

Area Forum East

Thursday 14 January 2010
North Warwickshire Borough Council (Chamber)

6.00 – 6.30 pm – Surgery Session

Informal surgery to deal with individual or confidential issues – councillors, council staff and the police will be available to talk to you. Refreshments will be available.

AGENDA

Welcome from the Chair, Cllr Carol Fox

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Minutes and Matters Arising of the meeting held on 13 October 2009.**
- 3. Safer Neighbourhoods update**
- 4. Setting Forum Priorities for Next 3 Months**
- 5. Tell us your issues** - An opportunity for issues of local concern to be raised
- 6. University Hospital Coventry & Warwickshire – Foundation Trust proposal**
- 7. Warwickshire LINK** - role of the LINK and how they can work with local people to take forward issues of concern that relate to health and social care
- 8. Warwickshire CAVA** – Their role in supporting local people, groups and organisations.
- 9. Green Space Strategy Fund**
- 10. Suggestions for items/themes for the next meeting**
- 11. Any Other Business**
- 12. Date of next meeting:**
Tuesday 20 April 2010



MINUTES OF THE AREA FORUM EAST

13 October 2009

The Area Forum East met at 6.30pm at the Friends Meeting House, Hartshill

Present: Councillor Martin Davis in the Chair

Borough Councillors: T Wykes, K Johnston, A Forwood, N Dirveiks, L Freer
County / Borough Councillor: C Fox

In Attendance: S Robson, A Rigby, K Johnson, K Wilding, C Jones, H Earp, R Drudge, M Gibbins - Warwickshire CC
A McLauchlan, C Bridges, D Baxendale, L Somers, – North Warwickshire BC
Cl Belcher, Sgt Albrighton, PCSO Hoskin, Wyndek – Warwickshire Police
Andy Bates - Warwickshire Fire Service

S Healy, C Ealing, M Horner, J Marshall, T Hopkins, J Randle, G Roberts, D Clews, R Jarvis

1. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from L Dirveiks, Sgt R Fildes, J Arrowsmith, B Hampson

2. Minutes of the meeting held of the Forum held on 28 July 2009

The minutes were agreed as a true record

3. Matters Arising

Flexibus serving Priory Walk, Mancetter will have an additional service on a Tuesday.

Security fencing around St Georges Play Area has been installed. Mobile CCTV camera has been installed on Royal Meadow Drive

4. Safer Neighbourhoods

Glen Belcher is Acting Chief Inspector for North Warwickshire over the next 6 months.

Sgt Albrighton presented an update on police activity over the last 3 months and recorded crime statistics. The key message is that crime, including incidences of anti-social behaviour is falling across the borough.

Sgt Albrighton also gave a summary of the progress and actions that had been undertaken on the Area Forum priorities chosen at the last meeting:

ASB - Royal Meadow Dr Play Area, Atherstone

No problems generally although two complaints were made about people drinking. CCTV and lighting has been installed. North Warwickshire Borough Council's Community Development Team attend on Thursday evenings

ASB - Snow Hill Rec, Hartshill

No problems generally although one incident was reported. Hartshill Fair went well and shows what can be done when parish council, police, fair organisers etc plan the event together. North Warwickshire Borough Council's Community Development Team attend the rec regularly with an excellent response from young people, including a litter pick in local woods.

Lights have now been installed on the rec.

Motorcycle nuisance – Canal & Golf Course, Atherstone

18 calls were received with 38 patrols undertaken. Leaflets have been distributed locally raising awareness of the problem. A multi-agency meeting will look to agree a way forward.

C Bridges gave an update on the work undertaken by Borough Officers to deliver diversionary activities to young people in North Warwickshire and highlighted a range of successful projects.

C Bridges also advised on the increase in thefts of car number plates across the Borough. Free anti-vandal screws are available through local Neighbourhood Watch Groups.

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.

In response to a question on local policing, PC J Cox has swapped areas with PC P Painter.

C Bridges and NWBC Community Development Team were praised for their impact in engaging with young people. The Team is also increasingly supported by the Youth Service, WCC through the Hartshill Youth Project and Rural Youth Bus and worker.

