



NOTES of AREA FORUM EAST Tuesday 20 September 2016

Age UK Partnership Centre, Coleshill Road,
Atherstone, CV9 1BN

Present: Borough Councillor – D Clews (Chair)
County and Borough Councillor – N Dirveiks
Borough Councillors – L Dirveiks, M Bell, B Henney, R Jarvis, M Davis

In Attendance: C Barlow – WCC; L Harvey – WCC; Alex Gloster - WCC
S Maxey – NWBC; P Seccombe – Police and Crime Commissioner
PCSO's Sarah Fretter and Mohsin Yaqub – Warwickshire Police
T Hopkins– Mancetter PC; G Roberts – Hartshill PC
J Vero – Atherstone Civic Society; Jane Kearns

1. Welcome from the Chair

Cllr Clews welcomed everyone to the meeting

2. Apologies and notes of last meeting

Apologies were received from Cllr Chris Clark, Cllr Tony Clews, and Tejay De Kretser

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record.

Matters arising:

- Confirmation from Gafoor Din, WCC, that the proposed crossing on Church Road, near Oldbury Road, Hartshill is one of the schemes put forward by the Safer Routes to School Project Team. Detailed design work for the scheme will start in November 2016. **Action:** WCC Localities and Partnerships Team to confirm the status of the scheme, i.e. if it will definitely go ahead.
- A school crossing patrol warden has now appeared at the site of the prospective crossing

3. Police Update

Safer Neighbourhoods Team –PCSO's Fretter and Yaqub presented a summary of progress and actions taken since the last Forum meeting.

The following comments were made:

- Sharps bins are being taken out on patrol to dispose of any sharps after a number of needles were found in Mancetter Park
- Vulnerability packs are being given out that provide information on scams etc.

- Parking in Oldbury Road – PCSOs have leafleted the street, visited the Royal Oak and displayed posters. Warnings are being issued and noted for repeat offenders.
- Grange Road to be added to campaign.
- This will also include fly tipping.
- Look at possibilities of permits from the care home.
- Ansley Common and Oldbury Road forming a Speed Watch scheme.
- People encouraged to (re)sign up to crime alerts via the Rural Watch website.

Three priorities were carried over:

Priority: ASB – drugs and petty crime in Atherstone.

Priority: ASB – drugs and petty crime in Mancetter.

Priority: ASB – drugs and petty crime in Hartshill.

PCC Phillip Seccombe introduced himself to the group and gave a brief overview of his role:

- Thanked the SNT team for their excellent work
- Drugs will be a priority across the whole county as they connect to a range of crimes
- Priorities would be set based on consultation results but would include rural/cyber/business crime for North Warwickshire

Mr Seccombe invited questions and comments from the group:

- Cllrs Hopkins, Henney and Jarvis all commented on the response times of 999 calls in the area in the absence of the police having a permanent base, with specific reference to farm thefts. Mr Seccombe commented that work was being undertaken to address this, funding was being allocated to update equipment and the use of smart technology will free up officer time resulting in faster response times.
- CCTV targeted at specific hotspots was discussed. Comments on CCTV provision should be directed to NWBC.

Mr Seccombe and Cllr Dirveiks reiterated the importance of reporting crime direct to the police, as quickly as possible and in as much detail as possible.

4. NWBC Local Plan Update

- Mr Maxey presented on the new Local Plan for North Warwickshire, focusing on the site allocations in Atherstone, Hartshill and Ansley Common.
- Mr Maxey highlighted the importance of the consultation period.
- Mr Seccombe requested that crime prevention measures be incorporated into development proposals at an early stage.
- The timescale for the new Local Plan is 2011-2031.

Action: Mr Maxey's presentation to be sent out with these notes.

5. Cyber Crime Presentation

- Mr Gloster advised that his presentation could be delivered to community groups upon request.
- Cllr Clews thanked Mr Gloster, observing that his presentation was well delivered and thought provoking.

Action: Mr Gloster's presentation to be sent out with these notes.

6. "Have Your Say" – Questions and Issues

- Holly Lane street lights – lights have been turned out causing issues for emergency services based there, and also worries around shift workers who use the route. Cllr Dirveiks has asked for an update from the street lighting team.
- Parish Councillor Trevor Hopkins brought to the meetings attention - Ridge Lane change of school catchment – concerns over the change from Hartshill to QE School for Ridge Lane children/residents on the basis there is no regular bus service or safe walking route. The situation is also difficult for parents to manage if children are going to schools in opposite directions. Cllr Dirveiks has asked for a review of the situation.

7. Any other business

- Road signs not visible due to overgrown hedges and trees. **(Specific highways issues to be reported to WCC through "Fix My Street" or the WCC Localities and Partnerships Team or direct to the relevant Highways officer).**
- Oldbury road – regular bonfires, possibly constituting a nuisance. **(Specific issues to be reported to NWBC Environmental Health).**
- Flooding issue Atherstone Road railway bridge. **(Specific issues to be reported to Severn Trent).**
- A number of grant schemes currently open, details on WCC website:
 - County Councillors Grants.
 - Smart Start Grants.
 - Community Buildings Capital Grants.
- WCC Community Computer giveaway – 20 laptops available for North Warwickshire.
- WCC flood risk newsletter available.
- Heritage and Culture Warwickshire consultation document available.

8. Date of next meeting

Thursday 1 December 2016, 6.00pm

For general enquiries please contact the Northern Area Team:
Tel. 01926 737767 or via e-mail northernareateam@warwickshire.gov.uk



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