

Arbury & Stockingford Community Forum

Tuesday 21 June 2011 – The Cabbage Club

Notes of Meeting

Councillors Present:

Cllr Barry Longden – Chair	WCC
Cllr Sonja Wilson	WCC
Cllr Chris Watkins – Vice Chair	NBBC
Cllr Martyn Findley	NBBC
Cllr John Waine	NBBC

Apologies:

Cllr Andrew Burtenshaw
Cllr John Vereker
Sgt Lampard
Mark Ryder

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

Cllr Longden welcomed residents to the forum and introduced the councillors, officers from WCC and NBBC and the police. Apologies as listed were given.

2. Update on New Recycling Scheme

Sue Cummine, NBBC outlined the new Recycling Scheme:

Each household will have 3 wheelie bins:

- Black: general waste/refuse which cannot be recycled/composted
- Black with coloured lid and caddy insert: recyclables > paper and card in caddy; glass, plastics; cans etc in main bin
- Green: garden waste

Residents were able to see a bin with the caddy insert.

A timetable will be issued to residents in September and the new scheme should start in October. The timetable will indicate the day which bin/bins need to be put out.

Road shows will be taking place around the borough and a further presentation will be given at the next forum in September.

Residents raised the following issues:

- Recycling facilities for flats and Community Centres – details taken to assist residents and groups
- Cardboard too large for the bin insert – this should be broken down and tied, then left beside the bin

3. The Councils – Briefing and Feedback from the March meeting

Cllr Longden went through the issues raised at the last meeting and the following need further investigation:

3.1 Gritting – why the local play area had been gritted but that Gallows Bridge has not?

ACTION: A. Daw to follow up

3.2 Community Speed Aware – details of the new scheme are: This service is free but requires local volunteers. Ideal for small groups/organisations/Council.

- Free loan for up to 2 weeks of a Smiley SID flashing sign to be staffed by local volunteers.
- Full training given on site to a minimum of 2 volunteers.
- Volunteers can be members of the local council/organisations & Neighbourhood Watch groups.
- Signs can be used throughout the community subject to safety checks.
- Full support of our Road Safety Team.

Please contact the following to discuss the above scheme –

Tel: 01926 418612

Email: speedaware@warwickshre.gov.uk or

Visit: <http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/speedaware>

3.3 Other issues:

Library consultation – Cllr Longden spoke about the meeting and that the consultation has now closed. Results of the consultations will be passed on to the forum.

LINKs – Local Health Watch: information on the new system handed out at the meeting.

Community Forum Changes – Cllr Longden advised residents that a report is going to Warwickshire County Council on Tuesday 28 June proposing changes to Area Committee's and how funding would be allocated i.e. through Community Forums.

4. Current Local Issues

4.1 Greenmoor Road Allotment Association – John Clelland talked about the site, which has 160 fully occupied plots and their security problems:

- Arson – 12 shreds destroyed
- Fencing being cut and damaged
- 2 Rotavators stolen – value £2/3k each
- Crops being stolen
- Residents feel unable to report incidents to the Police

The committee would like help and advice to secure funding and action on the arson and crops being stolen. Suggestions were given as to possible funding pots. Matt Downes, who was involved in funding for the Stockingford Allotment Association, offered to help and advise who they used for the work to make the site secure.

ACTIONS:

- Cllrs Longden and Watkins would meet with the committee and look at a way forward
- Community Safety Project officers to be asked if they can assist
- Funding information to be passed to John Clelland

4.2 Parking – concerns around Wicliff Road/Quantock Drive/Berwyn Way.

ACTION: Cllr Longden to follow up

4.3 Graffiti – With reference to a specific individual, the police and NBBC are aware of this problem, which is being dealt with.

4.4 Street Lighting – concerns raised about the lights being switched off/lowered from 12 midnight to 5am as they feel crime/anti-social behaviour will increase. Police advised that most burglaries take place during the day and anti-social behaviour is usually up to 10pm.

It was suggested that costs of implementing the scheme would be £3M, that it would take 3-Years to recoup those costs but thereafter savings would be made.

The following is a WCC response:

'A decision has been made in principle (though not in detail) that some street lighting will be switched off over night.'

The date that this will happen has not been set and will vary from area to area. Which lights will be switched off and between which hours is

yet to be decided, though it is likely that this will be between 0000hrs and 0530.

Lights will not be switched off in areas which are considered to be 'safety critical' or where lighting is mandatory. In areas where lights can be switched off an assessment is yet to be made as to the extent of switch off.'

The situation is still that no decision has been made yet as to which lights will be switched off.

- 4.5 Anti-social behaviour** –It was reported to the meeting that anti-social behaviour has increased over the previous three to four months and that it centred around one family. The Police are aware and are addressing the issue. Cllr Watkins said that he would contact the Housing Officer.

5. Police Feedback

Feedback from the police included reference to them dealing with quad bikes causing nuisance at Cat Gallows and on the canal bank and of the difficulties experienced in accessing their off-road team.

There was criticism of the reorganisation taking civilians out of the system who were on a pay scale of £16K to £18K, and then requiring Police Officers to do the same work on a pay scale of about £28K, as well as taking them away from policing duties in the community. It was felt that this didn't make economic or policing sense.

A discussion also took place on the number of Sergeants deployed in the Safer Neighbourhood Teams across the Borough

6. Next Meeting

Please note change in venue

Date: 20th September 2011

Time: 7pm to 9pm

Venue: The Pavilion, (The Piv), Ansley Road, Nuneaton, CV10 8LT