

Bidford on Avon and Alcester Community Forum

Tuesday 21st September 2010

Welford Primary School, Welford-on-Avon

7.00pm

Present :

Richard Hood welcomed those present and advised that the first item on the agenda was the election of a Chairman and Vice Chairman

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN and VICE CHAIRMAN

- Cllr. Slaughter proposed Cllr. Kim James be re-elected. This was seconded by Cllr. Gittus.
As there were no other candidates Cllr. Kim James was duly elected Chairman.
- Cllr. Gittus proposed Cllr. Payne as Vice Chairman. However, Cllr. Payne declined and in turn proposed Cllr. Barnes. This was seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Hobbs.
As there were no other proposals, Cllr. