



Area Forum East

To: Members of the
Area Forum East

AREA FORUM EAST AGENDA

28 July 2009 at 6.30pm

The Area Forum East will meet at North Warwickshire Borough Council (Council Chamber), South Street, Atherstone, CV9 1BD

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

This document can be made available in large print and electronic accessible formats if requested.

From 5.30pm – 6.30pm

Branching Out Bus (BOB)

The Borough Council's new 'Branching Out Bus' (BOB) will improve access to services in rural areas. It is a pilot scheme giving general advice on a full range of Council services as well as specialist advice on issues such as finances, debt and housing. The ethos of the service is to reach out into the community it services in an informal positive manner.

Core Strategy – Issues and Options – WE NEED YOUR VIEWS

Officers from North Warwickshire Borough Council will be present to hear your views on where potential development should go in North Warwickshire

From 6.00pm – Police Surgery

Call in if you have a specific concern that you'd like to discuss with your local Safer Neighbourhoods Policing Team

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for absence**
2. **Minutes of the meeting of the Forum held on 21 April 2009 – copy herewith to be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**
3. **Matters Arising**
4. **Local Development Framework, Core Strategy – Issues and Options Consultation – Dorothy Barratt/Mike Dittman (NWBC)**
5. **Safer Neighbourhoods - Partners And Communities Together (PACT)**
Chief Inspector Mike Wylde (Warwickshire Police)

Up to half an hour is available for this item. This will include an outline of the purpose and format of PACTs, feedback on actions undertaken since the last meeting and any other updates, details of current Community Safety issues identified within the Forum area and an opportunity for individual members of the public to raise any further concerns, advice on how these issues will be taken forward, and details of communications/publicity planned on Community Safety issues.

Community Safety concerns can be raised verbally or in writing at the meeting, or submitted in advance to Jo Roberts on 01827 719317 or via e-mail to jroberts@warwickshire.gov.uk

6. **Public Questions and Parish Issues**

Up to half an hour is available for members of the public to ask questions. Individual members of the public can speak for up to three minutes. To ensure that an answer to a question can be given at the meeting, details of it must be submitted to Jo Roberts on 01827 719317 or via e-mail to jroberts@warwickshire.gov.uk Otherwise, please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start of the meeting and ensure that Jo Roberts has notice of the matter on which you wish to speak.

7. **Green Space Strategy Fund – Alethea Wilson (NWBC)**
8. **Appointment of Representatives on Outside Bodies (NWBC)**
9. **Future Agenda Items.**
10. **Any Other Business.**
11. **Date of Next Meeting - 13 October 2009 (Hartshill Friends Meeting Room)**

MINUTES OF THE AREA FORUM EAST

21 April 2009

The Area Forum East met at 6.30pm at North Warwickshire Borough Council, Atherstone.

Present: Councillor Martin Davis in the Chair

Borough Councillors: A Forwood, D Pickard, L Dirveiks, N Dirveiks,
T Wykes, C Fox, K Johnston & County Councillor R Grant

In Attendance: S Robson, A Williams, J Roberts & C Burrows - Warwickshire CC
A McLauchlan & C Bridges – North Warwickshire BC
Deputy Borough Commander Belcher, Sgt Fildes, PCSO Steele –
Warwickshire Police
A Hodge (Warwickshire and West Midlands Association of Local Councils)
A Bates (Fire Service), T Hopkins & J Marshall, G Davis, S Healey, J Mawson,
D Atkin, G Leeson, B Wood, P Wood, R Jarvis, F Leeson, D Clay, A Wrigley, J
Arrowsmith, A Haddon, E Haddon, B Spiers, K Cartwright, T Wilmot, D Clews,
E Burden, M White, H Vero , J Vero, R Gadsby, G Roberts, G Marshall, J
Marshall, C Marshall, L Bickley, L Coils, K Reynolds, L Franklin, B Coton, P
Duffy, S Snell, S Goodye, C Carr

1. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Freer and Amanda Macchi

2. Minutes of the meeting held of the Forum held on 15 January 2009

The minutes were agreed as a true record. With the following amendment:-

Page 3, Item 5 ~ Demolders should read De Mulders.

3. Matters Arising

Cllr Grant advised that the De Mulders liaison committee has been formed with representatives from a range of agencies. The group will meet for the first time next week.

St Georges Play Area - In response to the question raised at the January meeting regarding security around St George's Play Area, A Mclauchlan advised that NWBC had reviewed the site and agreed to install a security gate to defer anti-social behaviour.

Royal Meadow Drive - In response to a statement raised by Cllr Pickard and concerns raised by local residents, A Mclauchlan advised that a written response was available at the meeting which addressed the issues that had been raised. She added that following the meeting with local residents on the 16 March, officers had reviewed the proposed location of the multi-use games unit and agreed to locate the unit a further 10 metres into the field. Fencing will be installed around the car park to increase safety and to prevent

vehicles entering the open space. A McLauchlan invited those present to advise of any points at which vehicles may be able to access the open space. Rights of access to the site will be available to some properties although permission will need to be granted from North Warwickshire Borough Council. Planning permission for the installation of lighting at the site was granted at the planning board meeting in February with the agreement that the lightening was turned off at around 10.00pm.

