

MINUTES OF THE AREA FORUM SOUTH

14 July 2009

The Area Forum South met at 7.00pm at Maxstoke Village Hall

Present: Councillor Hayfield in the Chair

Borough & County Councillors Sherratt, Fowler, Gordon, Fox & Hayfield

In attendance: A Rigby, Jo Roberts, Dave Clarke (WCC), R Beggs, A Wilson, M Dittman, D Barratt (NWBC) Sgt Drake, PC Hopkins, PCSO Owen, PCSO Waller (Warwickshire Police), A Bates (Warwickshire Fire & Rescue) J Poole (Maxstoke & Shustoke PC), S Wallace, B Stuart & J Stuart, G Ettheridge & B Coton (Shustoke PC), B Martin (Ansley PC), S Wallace, J Upton (Coleshill PC), P Osbourne, S Osbourne (Corley PC), B Stuart, J Stuart, J Jennings, G Greatorix, R Harris (Members of the Public)

1. Apologies for Absence.

Chris Page (Maxstoke PC), Clare Jolly (WCC), Cllr L Smith & Cllr T Welby

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

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

None.

4. Local Development Framework – Core Strategy feedback & update – D Barratt

D Barratt advised that the Local Development Framework (LDF) is a new plan being prepared by the Council to guide future development. It is a folder of planning documents that will replace North Warwickshire's Local Plan.

The first stage in the preparation of the Core Strategy is the Issues and Options Consultation, which identifies the issues to be included in the Core Strategy and what the strategic planning options could be. The consultation will run until 6 August 2009

The Core Strategy Issues and Options is a comprehensive document which includes research and analysis and findings from public consultation on the planning challenges. The council is asking residents and all others interested, to agree the issues that North Warwickshire is facing to 2026, and select options to address those issues. In addition, the council would like to know if there are other planning issues.

Key issues have been identified which NWBC believe need to be addressed for planning the future of the borough over the next 15 years. The LDF proposes several different ways, or options, of dealing with these issues. The Consultation will provide the opportunity for local residents to decide which option will work best and whether the right issues and options have been identified.

The full document can be viewed on NWBC website www.northwarks.gov.uk.

All Parish Councils have been sent copies of the full document and been invited to comment. The closing date for comments is 6 August.

Further advice was given to those Parishes bordering other local authorities where their Core Strategy proposals could impact locally. For example a proposal by Coventry City Council is to create an eco-town type development in the Keresley area bordering with Corley. Similarly Tamworth Borough and Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Councils have Core Strategy proposals that could impact on villages in North Warwickshire.

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

Sgt Drake presented a summary of the progress and actions that had been undertaken on the PACT priorities chosen at the last meeting: **Speed checks – Ansley Common (within 100 metres either side of Nursery Road) and Anti-social behaviour – Coleshill Youth Centre, Temple Way.**

R Beggs (NWBC) gave an update on the work undertaken by the North Warwickshire Community Safety Partnership to deliver diversionary activities to young people through Activities 4U and this included weekly visits to the Coleshill Community Centre.

R Beggs also advised that the Community Speed Watch Scheme had started in Ansley village. The scheme trains local Volunteers to use speed detection equipment and monitor traffic at pre-selected locations. The details of vehicles exceeding the speed limits are passed to the police who send cautionary letters to the registered keepers. A similar scheme in Ansley Common is looking unlikely to happen due to a lack of volunteers.

Following the presentation Sgt Drake asked the forum to consider three Community Priorities to be taken forward to the PACT Panel from this round. A general discussion ensued and it was agreed that the priorities for Area Forum South would be:-

**Anti Social Behaviour – Birmingham Road & High Street Coleshill
Parking – Zebra Crossing / zig zags & Disabled Bay, Coleshill High Street.**

6. Public Questions/Parish Issues

Question from Kevin Winterburn (Maxstoke) –

Armed robbery of our rural post offices. Sue Lapin at Fillongley Post Office has been attacked three times. The last time at gun point. She is a very brave lady, and at very serious risk. What are the police doing to take these murderous criminals out of circulation?

Sgt Drake responded that 2 burglars were now in prison. The third incident is still being investigated.

Cllr Hayfield asked each Parish in turn to raise any issues they would like addressing:-

Shustoke PC – Problems with young people drinking at the back of the school
Action: Police to investigate.

Maxstoke PC – Provided an update on talks with Transport Planning Team, WCC on the introduction of 40mph speed limit in two parts of Maxstoke -

Request for Speed Limit Review results on B4114 around Blythe Bridge; also Duke Bridge at Duke End, Maxstoke

Corley PC– No issues reported

Ansley PC– No issues reported

Fillongley PC– No issues reported

Coleshill PC– No issues reported

7. Area Pledge (Update) – Dave Clarke (WCC)

D Clarke underlined the Area Pledge as a commitment by the public agencies to work more closely with the local community on locally important issues that bring benefit to residents and the local area. In April it was agreed that a draft Pledge would focus on addressing rural transport issues. Partners (NWBC, WCC, Voluntary sector etc) are currently gathering information on local transport services and drawing up a draft Pledge to develop in consultation with the Area Forum.

8. Green Space Strategy Fund - £10k – Alethea Wilson (NWBC)

A Wilson reported that 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.

A Wilson advised that the Authority will be writing to each parish/town council and partner organisations to draw their attention to the key priorities in the Strategy for their sub Area, and ask that the relevant Parish Councils to indicate which projects they would like to be 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.

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.

A Wilson advised that supporting information can be found on the Borough's website:- www.northwarks.gov.uk.

9. Appointment of Representatives on Outside Bodies (NWBC)

The following representatives were appointed for a period of one year expiring in May 2010:-

Coleshill Grammar School Endowment Foundation
Dr Andrew Watkins & Cllr Sherratt

Market Town Initiative, Coleshill
Cllr Gordon & Cllr Fowler

10. Future Agenda Item

- Speed Limit Review of A & B Roads, WCC
Please use link below for all the latest information
www.warwickshire.gov.uk/speedlimitreview
- Future schemes / proposals for recycling in North Warwickshire, NWBC

11. Any Other Business

It was noted that the Councillors and local residents would like the police to be more approachable during the Police Surgery.

12. Next Meeting

22 October – The Coleshill School