

Henley & Studley Community Forum

Thursday 25th June 2009

7.30pm Ullenhall Village Hall, Henley Road, Ullenhall

Members in Attendance: Stephen Thirlwell
Mike Weddell
Mike Perry
Laurence Marshall
Richard Hobbs

20 Members of the public and support officers from SDC and WCC
Apologies were received from Paul Beaman and George Atkinson.

1. Welcome from the Chair, Stephen Thirlwell to the Community Forum meeting.

2. Update and Matters Arising from the meeting held on 18th February 2009

- Library Consultation – All Parish and Town Councils in the County should have been sent information to disseminate to residents including a link to complete survey questionnaire on line. To date no further information has been forthcoming, website has not been updated since February and nothing has been resolved. There are serious misgivings about the review and guidelines have not been met concerning the consultation. Steve Smith from Warwickshire County Council will investigate. Cllr Thirlwell will also raise the issue at SDC Cabinet meeting in September.
- Local Stratford District Partnership only one representative from the Henley and Studley Community Forum meeting required. Representative to be determined.
- Parking issues on unadopted road adjacent to Studley Village Hall – Item on hold for the time being as the only option would be for WCC to adopt the road which would be expensive. The scale of the problem is not sufficient to warrant action.
- Parking at Somerfield/One Stop in Henley and Disabled parking in Henley – Jane Williams, Project Support Engineer for Traffic problems at WCC advises that a review is in progress. Forum to be updated in due course. SDC will apply enforcement where appropriate.
- Residents still not aware Forum is taking place. Review of publicity needed. SDC Communications have agreed to issue press releases for future meetings.

- Late night unrest in Station Road and Crooks Lane in Studley – SNT have followed up and taken action. Update in Policing report.

3. Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team

Presentation given by Sgt Bob Shaw.

Data Protection Notice read out.

Main points raised were as follows:

- Warwickshire Police Priorities 2009/10. To reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured. To reduce the number of homes burgled and vehicle crimes committed. To improve trust and confidence.
- Antisocial behaviour, Studley (Crooks Lane and Station Road). Incidents reported in whole of Studley in first quarter slightly up from last year. Alleyway off Station Road and Crooks Lane, Pool Road and High Street as well as patrols there have been a number of arrests.
- Parking on Alcester Road, Studley. A further leaflet drop has been carried out and patrols carried out to identify obstruction on the pavement. Advice has been given to drivers.
- The team has a new PCSO with primary responsibility for Studley, PCSO 6221 Laura Thomson has taken the post vacated by Jason Brown. Expecting a fourth PCSO to be appointed in early July.
- Implementing massive response time to calls. Right service first time rather than deferring jobs. Appointment/diary car for non-emergency calls. Can then focus on Police matters.
- If anyone requires crime figures can be viewed on Warwickshire Police website.

Other matters raised: -

- Richard Hobbs gave apologies from Claverdon and Langley. Questioned why Smart Water Scheme had gone on 'back burner'. Action to re-inforce Smart Water.
- Mike Perry reported a problem of cars parking outside the Winged Spur blocking access for residents and speeding on sharp bend at Wootten Wawen passed 30mph sign. Little Police presence in Earlswood and Ullenhall.
- Laurence Marshall disappointed that CCTV issue in Henley has not been resolved. Dave Webb from SDC to investigate
- Big increase in burglaries in Studley, Could get worse due to recession.
- Request that the Force let Neighbourhood Watch know about changes and what to look for.

4. Have Your Say

- Cllr Hubbocks from Henley Parish Council proposed change to the road junction at Preston Green on the A4189 with Pettiford Lane. This has been looked at by WCC. They need to prioritise engineering measures and it is usually sites with the highest number of collisions involving personal injury. The junction at Pettiford Lane has had 3 recorded injury accidents within the last 3 years and as there are other areas with a worse record it was agreed that at the present time improvement to the junction is not something that the Road Safety Unit can consider. Cllr Hobbs stated that the grass verges have become very overgrown and the view is obscured, perhaps improved maintenance of the verge will help. Cllr Goodman raised the issue of replacement road sign. SDC has it in stock but there is no-one to install it. Dave Webb from SDC will investigate.
- Cllr Weddell brought up the issue of the railings outside Tesco on the Alcester Road, Studley. Funding was agreed at the Joint Area Committee but it has been looked at and the railings cannot be fitted because they are too close to the bollards. Tesco have agreed to move the bollards but this will not stop the parking problem. Henley has the same problem. Both items to be taken forward to be resolved for the next meeting.
- Henley Youth and Community Centre - established 4 years ago and now seeking funding to open for an extra evening which would help with anti social behaviour. Studley has the same issue. Steve Smith to take back to WCC.
- Pathway in Henley being obstructed by tables and chairs being put outside a shop. Wheelchairs and pushchairs etc are finding it difficult to get past. Obstruction to be looked at by WCC.
- Future of Area Joint Committees, July meeting not taking place. Policy of WCC is to reduce meetings by a third. New Council will formally decide. Stratford Area meeting will continue in November. Issues now often delegated to officers instead of having meetings. At next full Council meeting of SDC they will be looking and reporting on what meetings will take place. If less meetings the Community Forums will become stronger. Should be looking at giving more power to the Community through these meetings. District Councillors will report back to Parish Councils.
Cllr Mrs Goodman queried the £2,000 being spent by Warwickshire Police for a fun day for the gypsy and travelling community. Idea is to have more dialogue with the travelling community and try and build better relations.

