

Notes of Area Forum East meeting held in The Partnership Centre, Atherstone on Tuesday 20 November 2012

Present: Councillor Fox in the Chair.

Councillors Davis, N Dirveiks, L Dirveiks, Forwood, Freer, Johnston, Pickard, Wykes and County Councillor Shaw

In Attendance: A Rigby, T de Kretser - Warwickshire CC, Robert Beggs, Sally Roberts - North Warwickshire BC, PC Carter – Warks Police, D Clews, T Clews, R Jarvis - Atherstone TC, T Hopkins – Mancetter PC, J Randle – Hartshill PC, D Atkin, D McMurdo, J McMurdo, T Aston, D Clay, M Wrigley, M Hart, L Hart, D Elston

Apologies for Absence were received from T Moore, J Marshall, G Davis

1 Minutes and Matters Arising of the meeting held on 18 September 2012

This included an update on safer routes to schools in Hartshill and feedback on WCC grant awards and computer recycling scheme. Public Health's annual report 2012 and the Ocado job fairs were also highlighted.

2. Police Update

As part of the Safer Neighbourhoods Update the following three priorities were agreed

Priority: Parking – Nathaniel Newton School, Victoria Road, Hartshill at drop off / pick up times

Priority: Parking – Ratcliffe Road, Atherstone, opposite GP surgery

Priority: Parking – South St / Arden St, Atherstone

3. Financial Inclusion, debt & loan sharks

Sally Roberts highlighted the key changes being brought in through the Welfare Reform Act 2012 which included universal credit; non dependent deductions; changes to housing benefit; changes to occupancy rules (bedroom tax) and monthly payment of benefit.

In response the Warwickshire Financial Inclusion Partnership led locally by North Warwickshire Borough Council were running a number of projects and campaigns to help support residents by promoting awareness of fuel poverty, expensive credit (loan sharks, pay day loans), the role of credit unions & jam jar accounts.

Sally also highlighted the BOB Hubs as a resource for local people to use both for contacting key partners and as a way of accessing IT facilities to seek advice and for applying to jobs etc.

4. NWBC update

Area Forum Fund - NWBC Borough Councillors voted to support:
Atherstone Arts Circle - £552 and Atherstone Theatre Workshop - £1,485
The Forum will have £4,587 to carry forward to 2013/14.

5. Date of next meeting

Tuesday, 5 February 2013