Note: Following the meeting further concerns were raised by local residents and these have been referred to Ann Mclauchlan (NWBC) for comment.

Mancetter Development Project – Cllr Grant informed the meeting that hard copies of the Mancetter Development report were available.

4. Safer Neighbourhoods - Partners And Communities Together (PACT)

Sgt Fildes presented a summary of the progress and actions that had been undertaken on the PACT priorities nominated at the last meeting (Anti Social Behaviour – Lister Road, Snow Hill Recreation and the Woodlands, Hartshill and parking – The Woodlands, Hartshill at school times.

A full copy of the presentation and details of the actions taken are available on the Warwickshire County Council website www.warwickshire.gov.uk

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 that Parish and Town Councils who undertake regular clean-up activities can receive a free community clean-up kit to help them keep on top of graffiti in their area. To date only three Parish Councils had accepted the kits. Any Parish and Town Council wishing to receive a kit should contact Lori Harvey :- loriharvey@northwarks.gov.uk or 01827 719356

Sgt Fildes went through the new “Policing Pledge” adopted by Warwickshire Police. He explained that Warwickshire Police is committed to the vision of “Protecting our communities together”. The Policing Pledge will provide one of the ways of achieving this. It will underpin a commitment to delivering a good service and will provide a benchmark against which police activity can be measured. The full pledge can be viewed on the Police website www.warwickshire.police.uk

Sgt Roger Fildes also advised the from the 1 April Warwickshire Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams had announced the commitment to delivering 100% of agreed policing activity to support community priorities set at Community Forum. Sgt Fildes explained to meet the new guidelines only three clear priorities from the forum meeting would be taken forward. Following this announcement a lengthy discussion ensued and members/local residents raised their concern and dissatisfaction to the changes.

G Roberts asked whether the police presence at Snowhill Recreation would be increased over the summer months to defer any anti-social behaviour. Sgt Fildes to investigate.

D Atkin asked whether there had been an increase in crime due to the economic climate; Deputy Borough Commander Belcher responded that operation crunch was in place to monitor the situation.

Following discussions, Sgt Fildes then asked the Forum for the priorities to be taken forward to the PACT panel for this round of Forums. A general discussion took place and it was decided that the priorities to be taken forward from the Area Forum East were:

Anti-Social Behaviour, Lister Road, Snow Hill Recreation & The Woodlands, Hartshill

In response to a question previously raised by Cllr Johnson regarding the setting-up of a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme at The Woodlands, Hartshill, PCSO Steele advised that the delay in setting up the meeting was mainly due to agreeing a suitable venue to meet, the coordinator of the group had requested that the meeting took place at Michael Drayton school, but unfortunately due to other commitments the school was unavailable until after the summer break, PCSO Steel advised that he had tried to secure other venues but the group was adamant they only wanted to meet at the School, hence the delay in meeting.

5. Public Questions and Parish Issues

D Atkin raised the following questions:-

When, who and how are steps to be put in place WCC, NWBC, ATC and others (perhaps through the formation of a rail users groups such as exists for Tamworth/Nuneaton & Bedworth, Lichfield) to promote the facility with the relevant rail companies (London Midland and Cross Country by implication). The initiative lies locally with us to push forward in a coordinated approach".

Cllr Davis provided the following response from Dan Caldecote, Transport Planner (WCC)

A £100,000 revamp of Atherstone train station has improved facilities for rail passengers. Customer information systems and CCTV have been installed at the Station as part of the redevelopment work.

The improvement work, which was undertaken by rail operator London Midland and Warwickshire County Council as part of the Warwickshire Quality Rail Partnership (WQRP), also includes new signs, car park improvements and information points linking the town's bus and rail services.

Atherstone is served by London Midland's new Trent Valley line service, which operates hourly trains between London Euston and Crewe.

The new service began in December and offers better links with the north, as well as fares into the capital for as little as £5.

A request was made for a meeting to be held with Dan Caldecote (WCC), NWBC, and Atherstone Town Council to discuss the possibility of an "Atherstone Parkway".

Action: WCC to contact Dan Caldecote

Cllr Grant advised that he had received a complaint from local residents regarding the palisade fencing which had been erected between the former school playing fields of Mancetter First School and Priory Walk, the erection of this fence had blocked a short cut to Mancetter Post Office which was previously used by elderly residents to avoid the slight hill in Priory Walk/Church Walk.

Action: NWBC/WCC to feedback to Cllr Grant

6. Area Forum Fund

The Forum was asked to consider three eligible applications to the Area Forum Fund.

Anker Valley Canoe Club, requested funding for two projects:-

Project 1 – Canoe and kayak trailer - £4,214

Project 2 – replacement windows for club house - £1,544

The third application was from **Hartshill Football Club** who requested matching funding to purchase additional kit and equipment - £420.00

Members agreed to support all three projects and thanked Liz Franklin a representative from the Anker Valley Canoe club for attending the meeting and providing some background information.