5. Sustainability in the Forum Area.

- Presentation given by Andy McDarmaid WCC Environmental Management and Performance Manager.

- Environmental Sustainability covers areas such as Sustainable Development and balancing the Social, Economic environment. It is performance lead and work is ongoing.
- Three years ago the Eco Schools programme was introduced to 250 schools in Warwickshire. Out of the 250, 210 have signed up. The initiative included transport, litter, recycling and biodiversity through teachers and children alike. Awards are Gold, Silver and Bronze. Studley High School and Junior School as well as Henley High School have achieved a bronze award.
- Now moving from schools to the Community and building schools for the future where they are used more of the time not just 9am to 3.30pm.
- 2 good projects, one of which is Greener Henley. There are old buildings in a conservation area. The process a list of actions for residents to see what can be done. Some of the myths have been dispelled. It can be a complex subject. One suggestion was to turn the street lights off earlier but that is not happening. WCC buying green electricity and putting in lower energy lamps when they need replaced.
- Andy gave the example of Ashton Hayes in Cheshire was the first village to become Carbon Neutral. Because of their success 10 villages invited to take part in the project. Snitterfield was picked as one of the 10. Need to identify carbon footprint and link up with villages worldwide. If subject to climate change the environment will be improved.
- Jacky Lawrence and Emma Clark have visited a number of Parish Council's to provide awareness on what can be done.
- In Warwickshire 8.2 tons of CO2 emissions excluding motorways. Challenge is to reduce to 7.2 tons. Switch Off campaign one initiative.

Questions: -

- Switch over to digital and is it justified. Andy McDarmid has no knowledge concerning this but will take it back to his team.
- Wood Sustainability - WCC which is one of only eight Councils has an excellent record with no wood going to landfill. All wood has to come from FSC source which means trees are replaced and the rain forest is not being destroyed.

6. Representative for the Stratford District Partnership

- The Forum needs to nominate a representative for the District Partnership meetings. As no one was nominated it was agreed that the Chairman of Community Forum meetings should be the representative.

7. Vote taken on the list of issues put forward to SNT

8. “Parish Pump” – Information Sharing

- Jim Bacon - Stratford Neighbourhood Watch Association commented that it was important to maintain District Councillor links to help with funding and forging further links with the Police. The policing pledge is the right step forward for the Community in general. There is often a lack of communication and if given bad news often increases the fear of crime. Encouragement given through the organisation to help. There is already a representative on the Stratford District Association from Henley. Stephen Thirlwell to alert other District Councillors.

9. Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust

- Ian Andrew, Head of Communication for the NHS Trust addressed the meeting.
- The Trust needs to account for what they do. They are responsible for substance and drug misuse across the whole of Warwickshire. St Michaels in Warwick is their base. Community teams in Warwick and Leamington help with mental health and drugs issues. This is difficult as they cover a wide area.
- NHS requires new members. Well aware of the influence Councillors have. The Trust already has 7,000 members but there is a dearth of members in the Stratford District.
- Would like any ideas of how to reach more people and would like to give people the opportunity to get involved.
- Leaflets left by Mr Andrew to be distributed. Anyone interested can explore the links.

10. Result of Voting of SNT issues

- 1st - House Burglaries. SNT will give more officer time to this issue by carrying out four 10 hour patrols which is a huge commitment.
- 2nd – Speeding Wootton Wawen. Speed check to be carried out if time before the next Forum meeting will try and undertake speed measurements.
- 3rd - Nuisance vehicles Node Hill, Studley.

11. Items for future meetings

- Empty Homes in the Community for use.
- Health issues in the Forum area.
- Review on progress Re: Parking.
- Affordable Housing

12. Dates and Venues for Future Meetings

Thursday 13th August 2009 – Wootton Wawen Village Hall

Thursday 12th November 2009 – Henley Memorial Hall

Thursday 11th February 2010 – Studley Village Hall

