

**MINUTES OF THE AREA FORUM SOUTH**

**THURSDAY, 20 JANUARY 2011**

The Area Forum South met at Corley Village Hall, Corley at 7.00pm.

**Present:** Councillor Hayfield in the Chair.

Councillors Fowler, Gordon, Sherratt, Fox

**In Attendance:** Cheryl Bridges, Bob Trahern, – North Warwickshire Borough Council

Joanne Rhodes, & Martin Gibbins – Warwickshire County Council

Sgt Sean Albrighton, Inspector Mike Smith & PCSO– Warwickshire Police

Andy Bates – Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service

John Poole – Shustoke & Maxstoke Parish Council Clerk

Richard Thomas, Peter Gray – Shustoke Parish Council

E Bradford – Corley Parish Council

B Martin, – Ansley Parish Council

Paul Reader, Eric Fellows – Arley Parish Council

- Arley

Karen Barber – Ansley Parish Council

Alison Perkins – Astley Parish Council

Katy Harper – Beeline Community Transport

John Wall & Jillian Wall - Coleshill

Eric Fellows & Gill Guy

Jane Ormrod Coleshill residents

**1. Apologies for absence.**

Cllr Fox, Smith, Bowden, Zgraja,

**2. Minutes**

It was requested that Stanley Osborne be changed to Sandy Osbourne.

The minutes of the meeting of the Area Forum South, held on 27 October 2010, copy herewith, were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman, subject to the amendment above.

**3. Matters Arising**

No matters raised.

#### **4. Safer Neighbourhoods Update**

Sergeant Sean Albrighton, Warwickshire Police, 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.northwarks.gov.uk](http://www.northwarks.gov.uk) via the link for meetings and minutes online.

The Forum was informed that Sergeant Albrighton, as part of the proposed changes to the Police structures, would no longer be responsible for the Safer Neighbourhoods Team covering Area Forum South. In the future Sergeant Roger Fildes would be responsible for the area.

Pc Andrew Hopkins has retired and the beat will be covered by PC Ellen Beaty and PC Paul Vaughton until new policing arrangements are put in place..

The priority agreed was:

Anti social behaviour in the High Street and immediate area including Chamberlain Walk and Church Hill

Other issues raised included:

Speed of traffic outside Bournebrook C. of E Primary School in Fillongley

Speeding along Nuthurst Lane, Astley and damage to road signs as a result of collisions (not a 30mph road so SNT cannot take action).

#### **5 Police Authority – Police Model**

Cllr Fox introduced the Warwickshire Police 150plus Programme that will shape a new policing service in Warwickshire and respond to the Coalition government's Comprehensive Spending Review for the Force to make £22.9m savings over the next 4 years.

The Police Authority has approved the 4 year savings programme and the new policing model which will come into operation on 9 May 2011.

At a local level the 4 Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNT) will remain. Sgt Fildes will be the Beat Manager. The changes will increase the visibility of all 4 SNT teams with support from the Patrol Team

There will be 3 countywide policing teams:

- 33 Safer Neighbourhood Teams – tackling the problems and the people that cause you harm
- Patrol Team – Visible patrols concentrating on areas most affected by crime & disorder and responding to incidents
- Investigation Team – Investigate incidences and identify those responsible

A lengthy discussion took place and Councillor Fox responded to numerous questions from the floor.

## **6 HS2**

Mandy Walker introduced the item and explained the background to the proposal and the current position including opposition by both Warwickshire County Council and North Warwickshire Borough Council.

A number of issues were raised including:

When will the formal consultation on the proposals be undertaken – it was indicated that this is likely to be from February to July though details have yet to be confirmed.

The construction of a large car park just over the border will result in more vehicles travelling through the area.

The disruption caused by the construction of HS” which could last 5-8 years.

Were there any plans to expand Birmingham Airport – It was indicated that there were none at present.

What are the costs and benefits of improving the existing network – These have been looked at but the detail has not been published

If the route is expanded to go north of Birmingham there will be a greater impact on the Borough.

The proposals will not go through the normal planning process but will be via parliament in the form of a hybrid bill.

There is considerable opposition to the proposals with over 100 groups set up to oppose the scheme.

It was agreed that there would be regular updates to the Area Forum and a regular briefing note would be provided.

## **7 Sustainable Community Strategy Fund**

The recommendations in the report were agreed.

## **8 Public Questions & Parish Issues**

A number of local issues were highlighted including:

The potential for the development of a “park & stride” scheme serving Coleshill C of E Primary School.

Concern was expressed at the potential for an accident outside Astley School - could the speed limit be reduced from 50 to 30 mph.

Speed of vehicles along Castle Lane, Maxstoke.

A request was made for an update on the current position with regard to the traffic scheme for Ansley.

Concern was expressed about the number of plastic bottles blowing around outside the old workshops on Pipers Lane. Bob Trahern agreed to follow this up.

Fly tipping on Watery Lane just off the highway. Bob Trahern agreed to investigate the issue.

Could the green at New Arley be adopted as a Village Green. Arley Parish Council might be willing to contribute towards the costs.

Fly tipped tyres on the roads around Arley.

Questions were raised about the "van ban" policy and what it covered for the household waste recycling sites. It was agreed that an update would be provided on the current policy.

A request was made for the provision of a bus stop to serve Woodlands cemetery. It was agreed that this would be followed up with WCC.

As there had been yet another accident causing damage to the Bridge over the Blyth near to Coleshill have the causes of the accidents been investigated.

The potential for cuts to the budget of Beeline Community Transport was raised. It was recognised that there were many challenges ahead for the whole public sector and many difficult decisions would have to be made. The potential for parish councils collaborating on supporting some services for the benefit of their communities was highlighted.

### **Future Meeting Dates**

Tuesday 19 April 2011 – Coleshill Town Hall

Tuesday 12 July 2011

Thursday 27 October 2011