clerk

Richard Thomas, Peter Gray – Shustoke Parish Council

E Bradford – Corley Parish Council

B Martin, – Ansley Parish Council

Paul Reader, Eric Fellows – Arley Parish Council

- Arley

Karen Barber – Ansley Parish Council

Alison Perkins – Astley Parish Council

Katy Harper – Beeline Community Transport

John Wall & Jillian Wall - Coleshill

Eric Fellows & Gill Guy

Jane Ormrod Coleshill residents

1. Apologies for absence.

Cllr Fox, Smith, Bowden, Zgraja,

2. Minutes

It was requested that Stanley Osborne be changed to Sandy Osbourne.

The minutes of the meeting of the Area Forum South, held on 27 October 2010, copy herewith, were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman, subject to the amendment above.

3. Matters Arising

No matters raised.

4. Safer Neighbourhoods Update

Sergeant Sean Albrighton, Warwickshire Police, presented a summary of the progress and actions that had been undertaken since the last meeting of the Forum. A copy of the summary detailing these actions can be viewed on the Council's website www.northwarks.gov.uk via the link for meetings and minutes online.

The Forum was informed that Sergeant Albrighton, as part of the proposed changes to the Police structures, would no longer be responsible for the Safer Neighbourhoods Team covering Area Forum South. In the future Sergeant Roger Fildes would be responsible for the area.

Pc Andrew Hopkins has retired and the beat will be covered by PC Ellen Beaty and PC Paul Vaughton until new policing arrangements are put in place..

The priority agreed was:

Anti social behaviour in the High Street and immediate area including Chamberlain Walk and Church Hill

Other issues raised included:

Speed of traffic outside Bournebrook C. of E Primary School in Fillongley

Speeding along Nuthurst Lane, Astley and damage to road signs as a result of collisions (not a 30mph road so SNT cannot take action).

5 Police Authority – Police Model

Cllr Fox introduced the Warwickshire Police 150plus Programme that will shape a new policing service in Warwickshire and respond to the Coalition government's Comprehensive Spending Review for the Force to make £22.9m savings over the next 4 years.

The Police Authority has approved the 4 year savings programme and the new policing model which will come into operation on 9 May 2011.

At a local level the 4 Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNT) will remain. Sgt Fildes will be the Beat Manager. The changes will increase the visibility of all 4 SNT teams with support from the Patrol Team

There will be 3 countywide policing teams:

- 33 Safer Neighbourhood Teams – tackling the problems and the people that cause you harm
- Patrol Team – Visible patrols concentrating on areas most affected by crime & disorder and responding to incidents
- Investigation Team – Investigate incidences and identify those responsible

A lengthy discussion took place and Councillor Fox responded to numerous questions from the floor.

6 HS2

Mandy Walker introduced the item and explained the background to the proposal and the current position including opposition by both Warwickshire County Council and North Warwickshire Borough Council.

A number of issues were raised including:

When will the formal consultation on the proposals be undertaken – it was indicated that this is likely to be from February to July though details have yet to be confirmed.

The construction of a large car park just over the border will result in more vehicles travelling through the area.

The disruption caused by the construction of HS” which could last 5-8 years.

Were there any plans to expand Birmingham Airport – It was indicated that there were none at present.

What are the costs and benefits of improving the existing network – These have been looked at but the detail has not been published

If the route is expanded to go north of Birmingham there will be a greater impact on the Borough.

The proposals will not go through the normal planning process but will be via parliament in the form of a hybrid bill.

There is considerable opposition to the proposals with over 100 groups set up to oppose the scheme.

It was agreed that there would be regular updates to the Area Forum and a regular briefing note would be provided.

7 Sustainable Community Strategy Fund

The recommendations in the report were agreed.

8 Public Questions & Parish Issues

A number of local issues were highlighted including:

The potential for the development of a “park & stride” scheme serving Coleshill C of E Primary School.

Concern was expressed at the potential for an accident outside Astley School - could the speed limit be reduced from 50 to 30 mph.

Speed of vehicles along Castle Lane, Maxstoke.

A request was made for an update on the current position with regard to the traffic scheme for Ansley.

Concern was expressed about the number of plastic bottles blowing around outside the old workshops on Pipers Lane. Bob Trahern agreed to follow this up.

Fly tipping on Watery Lane just off the highway. Bob Trahern agreed to investigate the issue.

Could the green at New Arley be adopted as a Village Green. Arley Parish Council might be willing to contribute towards the costs.

Fly tipped tyres on the roads around Arley.

Questions were raised about the "van ban" policy and what it covered for the household waste recycling sites. It was agreed that an update would be provided on the current policy.

A request was made for the provision of a bus stop to serve Woodlands cemetery. It was agreed that this would be followed up with WCC.

As there had been yet another accident causing damage to the Bridge over the Blyth near to Coleshill have the causes of the accidents been investigated.

The potential for cuts to the budget of Beeline Community Transport was raised. It was recognised that there were many challenges ahead for the whole public sector and many difficult decisions would have to be made. The potential for parish councils collaborating on supporting some services for the benefit of their communities was highlighted.

Future Meeting Dates

Tuesday 19 April 2011 – Coleshill Town Hall

Tuesday 12 July 2011

Thursday 27 October 2011

**Area Forum South – 19 April 2011
Area Forum Fund**

Recommendation

That the three eligible applications to the Area Forum Fund be given consideration by Borough Council Members as indicated in the report.

