

## Abbey & Wem Brook Community Forum

6<sup>th</sup> December 2011 at Nuneaton Town Hall

### Notes of the Meeting

The meeting was attended by 16 members of the public and a number of officers from Warwickshire County Council, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council and Warwickshire Police.

### Councillors in attendance:

June Tandy, Chair WCC  
Bob Hicks WCC  
Jill Sheppard NBBC  
Neil Phillips NBBC  
Julie Jackson NBBC  
Bill Sheppard NBBC

### Apologies:

Clive Stringer NBBC

### George Eliot Hospital Trust – securing a sustainable future

Teresa French, Director of Facilities at George Eliot Hospital spoke about the proposals for the hospital. A fact sheet is attach at Appendix A giving full details.

### Update on issues raised at the September meeting:

Area of Concern	Description of Issue/Update
Hannover Glebe	ASB general rowdiness from customers of the Fleur de Leys – <b>Police have met licensee and residents. No further reports and the situation is being monitored by the Safer Neighbourhood Team</b>
Across Forum Area	Consultation process for any residential parking schemes as NBBC elected members unaware of any proposed schemes – <b>Issue discussed at WCC Area Committee meeting and the new Civil Parking Enforcement Scheme went live on 7 November 2011. A briefing on the first few weeks was circulated at the meeting – copy attached for information – Appendix B</b>
Dandelion Fountain	Possibility of a “Keep Clear” mark – as at peak times this roundabout is often gridlock – <b>WCC Highways are investigating options</b>
Town Centre	Bollards not being operated on a Sunday? – <b>Bollards are operational 7 days a week</b>
Queens Road	Lack of enforcement of 20mph zone and refuges being used as crossing points by residents – <b>Road markings will be improved in the new year to address concerns raised by the community and elected members. WCC Highways continuing to review a range of options to ensure drivers adhere to 20mph speed limit</b>

Dorlecote Court	Multi-agency group looking into issues – <b>Multi-agency meetings have continued and a proposal detailing security improvements are being developed</b>
Lexington and Dillon	Multi-agency group looking into issues – <b>Work is ongoing with elected members and community representatives</b>
Attleborough Road	Graffiti and dangerous metal sheeting on and around Ian Neil owned Yard – <b>Graffiti has been cleared and metal sheeting secured</b>
Lexington Court	Rats sighted on Lexington green area – <b>Environmental Health has baited the area</b>

The following **new issues** were raised as concerns by the residents and any actions will be reported back at the next meeting in March 2012:

<b>Area of concern</b>	<b>Description of issue raised</b>
Gillett Close	General ASB (area is part of the dispersal zone)
Mount St/Mount St Passage	ASB particularly worse Friday and Saturday nights
Across forum area	Numerous scrap metal collectors – Police will be conducting an operation to address concerns Borough wide
Dillon Court	Difficulty getting through to Nuneaton Police Station
Pool Bank St/Queens Road	Cars parking on grassed area adjacent to the Crew
Queens Road	General ASB as a result of people drinking too much affecting the surrounding area – possibility of an Alcohol free Zone?
Norman Avenue/Marlborough Road	Signage still not completed for the one way system
Marlborough Road	Keep clear boxes on Queens Road where traffic is joining from Marlborough Road and Norman Avenue (similar to box at the junction of Queens Road and High Street)
Upper Abbey Street	Timescales as to when double yellow lines will be painted
Queens Road	Lack of enforcement of 20mph zone and refuges being used as crossing points by residents
Dorlecote Court	Multi-agency group looking into issues
Lexington and Dillon	Multi-agency group looking into issues
Upper Abbey Street	Market traders – are they parking legally or illegally?
Communicating with WCC 'People Group'	Difficulty in getting through to People Group – details of problem to be forwarded to appropriate officers

**Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2011

**Time:** 7pm

**Venue:** Council Chamber, Town Hall, Nuneaton

## Appendix A

### George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust – securing a sustainable future: Fact sheet

At the Trust's September 2011 Board meeting, it was agreed by the Board of Directors that the Trust would no longer seek to pursue foundation trust status as a 'standalone' organisation, and instead look for a 'partner' organisation, with whom we can work to secure a strong and sustainable future for the George Eliot and local healthcare services.

The Board of the George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust had originally planned for the Trust to become a standalone Foundation Trust, as this would have been our first choice, but there are many challenges to overcome for this to become a reality, some of which are within our control, and others not.

Over recent months we have been involving staff and local stakeholders in our discussions around our potential future 'organisational model' and we have been very open about the challenges we would face in attaining authorisation to proceed to FT status alone.

