

# MINUTES OF THE AREA FORUM WEST

28 February 2012

The Area Forum West met at St Nicholas Church Hall, Glebefields, Curdworth at 6.30pm.

## **Present:**

Borough and County Councillor Lea in the Chair.

Borough Councillors Holland, Lewis, M Moss, Payne and Phillips. Borough and County Councillor B Moss.

## **In attendance:**

J Price and C Bridges -North Warwickshire Borough Council. A Rigby, B Perks S Board and M Rozanski – Warwickshire County Council. PC Bowden, PCSO's McMurchie, Beale and Scott - Warwickshire Police. K Kelly - George Eliot Hospital. J Thomas and J Rawlins – Piccadilly Community Association. C Fox – Warwickshire Police Authority. A Vaughton, A Rimmer, M Weatherley and P Ross – Curdworth Parish Council. C Ayasamy - Kingsbury Parish Council. K Thomas – Resident. J Poole, K Oakley and R Swinnerston – Lea Marston Parish Council. R Pearson – Coleshill and District Civic Society. C Piper – WOVPG.

## **1 Apologies.**

None.

## **2 Minutes of the meeting held on 13 October 2011**

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 October 2011 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

## **3 Matters Arising and You said – We Did**

Alistair Rigby (WCC) presented 'You said – We Did' reporting back on the actions from the last meeting. A copy of the presentation can be viewed at [www.warwickshire.gov.uk](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk) via the link for meetings and minutes.

A request was made to look at providing similar signage to that being provided at Piccadilly to warn lorries of potential grounding on the bridge at Curdworth.

## **4 Safer Neighbourhoods**

PCSO Caroline McMurchie, 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 copy of the summary detailing these actions can be viewed on the Council's website [www.northwarks.gov.uk](http://www.northwarks.gov.uk) via the link for meetings and minutes.

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

It was decided that two priorities would be taken forward from Area Forum West this time:-

- ASB– St Peters Recreation Ground, Kingsbury.
- ASB – Church Lane, Lea Marston.

## 5 Police Authority Update

Carol Fox, Police Authority representative, updated the meeting on the changes taking place within the Police service. These were:

- Police precept of Council Tax bill to be increased by 3.9%, which equates to an increase of £6.86 per year for a Band D property.
- Police Authority to cease on 22 November 2012.
- Work continuing on the strategic alliance – more information in May 2012.

## 6 Public Questions and Parish Issues

- Request from Curdworth Parish Council to address parking problems around the location of the school in Farthing Lane and Beehive Lane, Curdworth. Similar to those problems experienced at Water Orton. Curdworth Parish Council to submit suggestions to address the issue to Christine Lambert, WCC.
- Request to look at a solution to vehicles parking on the verge on the A4097 Curdworth obstructing vision. **Action: WCC to look into possible solutions.**
- Request from Lea Marston Parish Council to look at issues with car boot sales. Clarification was sought on the interpretation of a car boot sale and a market. The Parish Council's view was that the scope of the car boot sale at Lea Marston was becoming a full scale market. Reference made to the need to attach a set of conditions to permitted development rights of car boot sales. **Action: Jeff Brown and Steve Maxey to contact Lea Marston Parish Council.**
- Also raised was the issue of the status of Enforcement Officers in the Borough and the effect of budget restrictions on enforcement actions. Six events awaiting enforcement action. **Action: Meeting to be arranged with Jeff Brown, Steve Maxey and the Parish Council to discuss matters in greater detail.**

## 7 Health Update

### George Eliot Hospital – securing a sustainable future

Kath Kelly, George Eliot Hospital, reported that the Trust would not be pursuing foundation trust status as a standalone organisation and instead

was looking to work with partner organisations to secure a strong and sustainable future for the hospital. Comments were welcomed either via the website, freepost or by completion of the questionnaire in the BLEEP magazine circulated at the meeting.

#### Local HealthWatch

Monika Rozanski, WCC, presented a background to Local HealthWatch in Warwickshire and invited comments on how to shape the future.

### **8 HS2 Update**

Sara Board, WCC, briefly outlined the background of the HS2 consultation and the announcement of the decision to go ahead with the project. She gave an update on progress of the HS2 judicial review and explained the judicial review process.

HS2 was in the process of arranging community lead forums to engage with the local community. Confirmation was given that the first forum would take place on 3 April 2012 at Middleton Village Hall.

The 'Y' route announcement was expected in March 2012.

### **9 Libraries Update**

#### Water Orton Library and Community Centre

Details of the setting up and funding of Water Orton Library and Community Centre were given by Councillor Holland. The multi-purpose facility contained a small office to be used by the job club, police surgery and community hub. A funding application had been made to provide new toilet facilities and a small kitchen.

#### Kingsbury Mobile Library Service

Jean Thomas reported that Kingsbury Library was to close on 31 March 2012 and would be replaced with a mobile library service from 4 April 2012. WCC mobile library services to provide a permanent service for a half day per week. Wednesdays: 1.00pm – 2.25pm at The Swan Car Park and 2.40pm – 4.00pm at the Primary School.

### **10 Area Forum Fund – Queen's Diamond Jubilee Grants**

Cheryl Bridges explained that since publication of the report included in the agenda, the Full Council had met and approved an additional £20,000 of funding for the whole Borough towards street parities to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Borough Councillors were asked to decide how the grant applications to Area Forum West should be administered.

**Resolved:**

**That the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Area Forum West be given delegated powers to approve applications to the Queen's Diamond Jubilee fund.**

**11 Future Agenda Items**

- Question and answer session on the changes to public transport following the reduction in service.

**12 Date of the Next Meeting**

Thursday 31 May 2012 at Kingsbury Methodist Church Hall, Barlow Court, Kingsbury.

Chairman