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report summarises the Area Forum Fund's eligibility criteria and informs Borough Council Members of the monies available for disbursement and the applications received for consideration.

2. Area Forum Fund

- 2.1 A sum of £35,000 has been allocated to the Area Forum Fund, this figure being based on a formula of £1,000 per Ward Member. This method of allocation results in each Forum having the following sums available for local disbursement: Area Forum North £10,000; Area Forum South £9,000; Area Forum East £8,000 and Area Forum West £8,000.

- 2.3 Arrangements have been established that invite applications from parish/ town councils and any formally constituted community group with its own bank account. Applicant organisations, however, must be able to satisfy each of three main eligibility conditions:

1. Bids must be signed by a Borough Councillor to indicate his/her support for the project.
2. Bids should be for one-off projects that provide lasting benefit to the community.
3. Projects will only be eligible for support from one source of Borough Council funding, of which the Area Forum Fund is one. Organisations will be signposted to other schemes of assistance if a more appropriate source of funding can be identified.

- 2.4 The Fund was developed to support projects that address issues of importance to local communities. Accordingly, projects that satisfy the above eligibility conditions must also be able to identify a link to at least one of the three priorities of the Sustainable Community Strategy that have been established by the community of North Warwickshire. Particular consideration will also be given to projects that promote social inclusion.

- 2.5 Awards can be made for up to 60% of the total annual fund available to the relevant Forum, resulting in maximum possible awards of £6,000 for Area Forum North, £5,400 for Area Forum South, £4,800 for Area Forums East and West. Community organisations must be able to provide at least 30% match funding for the project for which a grant is sought. Parish/town councils must provide at least 50%. This match funding can include in-kind support.

3 Area Forum Fund Applications

- 3.1 The 2011/12 budget for Area Forum South is £9,000. There is an additional sum of £745 to add to this figure that has been carried forward from 2010/11, resulting in a total sum of £9,745 available for disbursement in 2011/12.
- 3.3 Three eligible applications have been received for consideration at this meeting. The total sum requested from the applicant organisations is £12,633. To ensure that the Forum does not exceed its budget, it is suggested that each of the proposed awards is proportionately reduced.

4 Applications for Consideration

4.1 Ansley Parish Council

- 4.1.1 Ansley Parish Council has recently completed its Parish Plan questionnaire. When analysing the results, it became apparent that residents wished to see improvements to the Parish playground facilities. Items for older children have recently been installed and following more detailed local consultation, the Parish Council now wishes to install several items of equipment for younger children.
- 4.1.2 The total cost of the project is £16,285. The Parish Council has been successful in its application to WREN (Landfill Tax) for the majority of the funding, although it still requires additional funding to ensure that the project takes place. In this regard, the Parish Council has requested a sum of £2,861 from the Forum.

Recommendation to the Forum

- 4.1.3 The project links to the Sustainable Community Strategy priorities of Raising Aspirations, Educational Attainment and Skills, Developing Healthier Communities and Improving Access to Services. To ensure that the Forum does not exceed its budget, it is recommended that Members give consideration to awarding the project a proportionately reduced award in the sum of £2,207.

4.2 Coleshill United Church

4.2.1 Coleshill United Church Community Hall has a number of users, including ladies keep fit and a music group. The Community Hall and kitchen, however, are in need of improvement.

4.2.2 The United Church committee is proposing to install a new kitchen and blinds. The total cost of the project is £7,472. The Elmdon Circuit of the Methodist Church has made a grant of £5,000, which is to be used specifically for the redecoration of the community areas. A sum of £1,900 has already been used for initial repairs. The extent of grant requested from the Forum is for an award of £4,372.

Recommendation to the Forum

4.2.3 The project links to the Sustainable Community Strategy priorities of Raising Aspirations, Educational Attainment and Skills, Developing Healthier Communities and Improving Access to Services. To ensure that the Forum does not exceed its budget, it is recommended that Members give consideration to awarding the project a proportionately reduced grant in the sum of £3,373.

4.3 Corley Village Hall

4.3.1 Corley Village Hall management committee operates with the aim of providing a meeting place for all age groups within the local community. The Hall has a thriving Golden Years Club and a Church youth group, both of which meet on a monthly basis. There are weekly dancing classes, keep fit, Tai Chi and a variety of one-off and annual events.

4.3.2 Although the venue is well used, the Hall is in need of a new roof. The management committee has worked tirelessly to raise funds towards this significant undertaking. The total cost of replacing the roof structure and fitting new fascias and guttering is £10,800. The committee has requested a grant in the sum of £5,400 from the Forum Fund.

Recommendation to the Forum

4.3.3 The project links to the Sustainable Community Strategy priorities of Raising Aspirations, Educational Attainment and Skills, Developing Healthier Communities and Improving Access to Services. To ensure that the Forum does not exceed its budget, it is recommended that Members give consideration to awarding the project a proportionately reduced grant in the sum of £4,165.

5 Area Forum Fund – Financial Implications

5.1 If Members grant the requests in the sums indicated in the report, the 2011/12 allocation will have been spent and there will be no funding remaining for the October round of Forum meetings.