

Area Forum East

Mancetter Village Hall

Old Farm Road, Mancetter, CV9 1UK

Tuesday 20 April 2010

AGENDA

6.00 – 6.30 – Surgery Session

Please come along and talk to councillors, council staff and the Police about issues you might have.

6.30 – Main Meeting

- 1 **Welcome from the Chair, Cllr Martin Davis**
- 2 **Apologies, Minutes and Matters Arising of the meeting held on 14 January 2010.**
- 3 **Safer Neighbourhoods update (30 minutes)**
- 4 **Setting Forum Priorities for Next 3 Months (5 minutes)**
- 5 **Tell us your issues** - An opportunity for issues of local concern to be raised (Please contact Jo Roberts if you wish to speak)
- 6 **Sustainable Community Strategy – Developing Forum Priorities (20 minutes)**
- 7 **Funding including Area Forum Fund (10 minutes)**
- 8 **Any Other Business**
- 9 **Suggestions for items/themes for the next meeting**

Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 27 July 2010 – North Warwickshire Borough Council
(Council Chamber)

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



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 return 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;

roger.fildes@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk;

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 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

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.

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
Telephone LTP team 01926 410410

Minutes to be forwarded to Town Clerk, Atherstone Town Council

12. Date of next meeting

Tuesday, 20 April 2010

Area Forum East – 27 April 2010

Area Forum Fund

Recommendation

That the three eligible applications to the Area Forum Fund be granted awards as indicated in the report.

1. Summary

1.1 This report summarises the Area Forum Funds eligibility criteria and informs members of available funds and applications received.

2. Area Forum Fund

2.1 The Area Forum Fund was established following a report to the Executive Board in July 2003, which recommended setting up the Fund to support projects of importance to each local Forum area.

2.2 A total sum of £35,000 has been allocated to the Area Forum Fund, this figure being based on a formula of £1,000 per ward member. Following the May 2008 Forum boundary changes, this method of allocation results in each Forum having the following sums available for local disbursement: Area Forum North £10,000; Area Forum South £9,000; Area Forum East £8,000 and Area Forum West £8,000.

2.3 Officers were instructed to establish a system for administering the Area Forum Fund, according to the guidelines established by the Executive Board. Application Arrangements were developed along with an Application Form.

2.4 Organisations invited to apply to the Fund include parish/town councils and any formally constituted community group with its own bank account. Applicant organisations, however, must be able to satisfy each of three main eligibility conditions:

1. Bids must be signed by a Borough councillor to indicate his/her support for the project.
2. Bids should be for one-off projects that provide lasting benefit to the community.

3. Projects will only be eligible for support from one source of Borough Council funding, of which the Area Forum Fund is one. Organisations will be signposted to other schemes of assistance if a more appropriate source of funding can be identified.
- 2.5 The Area Forum Fund was developed to support projects that address issues of importance to local communities. Accordingly, projects that satisfy the above eligibility conditions must also be able to identify a link to at least one of the seven key themes of the Sustainable Community Plan, which reflect priorities that have been established by the community of North Warwickshire. Particular consideration will also be given to projects that promote social inclusion.
- 2.6 Awards can be made for up to 60% of the total annual fund available to the relevant Forum, resulting in maximum possible awards of £6,000 for Area Forum North, £5,400 for Area Forum South, £4,800 for Area Forums East and West. Community organisations must be able to provide at least 30% match funding for the project for which a grant is sought. Parish/town councils must provide at least 50%. This match funding can include in-kind support.

3 Changes to the Area Forum Fund Application Process

- 3.1 Members are reminded of recent changes to the Area Forum Fund application process, which are as follows:
 - a That with effect from the 2006/07 financial year, applications to the Area Forum Fund are considered twice per annum, in the March/April and September/October cycle of meetings, with fixed application deadlines of 1 February and 1 August; and,
 - b That parish councils no longer be requested to submit a constitution or its annual accounts in support of any Area Forum Fund application.

4 Area Forum Fund Applications

- 4.1 The 2010/11 budget for Area Forum East is £8,000. There is an additional sum of £1,578 to add to this figure that has been carried forward from 2009/10, resulting in a total sum of £9,578 available for disbursement in 2010/11.
- 4.2 Three eligible applications have been received for consideration at this meeting. The total sum requested from the applicant organisations is £9,770. To ensure that the Forum does not exceed its funding limit, all awards have been proportionately reduced.

5 Applications for Consideration

- 5.1 **Atherstone Summer in the Square Committee**

5.2 Atherstone Summer in the Square Committee has submitted an application to improve the 'Atherstone Summer in the Square' community event. Specifically, the grant will be used to purchase stage lighting that will improve the presentation of this and the other events organised by the committee in Atherstone. A total of six events are currently organised, each attracting around 2000 people. The summer event is a free to enter family event.

5.3 The total cost of the project is just over £1,000. The Committee is requesting a sum of £720 from the Area Forum Fund with the remaining sum being funded by an award from Warwickshire County Council.

5.4 **Recommendation to the Forum**

5.5 The project, which is submitted by Atherstone Summer in the Square Committee, links to the Sustainable Community Strategy priority of Developing Healthier Communities. To ensure that the Forum does not exceed its budget, it is recommended that the project be awarded a proportionately reduced grant in the sum of £705.

6 **Atherstone Theatre Workshop**

6.1 Atherstone Theatre Workshop has submitted an application to install retractable platform seating in the Owen Street Community Arts Centre. The seating will provide audiences with improving and more comfortable viewing of performances. With its simple retractable design, it will continue to allow for multifunctional use of the venue.

6.2 The total cost of the project is just under £9,100. The Theatre Workshop is requesting a sum of £4,800 from the Area Forum Fund and will fund the remaining sum from other grants or its own funds.

6.3 **Recommendation to the Forum**

6.4 The project, which is submitted by Atherstone Theatre Workshop, links to the Sustainable Community Strategy priority of Improving Access to Services. To ensure that the Forum does not exceed its budget, it is recommended that the project be awarded a proportionately reduced grant in the sum of £4,705.

7 **Owen Street Community Arts Centre**

7.1 Owen Street Community Arts Centre (OSCAC) has submitted an application to improve the heating system and upgrade the toilets and porch area of the Owen Street Arts Centre. The Specifically OSCAC will use the grant as third party funding to draw down significant funds from Biffaward (Landfill Tax).

7.2 The total cost of the project is just under £42,500. The Community Arts Centre is requesting a sum of £4,250 from the Area Forum Fund.

7.3 Recommendation to the Forum

- 7.4 The project, which is submitted by Owen Street Community Arts Centre, links to the Sustainable Community Strategy priority of Improving Access to Services. To ensure that the Forum does not exceed its budget, it is recommended that the project be awarded a proportionately reduced grant in the sum of £4,168.

8 Area Forum Fund – Financial Implications

- 8.1 If the Forum grants the requests in the sum indicated in the report, it will have no funds remaining for disbursement at the October meeting. The next deadline for Area Forum Fund applications is 1 August 2010, however, if all of the funding is spent organisations will be directed towards the 1 February 2011 deadline.

The Contact Officer for this report is Jaki Douglas (01827) 719492, North Warwickshire Borough Council.