There is now a growing recognition nationally that smaller acute hospitals, like our own, may need to work collaboratively to achieve FT status. So, in recent weeks, we have been developing options that will identify a strategic partner to provide clinical and financial sustainability, as well as high quality and accessible services in the long term.

We developed an initial 'long list' of 14 possible 'organisational shapes' the Trust could explore as part of its process to find a partner organisation and this long list has now been focused into a short list of six possible organisational models, as follows:

	Option description
1	Merger equal – Join another NHS trust of a similar size to create a joint organisation
2	Merger specialist – Join a specialist NHS trust looking to broaden its range of services or strengthen its balance sheet
3	Merger unequal – To become part of a bigger organisation, probably a regional centre
4	Vertical integration – Creates a single organisation across a health economy, primary, secondary and social / continuing care and mental health
5	NHS super chain – A chain of several hospitals, possibly geographically spread, with similar values, systems and common senior management
6	NHS / Independent Sector partnership – A partnership with an Independent sector health organisation

While this short list helps to identify the possible partnership options for the future, it does not identify which organisations would be suitable partners; that decision process comes next.

By choosing to seek an alternative way of working, the Trust remains in control of the process and the Board has pledged its absolute assurance that any potential options for the future will be assessed against a robust set of criteria that will prioritise the best interests of local people, patients and our staff.

### **The Quality Assurance Group**

A Quality Assurance Group (QAG) has been created, with members responsible for the overview and scrutiny of the project and to provide assurance that it will deliver an acceptable solution. The group is made up of key stakeholders including staff and patient representatives, trade unions and clinicians, amongst others. It had its first meeting on 7 November, and minutes will soon be available on our website at [www.geh.nhs.uk/foundation-trust/](http://www.geh.nhs.uk/foundation-trust/) along with the group's terms of reference and membership.

### **What's next?**

The Trust will be compiling an Outline Business Case (OBC) during December. The OBC reviews the available options to identify the preferred way forward, and will propose the preferred partnership option. As part of that OBC development, we will be inviting potential partners to come and discuss how they might work with us in the future. This is an informal 'throwing of hats in the ring' at this stage.

The OBC is planned for completion by May 2012.

The whole process to identify and agree a partnership is expected to take around 12-18 months.

### **In short: Ten key facts about the process**

1. George Eliot Hospital (GEH) is looking at partnership options to help it reach Foundation Trust status, as all hospitals must do by 2014.
2. The priority for this process will be to find a solution that provides sustainable, accessible, well-managed services for patients, ensuring quality and delivering value for money.
3. All options are being considered to ensure a sustainable future for the hospital. There is no pre-existing grand plan for a takeover or merger.
4. GEH is not being privatised.
5. Whatever future partnership arrangement GEH may arrive at, patients will continue to receive the NHS services they need.
6. The GEH board is absolutely committed to keeping local services local.
7. The process for identifying a suitable option for GEH's future will be open and transparent.
8. The public and staff are being involved in the process. There will be numerous ways in which people can feed in their ideas and practical suggestions.
9. It's "business as usual" during the process, with safe and effective patient treatment remaining the priority.
10. This process is separate from The Arden Cluster's plan to hold a public consultation on women's and children's services in the region. The results of the women's & children's consultation will, however, be factored in to the Trust's project around its future.

### **Women's and children's services**

We recognise there has been much speculation surrounding women's and children's services and although this is an entirely separate piece of work being led by the Coventry and Warwickshire primary care trust cluster, the outcome of this review process may impact on the George Eliot and its plans for the future outlined above.

The George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust took immediate action earlier this year to strengthen the staffing of children's services after a review recommended that current paediatric trainees should be withdrawn, due, primarily, to the small number of children and limited range of conditions and illnesses doctors treat on the site. In order to fill a number of staffing gaps created by the removal of trainees, the Trust has recruited additional doctors to ensure services for local children are improved.

In the longer term, the Arden Cluster (Warwickshire and Coventry primary care trusts) is due to undertake a public consultation to ensure the sustainability of safe, effective and accessible children's services for north Warwickshire. Clinicians and managers at the George Eliot are fully committed to working with health care partners to identify a solution that ensures the maximum number of children can continue to be treated locally and it is our hope that once an appropriate, sustainable solution is found we will once again be able to provide appropriate training on our site for junior paediatricians.

### **The George Eliot's preferred option**

As part of the pre-consultation process, the George Eliot has provided a proposed model for women's and children's services for local people. This model has been submitted to the primary care trust cluster for their consideration to include within the formal consultation.

This option would see the least amount of change to services at George Eliot Hospital. Whilst child inpatient cases and some emergencies would be seen at University Hospital, Coventry, a new short stay assessment unit at George Eliot Hospital would look after children who needed to remain in hospital for a few hours. The short stay assessment unit would most likely be open 8am until 10pm. The unit would be covered by a team of paediatric consultants who provide medical support on site 24 hours a day seven days a week, supported by specialist paediatric nursing staff and junior doctors.