It was agreed to keep the same Area Forum priorities:

Anti-Social Behaviour: Snow Hill Recreation, Hartshill

Anti-Social Behaviour: Royal Meadow Drive Play Area, Atherstone

Motorcycle nuisance: Canal & Golf course, Atherstone

5. Public Questions and Parish Issues

None

6. Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service Consultation – Simon Robson (WCC)

S Robson, (WCC) reported on the County Council's Fire and Rescue Service consultation process currently taking place and encouraged people to attend the public consultation meetings to be held on 27 October 2009 at The Coleshill School and 19 November 2009 at Polesworth.

The consultation in Atherstone had already taken place on 28 September. The Forum thought the event had been poorly advertised with a lack of opportunity to participate meaningfully in the consultation process. S Robson agreed to report this back to the Fire Service.

Copies of the consultation document were available at the meeting. Alternatively full details can be viewed on-line at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fireandrescue. The closing date for submissions is 8 December 2009.

7. Role of Dog Warden – David Baxendale, NWBC

D Baxendale presented the report attached to the agenda. Leighton Somers, Dog Warden introduced himself.

A copy of the report can be viewed on the Council's website www.northwarks.gov.uk via the link for meetings and minutes.

In response to questions most dogs are re-homed through dogs homes. David to investigate putting a link on the Borough's website to dogs home website. Rewarding dog owners for picking up after their dog sets a good example to others and also provides some free publicity for the Borough Council.

8. Funding in North Warwickshire

C Bridges, NWBC informed of one application for funding and it was

Resolved:

That the following grant be awarded

- **Atherstone Theatre Workshop - £1350**

A Rigby, WCC informed of three funding schemes from Warwickshire County Council:

- Community Computers - 25 recycled computers available to community groups in North Warwickshire. This scheme will be launched shortly by North Warwickshire CAVA
- Community Development Fund - £36,000 available to local voluntary and community groups in North Warwickshire to benefit local communities. Closing date for applications 4 December 2009. Applications to be considered by North Warwickshire Area Committee in January 2010
- Small Grants Fund – up to £500 available to new community groups and projects in North Warwickshire

9. Area Pledge update – Simon Robson

S Robson shared the draft Pledge with the Forum, which is supported by North Warwickshire Borough Council and Warwickshire County Council. The Forum was asked to comment on the draft Pledge to 'Improving activities for teenagers'.

Any one wanting to highlight a need or issue around teenager activities can fill out and return the appropriate section on the draft Pledge or alternatively send an e-mail to:

alistairrigby@warwickshire.gov.uk

The Community Development Fund, WCC can be used by community groups to help deliver the Pledge and improve activities for teenagers.

In response to questions about the use of tennis courts at QE School and Hartshill School, Extended Services Cluster Co-ordinators, WCC will be asked to find out the availability to the wider community.

In response to a request for more information, a list of sports facilities available to teenagers in the Forum area will be put together.

10. Future Agenda Items

The Forum agreed to pilot a young people's section on the agenda at a forthcoming meeting

11. Any Other Business

Volunteer Centre North Warwickshire highlighted some forthcoming events.

Youth Service, WCC provided a resume of local activity

Hartshill Hayes Country Park – Concern was raised about the future because of the retirement of the Ranger and the buildings have come to the end of their useful life. The Forum was informed that a report on Country Parks is to go to the County Council's North Warwickshire Area Committee on 25 November.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday, 14 January 2010

Area Forum East

Green Space Strategy Fund

Recommendation:

That the allocation of £10,000 be offered to Queen Elizabeth School and Sports College to help fund the installation of a Synthetic Turf Pitch, in accordance with key priorities AP034 and SP011 of the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy 2008-2018

1 Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the results of consultation on the allocation, through the Area Forum, of funding that has been made available for projects that help to deliver the key priorities of the adopted North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy 2008-2018.

2 Background

- 2.1 At its meeting held in July 2009, the Area Forum East received a report from the Borough Council detailing proposals for consultation on the allocation of £10,000 that has been made available for the implementation of projects that deliver key priorities identified in the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy 2008-2018. The consultation period then ran from 19th August to 7th December 2009.

- 2.2 Through the consultation parish and town councils and other partner organisations were invited to indicate which of the key priorities identified for their sub-area they would most like to see taken forward – each could indicate a first and second choice. Where their choice was a project on land that they control, they were also asked to complete an Expression of Interest to indicate how much support they would be seeking from the Fund and, in outline, how this money would be spent in the delivery of the project. Submissions for projects that are not specifically identified within the Green Space Strategy could also be put forward for consideration, provided that applicants clearly demonstrated how their proposal would advance the priorities of the Strategy itself.

