

## MINUTES OF THE AREA FORUM EAST

14 January 2010

The Area Forum East met at 6.30pm at NWBC Council Chamber, Atherstone

**Present:** Councillor C Fox in the Chair

Borough Councillors: M Davis, T Wykes, N Dirveiks, L Dirveiks, D Pickard

**In Attendance:** S Robson, A Rigby, C Jones, C Carr - Warwickshire CC  
A McLauchlan, C Bridges, A Wilson, – North Warwickshire BC  
Insp Bamford, Sgt Fildes, PCSO Kirven – Warwickshire Police  
Andy Bates - Warwickshire Fire Service  
C Cardus – Warwickshire LINK  
J White – University Hospital Coventry & Warwickshire  
D Key, R Parker – WCAVA North Warwickshire  
S Healy, D Clay, M Wrigley, J Marshall, T Hopkins, J Randle, D Clews,  
R Jarvis, R Chambers, T Wright, T Wilmot

### 1. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from K Johnston, L Freer, A Forwood, D Atkin

### 2. Minutes and Matters Arising of the meeting held on 13 October 2009

The minutes were agreed as a true record. With the addition under Item 7 'Role of Dog Warden' some thought it inappropriate to reward owners for cleaning up after their dogs when it is something they are legally bound to do, and the money that is proposed to use for rewards could be better spent elsewhere.

The Forum wished to pass on a goodwill message to Leighton Somers, Dog Warden, NWBC who has recently begun a staged returned to work following an attack by a member of the public.

Sgt Fildes to inform David Baxendale, NWBC of the date for the court case.

In the Dog Warden's absence the post was covered on a part time basis by the Pest Control Officer. The officer will continue to give support. The public should continue to report incidences. These will be prioritised and actioned accordingly.

Planning application has been submitted for floodlights of tennis courts at QE School, Atherstone. They should be available for the wider community to use in the summer.

The Area Pledge to 'Improving Activities for teenagers' will be brought back to the July Forum for an update.

### **3. Safer Neighbourhoods Update**

Sgt Fildes introduced Inspector Alan Bamford and PCSO Lucy Kirven both newly appointed.

Sgt Fildes encouraged more people to sign up to receive the 'Good News Stories' email sent out by the police to inform the community of local successes in tackling crime.

To receive the emails please contact:

[cherylbridges@northwarks.gov.uk](mailto:cherylbridges@northwarks.gov.uk);

[roger.fildes@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:roger.fildes@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk);

[cllrfox@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:cllrfox@warwickshire.gov.uk)

Sgt Fildes presented an update on police activity over the last 3 months and gave a summary of the progress and actions to address the Area Forum priorities chosen at the 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 online.

C Bridges gave an update on the work undertaken by Borough Officers to deliver diversionary activities to young people in North Warwickshire. The Community Safety Partnership priorities for 2010/11 are to address:

Violent Crime to include domestic abuse, youth related, alcohol related

Anti social behaviour

Acquisitive crime (theft from home, vehicle)

Improving public confidence

In response to a question on support offered to victims of crime, PCSOs have provided follow up visits from 14 December 2009.

Hartshill Parish Council passed on their thanks to the police and partners for reducing anti social behaviour in the village.

Atherstone Town Council reported that a graffiti artist has been caught on CCTV and prosecuted. Sgt Fildes to highlight success in a press release.

In response to a request to improve HGV signage at Ridge Lane Sgt Fildes to speak to Archibolds, Ansley Workshops, Coleshill Road. WCC Road Safety Dept to check existing signage.

Sgt Fildes and Licensing Enforcement Officer, NWBC to agree way forward in responding to community issues.

Following a brief discussion on parking enforcement it was agreed to raise it as an item at a future meeting and have an informed debate.

It was agreed that PC Finney would investigate parking along Erdington Road, Atherstone and vehicles with expired tax discs around Westwood Road.

S Robson, WCC to provide update on new crossing outside Costcutter Store, Hartshill.

#### **4. Setting Forum priorities for next 3 months**

The following priorities were agreed:

Parking – bottom of School Hill, Hartshill

Anti social behaviour – CostCutter & Supermart Stores, Hartshill

Anti social behaviour – St Mary's Play Area, Atherstone

#### **5. Tell us your issues**

None raised

#### **6. University Hospital Coventry & Warwickshire**

Janet White, Foundation Trust Project Director gave a presentation on the benefits of becoming a Foundation Trust. J White also explained the role of becoming a member of the Trust and encouraged more people in North Warwickshire to join up. Information leaflets and application forms were circulated. For more information contact:

[www.uhcw.nhs.uk/foundationtrust](http://www.uhcw.nhs.uk/foundationtrust)

Tel. 02476 964747

In response to a question on parking charges at Walsgrave Hospital, Coventry, the hospital does not own the site and has no influence on charges. The government is looking at a national consultation on hospital parking.

Members of the public can sign up to be a member of George Eliot Foundation Trust as well as the University Hospital Foundation Trust

The benefits for members are being looked at. One possibility could be accessing the NHS staff discount scheme. J White concluded by explaining the difference between being a member and being an elected governor to the assembly.

#### **7. Warwickshire LINK**

Claire Cardus, Community Engagement Officer gave a presentation on the role of the LINK and how they work with local people to take forward issues of concern relating to local health and social care services. Those present were encouraged to complete a questionnaire about their experiences of using health and social care services in Warwickshire. Further information on the role of Warwickshire LINK can be found on their website – [www.warwickshirelink.co.uk](http://www.warwickshirelink.co.uk).

An update was requested on the current projects being investigated by Warwickshire LINK. Including: Out of hours GP service; RNIB accessibility to health care project; Barriers to health care for those with mental health issues and carers.

Warwickshire LINK newsletter and survey to be circulated to WCAVA and Town & Parish Councils

## **8. Warwickshire CAVA**

D Key, Localities Manager (North Warwickshire) and R Parker, Community Development Officer (North Warwickshire) gave a presentation introducing the organisation which strives to support a stronger voluntary and community sector in Warwickshire. Locally the North Warwickshire office supports a wide variety of community organisations and voluntary groups to run local services and facilities. Eg village halls, older peoples groups, pre-schools, luncheon clubs and playgroups.

Support is offered to help set up and develop groups by offering advice on constitutions, governance and policy arrangements. Advice is also given on funding opportunities and business planning. Affiliated groups receive regular emails and newsletters.

The team manages two projects ReVOLve (Youth volunteering project for 16 – 25 yr olds) and Community Accountancy Service. Over the last 6 years the local office has helped attract over £2million of funding into North Warwickshire.

WCAVA North Warwickshire receives funding from Warwickshire County Council and North Warwickshire Borough Council.

## **9. Green Space Strategy Fund**

A Wilson, NWBC presented the report recommending that £10,000 is offered to QE School and Sports College to help fund the installation of a synthetic turf pitch.

Borough Councillors took a vote and agreed the recommendation.

## **10. Suggestions for items / themes for the next meeting**

Increasing public attendance at Forum meetings  
Pilot young people's section on the agenda  
Parking enforcement

## **11. Any Other Business**

S Robson informed of latest consultation round for the Local Transport Plan (LTP) from Warwickshire County Council. The consultation will help shape future transport delivery in the local area. Questionnaires were circulated. People can also participate at [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/ltp3](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/ltp3)  
Telephone LTP team 01926 410410

Minutes to be forwarded to Town Clerk, Atherstone Town Council

## **12. Date of next meeting**

Tuesday, 20 April 2010