Any children who arrive after 10pm and require observation or an overnight stay would be transferred to University Hospital in Coventry.

The current maternity service offering consultant delivered and midwifery delivered births and gynaecology services will continue unchanged at the GEH and there will continue to be Special Care Baby Unit.

In brief, the George Eliot's preferred model would entail:

- No change to maternity services (i.e. continue to provide a consultant-led service)
- No change to women's gynaecology services
- No change to special baby service (level one neonatal care with senior paediatric medical cover 24/7)
- Paediatric Outpatients as currently provided
- Minor injuries and illnesses treated at A&E

- Emergency arrivals at A&E taken to new assessment unit (likely to be open 8am-10pm)
- Movement of inpatient paediatric care to UHCW
- Paediatric Day case surgery provided at GEH
- Ambulances as current service (straight to UHCW)
- We would also like to see the development of much stronger community based paediatric services

The George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust believes this model would be in the best interests of providing good quality, accessible care to local people. The Arden Cluster primary care trusts will take the lead on deciding which options to include within their consultation in the new year.

December 2011

## Appendix B

### A Progress Update on the Introduction of Civil Parking Enforcement in to the Borough of Nuneaton and Bedworth

#### A VERY Brief Summary of the Early Days.

Motorists and pedestrians have openly welcomed the sight of Civil Enforcement Officers patrolling the various streets in Bedworth, Bulkington and Nuneaton. They have expressed thanks and offered encouragement and advice. Motorists appear to be responding well to the “advisory” approach and appreciate the friendly warning rather than an immediate fine.

Even those motorists who incur fines and seek out the Civil Enforcement Officers for advice on how to pay or how to avoid further fines are polite and respectful, (so far **217** penalty charge notices (PCNs) have been issued). To date it has been a pleasure working in and around the Borough and we would like to thank everyone in the communities for being so welcoming, supportive and friendly

A small number of residents have requested that particular areas are considered for parking restrictions as they feel that there are particular parking problems where they live. Civil Enforcement Officers have also made suggestions for locations where there appears to be safety issues where “corner protections” might make areas safer for motorists and pedestrians. Each of these suggestions are being looked at and discussed with County Council colleagues.

#### Pre 7<sup>th</sup> November 2011. (Before we went “live”)

In the two weeks prior to 7<sup>th</sup> November 2011, Civil Enforcement Officers patrolled the centres of Nuneaton, Bedworth and Bulkington and issued a total of **136 warning notices** to vehicles observed to be in contravention of the parking regulations. As well as the warning notices there were approximately **200 verbal warnings** given to drivers with recommendations as to where to park legally. The locations visited commenced with those locations suggested at locality meetings, by elected members and officers of NBBC and the general public. However, the public soon became the greatest source of information on hot spots.

#### **Areas where warning notices were issued:**

**Bedworth** - Croxhall Street; Edward Road; King Street; and Leicester Road;

**Nuneaton** - Abbey Street; Bond Gate; Bond Street; Church Street; Coton Road; Coventry Street; Croft Road; Dugdale Street; Harefield Road; King Edward Road; Mill Street; Mill Walk; Orchard Street; Powell Way; Queens Road; Regent Street; Victoria Street and Wheat Street

### **Week commencing 7th November 2011**

During this first week of operation, Civil Enforcement Officers patrolled the centres of Nuneaton and Bedworth as well as Bulkington and issued a total of **88 Penalty Charge Notices**. These patrols took place between 10am and 4pm. The approach initially was to continue to warn, inform and encourage appropriate parking, with a relatively light touch towards enforcement, far more verbal warnings were given than PCNs issued.

#### **Areas where PCNs were issued:**

**Bedworth** – Church Way; Croxhall Street; Edward Road; King Street; Spitalfields; and William Street.

**Nuneaton** - Abbey Street; Burgage Place; Coton Road; Croft Road; Dugdale Street; Edward Street; Harefield Road; King Edward Road; Mill Street; Mill Walk; Orchard Street; Powell Way; Queens Road; Regent Street; Victoria Street; Wheat Street and Windsor Street

### **Week commencing 14th November 2011**

During this second week of operation, Civil Enforcement Officers patrolled the centres of Nuneaton and Bedworth as well as Bulkington and issued a total of **68 Penalty Charge Notices**. Patrols took place between 9.30am and 2.30pm. Again the general approach is towards encouraging the behavioural change from motorists rather than strict enforcement.

