



AREA FORUM SOUTH

Thursday 27 October 2011

Coleshill Town Hall, High Street, Coleshill, B46 3BG

AGENDA

6.30 – 7.00 – Community Drop-in and networking Session

Please come along and talk to Councillors, Council Staff and the Police about issues you might have.

7.00pm – Main Meeting

- 1 Welcome from the Chair,**
- 2 Apologies/Minutes/You said We did (update on issues raised at the last Area Forum meeting)**
- 3 Police Update**
Safer Neighbourhoods Team
- 4. Police Authority update – Cllr Peter Fowler**
- 5. Health Update**
Annual Report on Public Health
North Warwickshire Health Profile 2011
- 6. Questions - An opportunity for issues of local concern to be raised**
- 7. WCC Update**
Libraries
- 8. NWBC update**
Community Hubs
Draft Core Strategy
Tame Valley Project
- 9. Suggestions for items/themes for the next meeting**
- 10. Future Meeting Dates:** Tuesday 14 February 2012
Thursday 14 June 2012
Tuesday 4 September 2012
Tuesday 4 December 2012

For general enquiries please contact Jo Giblin, North Warwickshire Area Office
on 01827 719317 or via e-mail jogiblin@warwickshire.gov.uk

MINUTES OF THE AREA FORUM SOUTH

Tuesday 12 July 2011

The Area Forum South met at Astley Reading Room, Astley at 7.00pm.

Present: Councillor Hayfield in the Chair.

Councillors Fowler, Fox, Smith, Ferro, Watkins, Barber

In Attendance: Robert Beggs – North Warwickshire Borough Council
PC Ellen Beaty (Beat Manager), & John Reeves, PCSO Phil McGuinness & Jane Owen – Warwickshire Police
Martin Gibbins – Warwickshire County Council
Gordon Etheridge, Barry Cotton – Shustoke Parish Council
Richard Williams – Corley Parish Council
Brian Martin – Ansley Parish Council
Jane Sands – Ansley Parish Council Clerk
Alison Perkins, Olivia Hunter – Astley Parish Council
Gill Guy, Gail Williams – Arley Parish Council
Bill Richards Coleshill Town Council
Sue Taylor – Fillongley Parish Council

J Hoyle, Paul Reader, Jillian Wall, John Wall, Jane Ormrod, John Taylor

and others. (30 people attended)

1. Apologies for absence.

Cllr Sherratt, Joanna Rhodes (WCC), John Poole (Clerk to Shustoke Parish Council)

2. Minutes & You Said We Did

The minutes of the meeting of the Area Forum South, held on 19 April 2011, copy herewith, were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Martin Gibbins provided an update – You Said We Did concerning progress made in addressing issues raised at the previous meeting of Area Forum South. A copy of the presentation can be viewed on the Councils website www.warwickshire.gov.uk via the link for meetings and minutes online

3. Safer Neighbourhoods Update

PC Ellen Beaty, Warwickshire Police and Robert Beggs, North Warwickshire Borough Council, presented a summary of the progress and actions that had been undertaken since the last meeting of the Forum. A copy of the summary detailing these actions can be viewed on the Council's website www.warwickshire.gov.uk via the link for meetings and minutes online.

The priorities identified were:

- Anti social behaviour, damage & robberies - Coleshill Memorial park
- Nuisance motorcycles to the rear of Sycamore Crescent Arley

Other issues raised included:

Coleshill Library is receiving more enquiries than expected which is positive. It was noted that shotgun certificates are dealt with at the desk or can be dealt with via the post.

Work will be undertaken with Coleshill Primary in the Autumn involving pupils focussed on parking issues at dropping off and collecting times.

4 Police Authority

Peter Fowler, 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 information concerning the Police Authority can be found on the website:
www.warwickshirepa.gov.uk

Peter Fowler highlighted the crime mapping function available on the website <http://www.police.uk/crime>. To use this simply type in the post code and a map is then produced showing offences committed within the area.