7. Area Pledge (update) – Simon Robson, WCC

Following the introduction of the Area Pledge at the January meeting (previously known as the Locality Pledge), S Robson provided an up update on the key issues identified by both the Area Forum East and public consultation.

A discussion then took place and it was agreed that the priority for Area Forum East Pledge would be Activities for teenagers. A further priority of improved communication would be taken forward on further progression of the LEADER Programme.

8. Parish Councils Strategy for next 10 years - Alison Hodge, Warwickshire Association of Local Councils

A Hodge provide a summary of the work undertaken over the past 10 years in line with the government modernisation agenda to strengthen the work of local Parish and Town Councils.

A Hodge advised that plans for the next 10 years would encourage a 'Control Shift – returning power to local communities' and this sets out a series of policies to see powers transferred from the central state to local people and local institutions.

Handouts were provided at the meeting and any Parish Council wishing to obtain more information should contact Alison direct :-

Alison Hodge (Warwickshire and West Midlands Association of Local Councils (Warwickshire), Telephone Number: 024 76 217390 or email alisonh@walc.org.uk

9. Local Development Framework, Core Strategy Options – Mike Dittman, NWBC

M Dittman provided an update on the Options for the Local Development Framework Core Strategy, which replaces the Local Plan. The options deal with how and where the Borough will deliver the housing and employment land requirements allocated in the latest Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) and other options may cover issues such as Renewable

Energy, Sustainability and links with/delivery of the Sustainable Community strategy priorities.

Mike also advised that the deadline for Warwickshire County Council's Mineral Core Strategy had been extended to the 8 May 2009 and encouraged Parish Councils to view the consultation.

Mike advised that funds were being sought for the Rural Housing Enabler project which is currently funded until June and that any organisation able to offer support should contact him.

Further information can be obtained directly from Mike Dittman, Telephone Number: 01827 719 451 or email mikedittman@northwarks.gov.uk

10. Any other Business

None

11. Future Agenda Items:- Presentation/Update – Core Strategy, Schools Educational Attainment Action Plan.

12. Date of Next Meeting 28 July 2009 (NWBC, Council Chamber)

Area Forum East – 28 July 2009

Green Space Strategy Fund

Recommendation

That the report be noted.

1 Summary

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

2 Background and Proposed Process

- 2.1 At its meeting held in December 2008, the Borough Council's Executive Board formally adopted the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy and approved, in principle, the supporting Action and Funding Plan. £10,000 has now been made available to each Area Forum for the implementation of projects that deliver key priorities identified in the Strategy. These projects may be on land within the control of parish and town councils, other organisations or on land owned by the Borough Council.

- 2.3 The Authority will be writing to each parish/town council and partner organisations to draw their attention to the key priorities in the Strategy, particularly those identified for their sub-Area, and to ask them to indicate which of these they would most like to see taken forward. If their choice is a project on land that they control, they will also be asked to complete an Expression of Interest form 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 will also be considered, provided that applicants clearly demonstrate how their proposal will advance the priorities of the Strategy itself.

- 2.3 The deadline for the return of this information will be early November 2009, in order to allow the necessary time for local consultations and the preparation of "bid" submissions. The results of the submissions from parishes and partners and any received Expressions of Interest will be reported to each Area Forum at its meeting in January 2010. The decision on the allocation of the Green Space Strategy Fund will then be made at those meetings, based on the criteria that the proposed 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. However, the use of the Green Space Strategy Fund as "match" to lever in other external grant aid, including third party support for the Landfill Communities Fund, would be encouraged, provided the overall project meets these criteria.

- 2.4 Applicants will be notified of the outcome of the Area Forum decisions in early February 2010, subsequent to which it is anticipated that projects will be completed by March 2011.
- 2.5 The Borough Council's Landscape Management and Partnership and Development sections will provide continuing support and advice to parish and town councils and other organisations during the development and implementation of projects to ensure a successful outcome that meets Green Space Strategy priorities.
- 2.6 Should there be no feedback or Expressions of Interest in any one or more of the Area Forums this will be reported to the relevant meeting and appropriate projects at Borough Council sites that meet the criteria set out in paragraph 2.3 above will be put forward for consideration.

Area Forum East – 28 July 2008

Representation on Outside Bodies

Recommendation

That the Forum make recommendations for appointments to the outside bodies listed in the report.

1 Introduction

1.1 The Borough Council has requested that Area Forums be consulted for recommendations for appointments to the outside bodies 'local' to the area covered by this Area Forum.

1.2 The Area Forum is invited to recommend to the Borough Council the appointment of representatives to the following outside bodies:-

**Atherstone Forum
Hartshill Hayes Country Park Advisory Committee
Market Towns Initiative, Atherstone
Rowan Organisation**

1.3 The memberships previously comprised:-

**Atherstone Forum – Councillor Forwood and one vacancy
Hartshill Hayes Country Park Advisory Committee – Councillor Wykes –
Substitute:- Councillor Johnston
Market Towns Initiative, Atherstone – Councillors Davis and Forwood
Rowan Organisation – Councillor Forwood**

1.4 The appointments are made for a period of one year expiring in May 2010.

The Contact Officer for this report is David Harris (719222).