#### **Areas where PCNs were issued;**

**Bedworth** – Church Way; Croxhall Street; High Street; King Street; and Spitalfields Bulkington - Leicester Street;

**Nuneaton** - Abbey Street; Bond Gate; Chapel Street; Clinic Drive; Corporation Street; Croft Road; Dugdale Street; Edward Street; Harefield Road; Mill Street; Mill Walk; Princess Street; Regent Street; Vicarage Street; and Windsor Street

### **Week commencing 21<sup>st</sup> November 2011**

During this third week of operation, Civil Enforcement Officers patrolled the centres of Nuneaton and Bedworth as well as Bulkington and issued a total of **61 Penalty Charge notices**. These patrols took place between 10am and 4.30pm.

Special attention was paid to the pedestrian entry points in Nuneaton where officers were deployed to the Queens Road and Harefield Road entrances prior to 4pm when the automatic bollards were lowered. These officers advised drivers queuing at these points that only vehicles engaged in loading and unloading activities and blue badge holders could enter the area and most drivers therefore found alternative parking locations. A very small number of drivers entered the area and those found in contravention of the parking regulations were issued with Penalty Charge Notices.

**Areas where PCNs were issued:**

**Bedworth** – Spitalfields;

**Nuneaton** - Abbey Street; Chapel Street; Clinic Drive; Corporation Street; Coton Road; Coventry Street; Croft Road; Dugdale Street; Edward Street; Harefield Road; Market Place; Mill Street; Mill Walk; Newdegate Street; Powell Way; Princess Street; Queens Road and Victoria Street

**Week Commencing 28<sup>th</sup> November 2011**

During this week of operation, Civil Enforcement Officers are following the same pattern of patrolling as the previous week.

**Week Commencing 5<sup>th</sup> December 2011**

During this week of operation it is intended to carry out similar enforcement patrols as the previous weeks, but to also concentrate on Bedworth pedestrian area at 4pm when the automatic bollards are lowered.

**After Christmas**

It is intended to pay extra time enforcing parking bays where there are limited waiting periods, both for disabled and able bodied persons. This will of course be in conjunction with the routine patrols.

**School Parking**

From our experience in Rugby, and from attending some of the Community Forums in and around your Borough, we know that parking around schools can be a challenge and an area of concern. We do know that schools work very hard trying to educate parents about this issue, but the impact can be limited. To try to be proactive on this topic we are in the process of developing some information packs with our colleagues in Warwickshire Police and Warwickshire County Council to try to help all communities to work together to try to improve these problems. We hope that these will be ready for the next round of Community Forums in the New Year.

**RICOH Stadium Area Residents Parking Scheme**

Unfortunately there was no enforcement activity carried out in the Ash Green and Neal's Green areas close to the Ricoh stadium for the match on 19th November 2011. We received a complaint from one resident in Woodford Close as a result, and we would apologise for this oversight. We have now put a process in place to ensure we are sighted on matches and events in the future.

The next match is scheduled for Saturday 10th December 2011 and there will be a "squad" of Civil Enforcement Officers in the area approximately between 3.15pm and 4.15pm on that day. This will assist us in determining the level of personnel that will be required for these events in the future. Residents in the area are reminded to ensure that they do display their permits as there will be a strict enforcement approach.

It is important to remind residents in these areas that the Civil Enforcement Officers are only able to issue PCN's to people who park illegally i.e. on double yellow lines or without a permit. Where people have any access's blocked, we are unable to address that problem, other than by issuing a fine. Matters of obstruction can only be addressed by the Police.

### **Olympic Events at the RICOH Stadium**

There is increasing thought, discussion and consideration being given to the preparations for the Olympics next summer. As these progress and if or when there are any additional activities and or measures put in place, we will try to ensure that the relevant communities are advised.

### **Targeting Problem Areas**

We have begun to visit areas where Community Forums have raised concerns, and also where the public have talked to our officers as they carry out patrols, as we move in to the new year this will continue and we would welcome Community Forums to keep the flow of information and intelligence coming to us so that we help you to address the problems that you experience in your communities.

Please contact the County Council Community Forum team to raise any parking problems you have:

*Email: [nuneatonandbedworth@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:nuneatonandbedworth@warwickshire.gov.uk)*

*Telephone: 024 7637 5700*

*Address: Room 101, Town Hall, Coton Road, Nuneaton, CV11 5AA*

*Web site: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/nun-bedarea](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/nun-bedarea)*

Or contact the Rugby Parking Team direct on:

[parking@rugby.gov.uk](mailto:parking@rugby.gov.uk)

Or Telephone 01788 533729

Or stop a Civil Enforcement Officer when they are on patrol and have a conversation with them.

30<sup>th</sup> November 2011