Some concerns were expressed regarding the potential reduction in opening hours at Coleshill library with the front reception service for the Police being provided from there.

4 Public Questions & Parish Issues

Arley – land to the rear of Silver Knight depot – Cllr Fox confirmed that the Police and Fire Service are aware of the issue.

Astley – Accidents and speed of vehicles approaching the crossroads, including those using Nuthurst lane. It was agreed that Christine Lambert should be asked to attend the next meeting of Astley Parish Council to provide an update.

Fillongley – Overflowing bottle bank adjacent to the Village Hall. Restricted visibility at the junction of Wood End Lane/Park Lane due to overgrown verges.

Shustoke – dumped mattress on Castle Lane (1st gate on the lane) hasn't been removed in spite of being reported.

Waste disposal & recycling – An update was requested on recycling arrangements for glass bottles from clubs & pubs or whether they go to landfill. Concern was also raised about recycling vehicles not going out to Astley in particular Cow Lees/Astley Lane. Green bin collections being missed at Charles Street New Arley and the distribution of orange bags in Fillongley.

6 Updates

HS2 – Closing date for the consultation on HS2 being led by HS2 Ltd is 29 July. The County Council Cabinet is due to consider the response to the consultation on HS2 on 14 July and the Borough Council on 18 July. Both Councils have already indicated their opposition to the proposal for HS2.

Libraries & Youth Centres – The Forum was provided with an update concerning the outcome of the consultations undertaken by the County Council into the future provision of library services and Youth Services.

It was confirmed that the only County Council Youth Centre will be in Atherstone and will act as a “Centre of Excellence”. The “Centre of Excellence” will act as a base for expertise and support to be available to local organisations which are taking on responsibility for working with young people. From the centre good quality programmes will be offered to young people that can be shared and replicated.

Funding News – It was confirmed that the County Councils North Warwickshire Area Committee were due to consider proposals for the use of the Area Community grants at the meeting on 20 July. The total fund available was £50,000.

7. Representatives on Outside Bodies

The Area Forum considered a report seeking recommendations for appointments to the outside bodies. It was agreed that:

Coleshill Grammar School Endowment Foundation – Councillors Gordon Sherratt and Andrew Watkins

8. Potential Issues for Future Meetings

Transport
Localism Bill
Powers of Parish & Town Councils
Future direction of Borough Council

Future Meeting Dates

27 October 2011

Briefing Note to Area Forums

Creating a Community Hub

Project aim

The aim is to reduce the impact of social and rural isolation by improving access to services.

This pilot project will support the creation of community hubs e.g. ICT - internet access, training software and volunteering.

Target community

This project will support rurally isolated communities, who have limited and/or no access to transport. It will help to address inequalities and will bring different groups of people together within the parish.

The main activities of a Community Hub include:

Providing IT, internet facilities such as Broadband with Wi-Fi, Public access computers or laptops, printer or photocopier, projector and screen, hobby software, digital camera and a Nintendo Wii.

The Community hub will enable all people with limited or no access to the internet to use the facilities. This project puts local people at the heart of the service design by providing a hub and spoke model that reaches out to hard to reach groups and isolated communities thus making a real difference to people's lives.

With IT facilities there is potential to start new activities at the venue (provided there are local volunteers who can help) such as

- Film evenings
- IT training courses *
- UK online Centre (enabling people to learn the basics)
- Hobby software
- Meeting place

The revenue costs will need to be funded via a parish precept or for paying for hire / use of facility or for printing. This will be a decision for each community hub.

What sort of funding will suit you?

The Borough Council working with the County Council and North Warwickshire CAVA are keen to assist you in setting up ICT hubs across the Borough. This help will extend to helping you make funding applications providing data to assist in any consultation work you may need to do to justify setting up a hub and thereafter providing staff support available in terms of set up advice, and providing technical and procurement advice in terms of the equipment.

