

MINUTES OF THE AREA FORUM WEST
28 July 2011

The Area Forum West met at Hurley Village Hall, Knowle Hill, Hurley, at 6.30pm.

- Present:** Borough and County Councillor Lea in the Chair
Borough Councillors Lewis, M Moss, Payne and Phillips.
County and Borough Councillor B Moss.
- In attendance:** Linda Bird, Jenny Price and Cheryl Bridges -North Warwickshire Borough Council
Alistair Rigby and Bob Perks – Warwickshire County Council
PC Nina Bowden, and PCSO's Peter Beales and Gavin Scott - Warwickshire Police.
Alex and Helen Simpson, Jenny Pearson and Paul Beavon - Hurley Community Association
Ian and Jean Thomas and Julia Rawlins – PCA
Carol Fox – Warwickshire Police Authority
C Ayasamy – Kingsbury Parish Council
Steve Turner, Tracey Fox, and Fred Lee – Kingsbury Residents
Mary Pitts – Wood End Resident
David Williets – Middleton Parish Council
Anne Rimmer and E G Bullivant – Curdworth Parish Council
John Poole – Lea Marston Parish Council
- Apologies:** Borough Councillor Holland.
P Ross and A Vaughton – Curdworth Parish Council
Kevin Oakley – Lea Marston Parish Council
John Rowland – Middleton Parish Council

1 Minutes of the meeting held on 5 April 2011

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 April 2011 were agreed as true record and signed by the Chairman.

2 Matters Arising and You Said – We Did

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 5 April 2011.

Alistair Rigby presented You Said – We Did, an update on the progress of issues raised at the previous meeting of the Forum. A copy of the presentation can be viewed on the Council's website www.northwarks.gov.uk via the link for minutes and meetings online.

3 Safer Neighbourhoods

PC Nina Bowden, Warwickshire Police, together with Cheryl Bridges, North Warwickshire Borough Council, presented a summary of the progress and actions that had been undertaken on the three PACT priorities nominated by the Forum at its last meeting. A programme of youth related activities and events for July and August was also highlighted. A copy of the summary detailing these actions can be viewed on the Council's website www.northwarks.gov.uk via the link for minutes and meetings online.

A general discussion then followed about the next set of priorities to take forward for this round.

As part of the discussions, a request was made to tackle speeding in the area of Coventry Road / Mill Crescent, Kingsbury. It was agreed that PC Bowden would seek assistance from the traffic department rather than making it a priority at this stage.

It was decided that the priorities to be taken forward from Area Forum West were:-

- ASB Attleboro Lane/Vicarage Lane, Water Orton.
- ASB recreation ground area and St Peters Place.
- ASB Pear Tree Avenue, Kingsbury.

Members of Area Forum West requested that their thanks to PCSO's Scott and Beale for their work on Hurley Police week with Year 6 pupils, be noted.

4 Police Authority Update

Councillor Fox, Police Authority representative, updated the meeting on the proposals for a strategic alliance with West Mercia Police force aimed at providing greater resilience for both forces. It was emphasised that it was an alliance, not a merger, with each Police force retaining their respective Chief Constable.

Further updates included;

- The role of Special Constables
- Launch of an electronic notebook device
- Launch of a national helicopter scheme

Feedback on any issues arising from the introduction of the new Policing Model was requested to help inform any further changes.

5 Public Questions and Parish Issues

North Arden Heritage Trail Feature at Kingsbury

A request was made for a plaque to be installed attributing what the feature was and how it was funded. This would inform the many visitors to Kingsbury who were not walking the trail but were interested to know more about it.

Linda Bird, NWBC, to take request back to Borough Council.

6 Updates

Bob Perks, Warwickshire County Council updated the meeting as follows;

HS2

The official consultation period by HS2 Ltd ends on 29 July 2011. Warwickshire County Council and the Borough Council had sent their responses to the consultation.

Libraries

The decision on the transformation of libraries had been deferred until October 2011. Community groups had until 19 August 2011 to complete their business plans. A meeting with interested parties had taken place with library staff to go through business plans and firm up offers. Water Orton and Kingsbury both had bid proposals.

£100k capital fund was available across the county to help groups set up community libraries.

Youth Service

Following on from the consultation on Youth Services, the Ratcliffe Centre in Atherstone would remain open and become a centre of excellence. The centres at Kingsbury, Polesworth, Baddesley and Coleshill would no longer be run by the County Youth Service.

The responsibility for Kingsbury Youth and Community Centre building would return to the Trustee of the centre.

Funding

£125,000 was available across the whole of Warwickshire from the County Council's Big Society fund to provide grants which directly contribute to building the Big Society in Warwickshire. The fund supports projects that establish well-organised, compassionate and thriving communities where local people can do the things they really think are important to themselves. Closing date for applications - 16 September 2011.

A grant programme worth £50k is available from the Community Development and Small Grant funds. £45k for Community Development fund and £5k for Small Grant fund. Closing date for applications - 16 September 2011.

Community Computers

WCC had 25 recycled desktop computers available free of charge to local community organisations. Closing date for applications – 16 September 2011.

Application forms for all funds were made available at the meeting.

7 Representations on Outside Bodies

The Borough Council asked for recommendations for appointments to the outside bodies 'local' to the area covered by this Area Forum.

It was agreed that the following should be appointed for a period of one year expiring in May 2012.

Kingsbury Liaison Group – Councillor B Moss
Middleton Hall Trust – Councillor Lea
Piccadilly Community Association – Councillor Lewis
Stanyer's Charity – Councillors B and M Moss
Wood End Community Centre – Councillor Phillips.

8 Future Agenda Items

Changes in the planning system.

9 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 13 October 2011 at Piccadilly Community Centre.

Chairman