

Note of the Area Forum South meeting held at Maxstoke Village Hall, Maxstoke on Tuesday 4 September 2012

Present:

Councillor Sherratt in the Chair. Councillors, Barber, Ferro, Fowler, Fox, Watkins

In Attendance:

PC Beaty (Beat Manager) PCSO McGuinness – Warwickshire Police. M Gibbins – Warwickshire County Council. R Beggs, S Roberts, M Shaw – North Warwickshire Borough Council. T French – George Eliot Hospital. P Reader – Arley Parish Council. L Jones, D Green – Maxstoke Parish Council. S Onions, A R Pargetter, S Taylor – Fillongley Parish Council. A Perkins – Astley Parish Council. B Martin – Ansley Parish Council. J Wall, J Barry, T Gordon, J Jordison, D Mills, J Mills, J Reynolds, K Parker – Residents.

Apologies:

Councillors Hayfield and Smith and Corley Parish Council.

1 Safer Neighbourhoods Update

As part of the Safer Neighbourhoods Update the following three priorities were agreed:-

- Speeding at Furnace End Crossroads, Over Whitacre
- Motorbikes, Birmingham Road/Wheeley Moor Farm, Coleshill
- Anti social behaviour Memorial Park, Coleshill

2 Police Authority Update

Update given by Peter Fowler, Police Authority representative.

It was confirmed that there are only three meetings remaining for the Police Authority with the election of the Police and Crime Commissioner (P&CC) on 15 November. The P&CC will come into office, and the Police Authority cease, on 22 November. The Police Authority will be considering a report setting out proposals for the reinvestment of a one off £6m under spend to address key Police priorities.

The Coleshill SNT team should be in their new base by the end of October. It is not open to the public unless by appointment.

3 Community Hubs

Sally Roberts, North Warwickshire Borough Council, provided an update on the current position concerning the development of Community Hubs. Sally confirmed that the Hubs have a number of laptops plus a printer/scanner and pre-programmed phone to help the user contact a number of key organisations e.g. NWBC, CAB, Severn Trent etc. A number of “strategic” hubs also have video conferencing facilities. The hub at Coleshill Town Hall is due to open on 16 October.

In response to questions it was confirmed that:

- With regard to attracting more volunteers it was accepted that this can be improved and work is underway with the Volunteer Co-ordinator at the North Warwickshire Volunteer Centre to address this.

- Signage for the hubs is available and they are looking at ways to improve the offer.
- Work is underway with tenant forums - the hub at Ansley is located in St Johns Community Rooms.

4 **George Eliot Hospital: Securing a Sustainable Future**

Teresa French, George Eliot Hospital, presented a summary of the progress and actions that had been undertaken since the last meeting of the Forum.

In response to issues raised it was confirmed that:

- Any contract is likely to be between 5-10 years.
- Capital investment would continue to improve facilities
- There will continue to be a focus on patient care and clinical quality to ensure quality of services.
- The partner will have a proven track record of delivery and could be either an NHS or non-NHS provider.
- For patients it will mean better services.
- Services will be locally determined and controlled.

5 **Questions & Issues**

- Fly tipping was highlighted in Maxstoke (Castle Lane and by the The Green). This was also highlighted as an issue for Fillongley and Corley.
- Concern was raised by a number of parishes about planning enforcement, in particular the length of time it can take for enforcement action to be agreed. It was suggested that more decisions on enforcement should be delegated to officers.
- Those present expressed concern about proposal by Morrisons to extend the hours for delivery to 24 hour. Any comments on the proposal should be sent to Jeff Brown at NWBC.
- The location of any new leisure centre in Coleshill was raised. During discussion it was confirmed that the preferred option was to co-locate the facility at Coleshill School and this was being investigated. There will be a report to Community & Environment Board (NWBC) in due course.

6 **Next Meeting**

6 December 2012 - Arley Community Centre, Gun Hill, Arley