Strategic B.O.B Stops:

If your venue is in a target area and there is funding identified, North Warwickshire Borough Council may be able to offer some funding to pay for your running costs and will support you in the making of an application to fund capital costs.

Other Community B.O.B Stops

We are also interested in helping to establish hubs across the Borough where similar help and support can be given to that detailed above although will rely on the local parish council or community funding the ongoing revenue costs of running the hub. If it is not possible to raise these funds by a small increase of the parish precept, it is expected that facilities may be able to pay for themselves. This will require a business plan and a clear idea about what it is costing to run and what you can charge.

Grants:

There are a number of funding bodies who may be able to help with the initial capital costs. They will have particular criteria that they will want you to fulfil. Some potential funders are:

- Awards for All
- LEADER funding
- North Warwickshire Access Funding
- Other National Funding (as appropriate)

ICT Support

Whilst still to be agreed, we hope to be in a position to support ICT hubs via NWBC staff along the lines of Helpdesk support from NWBC initially (between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday) with a 48-Hour Promise – Remote Support and 5 working day promise – On Site support.

Tips from successful Broad places (a similar scheme set up in Shropshire)

1. Research your potential market. Many people have computer access at home now, so IT access in a community venue needs to offer something extra.
2. Involve as many people and groups as possible from the start. A small number of volunteers will lose interest quickly.
3. Don't let kit, sit in cupboard unused for months because you are afraid to give the keys out. Make equipment as accessible as possible. If only one person has the key then it won't get used. Anyone hiring your venue should automatically have access to the equipment. If you are concerned about theft or damage take a deposit.
4. If you are marketing to organisations for training, conference and meeting purposes make sure that they will receive a professional service and charge accordingly.
5. Incorporate your local website for publicity or if you don't have one, set one up.
6. Young people will naturally make use of the facilities. An existing youth club will benefit from access but it needs to be supervised. If you don't have an existing youth club or very committed local volunteers you may have to get funding for a youth worker, as it is a lot to ask a volunteer.

A meeting has been arranged with all parishes or areas who have already expressed an interest and is open to any other group or parish who wish to find out more. This is an opportunity to improve local services. The meeting will last no more than 90 minutes and consists of a presentation and a question and answer session.

Community Hub Meeting

Tuesday 8 November 2011 at 7.00 pm
The Council Chamber, North Warwickshire Borough Council,
South Street, Atherstone. CV9 1DE.

**Area Forum South – 27 October 2011
Draft Core Strategy**

Recommendation

That the report be noted

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Borough Council has prepared for publication a Draft Core Strategy. This document will in part take over from the North Warwickshire Local Plan 2006 and sets out the strategic planning policies. This is an opportunity for residents, businesses and other stakeholders to give their views on what is included and, perhaps just as importantly, what has not been included in the formal submission Draft Strategy.

2 Draft Core Strategy

- 2.1 The consultation on the Draft Core Strategy will last for 12 weeks from late October 2011 until mid January 2012. The consultation will include:
- Information on the Council's website;
 - Documents to be physically available in libraries and one stop shop;
 - Manned and unmanned displays in various locations throughout the Borough;
 - Mail shot, either by post or by email, letting those on LDF database know of consultation process (this list includes all Parish Councils);
 - Article in North Talk;
 - Press releases; and,
 - Talks / presentations to specific groups and partners.
- More detailed information will be available over the coming weeks as the details are finalised.
- 2.2 The Forward Planning Team will be contacting all Parish Councils to arrange a set of presentations on the Draft Core Strategy. Parish Councils will also be sent a paper copy of the document.
- 2.3 The following documents will accompany the Draft Core Strategy and will also be available as highlighted above:
- Sustainability Report
 - Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report
 - Equalities Impact Report
 - Key Diagram
 - Rural Proofing

The Contact Officer for this report is Dorothy Barratt (01827 719250).