- 2.3 To be eligible projects should:

- help to deliver the priorities of the Green Space Strategy
- comprise physical improvements to green space, or the preparation of feasibility studies, plans or landscape designs to deliver such improvements
- provide value for money
- be sustainable
- be inclusive

Applicants would not be required to provide match funding, but the use of the Green Space Strategy Fund as “match” to lever in other external grant aid would be encouraged, provided the overall project meets these criteria.

- 2.4 Details of the Green Space Strategy Fund were also placed on the Borough Council’s website in order to gain as much feedback as possible.

3 Scoring

3.1 In order to score the parish and partners consultation responses points were allocated as follows:

- 4 points for each first choice “hit” where the project would directly deliver a key priority of the Strategy
- 3 points for each second choice “hit” where the project would directly deliver a key priority of the Strategy
- 2 points for a project that would indirectly contribute to delivery the priorities of the Strategy
- 1 point where the project has secured match funding

4 Consultation Results

4.1 There were three responses to the parish and partners consultation in Area Forum East, which are summarised below.

Key Priority in Green Space Strategy	Responding Organisation	Points for First Choice	Points for Second Choice	Amount of Funding Requested	Points for Match Funding	Points for Delivery on other GSS priorities	Total Score
AP050 Securing Cherryfields open space in Hartshill and improving the facilities it offers	Hartshill Parish Council		3				3
AP034 Provision of a Synthetic Turf Pitch in Atherstone / Mancetter	QE School	4		£10,000	1	2	7
New project Provision of community building/changing facilities at Snowhill Recreation Ground	Hartshill Parish council			£10,000	1	2	3
New project Provision of new park at Sheepy Road, Atherstone	Atherstone Town Council			£10,000	1	2	3
New project Improvements to Gypsy Lane Allotments in Atherstone	Atherstone Town Council			£10,000	1	2	3

4.2 There were also a number of responses received online, as summarised below.

Key Priority in Green Space Strategy		First Choice	Second Choice
AP034	Provision of a Synthetic Turf Pitch in Atherstone / Mancetter	12	
AP030	Development of outdoor sports pitches at Royal Meadow Drive, Atherstone		10
AP032	Access improvements to green space in Mancetter		1

As most of these responses were from individual members of a single sports club these responses were not scored to avoid distorting the overall result. However, the high level of support demonstrated for the provision of a synthetic turf pitch has been taken into account in putting forward the proposed allocation of the funding.

5 Proposed Allocation of the Funding

- 5.1 As can be seen from the results the provision of a synthetic turf pitch in the Atherstone/Mancetter Area has scored most highly in the parish and partner consultation. Queen Elizabeth School and Sports College in Atherstone has applied for funding towards the provision of such a facility having secured most of the £300,000+ cost of the project through other funding partners. The School currently has a shortfall of £20,000 towards the project and has applied for £10,000 from the Green Space Strategy Fund – if it can secure this funding the School's Trustees will match the amount, thus enabling the project to go ahead. Both planning permission and support from Sport England have been secured and, if successful in this bid, the School hopes to start the tendering process immediately. It is anticipated that installation should be completed during 2010, well in advance of the March 2011 deadline for spending the Green Space Strategy Fund.
- 5.2 Provision of £10,000 from the Green Space Strategy Fund is key to enabling this project to go ahead. Implementation of the project would not only directly deliver a key priority of the Green Space Strategy but would also help to deliver priority SP011 “work with schools and other providers to meet the demand for more community access to outdoor sports facilities” as the pitch will be available for community use in the evenings and at weekends.
- 5.3 Each of the projects put forward by Hartshill Parish Council and Atherstone Town Council would indirectly contribute to priorities within the Green Space Strategy but would not contribute as directly to delivery as does the proposed synthetic turf pitch. It is therefore recommended that the full allocation of £10,000 should be offered to Queen Elizabeth School and Sports College.
- 5.4.1 Should the project at Queen Elizabeth School not be able to proceed for any reason it is recommended that the funding be split equally between Atherstone and Hartshill. In the meantime the project at Hartshill has the benefit of s106 funding and Atherstone Town Council has indicated that it has revenue funding it can put towards its proposed projects. It is proposed that officers should work with the parish and town councils to identify other possible sources of funding to take these projects forward.

The Contact Officer for this report is Alethea Wilson (NWBC) 01827 719212