

NOTES of AREA FORUM EAST

4 February 2014

The Area Forum East met at 6.30pm

Present: County Councillor N Dirveiks - Chair
Borough Councillors, T Wykes, L Dirveiks

In Attendance: A Rigby, J Harmon – WCC
J Douglas - NWBC
PCSOs S Mander, L Udall – Warks Police
D Clews, R Jarvis – Atherstone TC
D McMurdo, J McMurdo, R Cockayne, N Dyson, K Blackburn, A Webb,
D Kearns, C Fox, S Pearson, D Compton, C King, L Richmond, A Gad, J Vero

1. **Apologies for Absence.**

Apologies for absence were received from A Forwood, A McLauchlan, K Johnston, T De Kretser, D Atkin

2. **Notes and Matters Arising of the meeting held on 4th December 2013**

Minutes of the last meeting under Police update should read:

Priority: Parking at school times on Margaret Road, Atherstone (not Mancetter).

Matters Arising:

The collapsed railings around the former playing fields off Manor Road, Mancetter have still not been removed.

Plans for the site will be presented by Housing 21 to Planning Committee, NWBC on 13th February

Margaret Road, Atherstone – Cllr McLaughlan has bid to 2014/15 Transport Delegated budget, WCC for maintenance and safety improvements.

3. **Police Update**

PCSO Mander presented the Safer Neighbourhoods Team update. The following comments were made:

- Scalpings could be used to make verge safe on Margaret Road, Atherstone
- Long Street, Atherstone ticketing of cars has not improved congestion in town
- Outwoods Primary School, Atherstone – ‘Keep Clear’ zone requested by police
- Michael Drayton Junior School – request by police for engineering solution to resolve parking issues
- PCSO Craig Holland has joined North Warwickshire East SNT replacing PCSO D Hoskins
- Oldbury Road, Hartshill - Litter in lay-by
- Church Close, Hartshill – inconsiderate parking at end of cul-de-sac

A vote was taken to extend the current priority actions (set in December 2013) over a 3 month period.

Three new priorities were chosen and would take effect from 1st March:
Priority: Graffiti tagging 'blu' & 'dlor' around Atherstone - giving particular attention to the Netherwood Industrial Estate, Atherstone
Priority: Parking Long Street, Atherstone around 'Keep Clear' areas & Market Street (opposite Bates butchers)
Priority: Anti-social behaviour, Oldbury Road, Hartshill (around lay-by area)

4. Local council update

J Douglas, NWBC fed back on the Local Community Projects Fund. A report was circulated with the agenda. Twelve applications have been awarded grants. In Area Forum East six projects have received funding totalling £3,210. Next funding deadline: 1st April & 1st October.

A Rigby, WCC fed back on the Councillor Grant Fund. Cllr N Dirveiks has supported nine local community groups giving a total of £5,000. Cllr A McLauchlan has so far supported seven local groups giving a total of £2,500. A further funding round has been launched with a closing date of 28th February.

5. Tell us your issues

Concern raised over the amount of dog fouling around Westwood Road, Coleshill Road, Atherstone. Environmental Health, NWBC offered to forward a standard letter to Atherstone Town Council for them to circulate in appropriate streets.

6. Any other business

J Harmon, WCC gave an update on the redevelopment of Queen Elizabeth School, Atherstone. Copies of a briefing note were circulated. The project will be managed by central government through the Education Funding Agency (EFA). The new school is scheduled to be opened by 2017.

It is expected the project will follow a set timetable:

Procurement exercise:	Spring 2014
Selection of bidder:	December 2014
Planning application:	Spring 2015
Construction:	Summer 2015
Completion / opening:	Sept 2017

In answer to questions:

The new school will have the same capacity as the existing school. The preferred location is still to be determined and no public consultation or decisions have yet been taken.

No public consultation dates have been set yet by EFA.

The Old Grammar School site will be vacated by the school.

The redevelopment of the site does not include the creation of a sixth form.

7. Suggestions for items / themes for next meeting

Action Plan for Hartshill Hayes Country Park
Public Health presentation on locally specific health issues

8. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 10th June 2014