

MINUTES AREA FORUM EAST

7th February 2012

The Area Forum East met at 6.30pm Partnership Centre,
Coleshill Road, Atherstone

Present: County Councillor / Police Authority - Carol Fox
County Councillor M Shaw

Borough Councillors: L Dirveiks, N Dirveiks, L Freer, D Pickard, T
Wykes, A Forwood

In Attendance: A Rigby, T de Kretser, L Hargreaves - Warwickshire CC
R Beggs - North Warwickshire BC
PC Carter, Sgt Fildes, PCSO T Smith – Warks Police
H Norgrove – NHS Warwickshire
D Clews, R Jarvis - Atherstone TC
B Hanson – Mancetter PC
D Bates, A Murray, K Harper, L Hanson, C Ardbury, D Atkin

1. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Hartshill PC, K Johnston, J Randle, A Macchi, M Singh

2. Minutes and Matters Arising of the meeting held on 6th October 2011

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

A Rigby presented 'You said – We did' reporting back on the actions from the last meeting that were followed up by Warwickshire County Council, (WCC) and NHS Warwickshire. This included Mancetter Extra Care development; faster broadband consultation and update on local Public Health projects

A copy of the presentation can be viewed at www.warwickshire.gov.uk via the link for meetings and minutes.

3. Police Update

Safer Neighbourhoods Team

PC L Carter, Beat Manager for SNT East fed back on Police activity over the last 3 months including the three priorities chosen at the last meeting. The presentation can be viewed at www.northwarks.gov.uk via the link for meetings and minutes.

General points raised by PC L Carter:

Little interest locally in Pub Watch scheme

Shop Watch / Radio Link scheme to be offered to shop keepers. 16-20 radios purchased in 2002. Need funding to replace batteries

PCSO T Smith, Safer Schools Officer based at Hartshill School introduced herself.

Robert Beggs, NWBC announced new indoor skate park on Carlyon Road, Atherstone to open in March.

D Atkin, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator to circulate minutes of meetings to Parish Councils / Residents Associations for posting on local noticeboards. And to circulate through the Forums.

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

Comments made:

- Atherstone shop keepers concern for safety especially around end of day when cashing up
- Cross border work in Chapel End with Nuneaton team to address anti-social behaviour and with SNT South to address nuisance motorcycles on Bretts Hall estate
- Police to continue monitoring use of cones by retailers in Long Street, & Coleshill Road, Atherstone
- Police to look out for off-road motorcyclists around 3M site, Atherstone
- Police to monitor parking outside Nathaniel Newton School, Hartshill
- Councillors to look at ways to support the police in reducing the fear of crime
- Approach to Co-Op to remove alcove on Long Street
- Request for the 'Sold' sign to be removed from police station / former Magistrate Court site, Atherstone
- Request to find a venue for Atherstone boxing club

Priorities for next 3 months:

Priority: Fear of crime – Increase officer presence and more effective use of CCTV in Atherstone town centre

Priority: ASB - Chapel End, Hartshill

Priority: Fear of crime – Increase officer presence at recreation area and shops, Mancetter

Police Authority

Update given by Cllr C Fox.

Police Authority considering proposal to raise share of Council Tax bill by 3.9% which equates to 36 additional police officer posts across the county.

Police Authority and NWBC finalising lease with solicitors for Safer Neighbourhood Teams to move into Old Bank House, Atherstone in April.

Conditional offer has been accepted on sale of police station / former Magistrate Court site, Atherstone. Planning application could be submitted in 2 / 3 months.

4. Tell us your issues

Request for better promotion of future consultation events around the Mancetter Extra Care scheme, Mancetter.

Request for enforcement on individuals / businesses to remove wheelie bins from pavements in Atherstone town centre after collection day.

David Bates, Youth Worker, WAYC (Warwickshire Association of Youth Clubs) announced a new youth project in Mancetter. 'Mancetter Youth Futures' is an 18 month project supported by LEADER funding to engage and support young people. The project offers a youth setting at St Peter's Church, Mancetter 6.30 – 8.30pm on Mondays (term time only). Sessions are free and include snacks and drinks.

The project is looking for volunteers to train and help deliver the project.

5. George Eliot Hospital Trust

Heather Norgrove, Director of Stakeholder Engagement presented the Trust's ambition to seek a strategic alliance with a similar organisation in order to secure Foundation Status.

Further information and a questionnaire is available at www.geh.nhs.uk Otherwise call tel. 024 76 865383 for a questionnaire.

A wealth of information has been posted on the hospital's website to give people all the background information.

In a separate piece of work being led by the Coventry & Warwickshire Primary Care Trust public consultation is planned for the future of women's and children's services at George Eliot Hospital.

The George Eliot Hospital Trust has proposed a preferred model of services to be provided by the hospital which will be considered by Coventry & Warwickshire Primary Care Trust before wider consultation begins

6. Funding: Queen's Diamond Jubilee grants (NWBC)

Borough Councillors agreed to make available £3,300 to support local communities celebrate The Queen's diamond jubilee. They agreed to divide the pot equally between the communities of Atherstone, Mancetter (inc Ridge Lane) and Hartshill.

Funding would support up to 6 constituted groups provide community based activities (£500) and up to 3 groups / individuals put on a street party (£100).

7. Any other business

Look into opportunity of Portas Pilot competition launched by Local Government Minister Grant Shapps.

8. Suggestions for items / themes for next meeting

None

9. Date of next meeeting

Tuesday, 12 June 2012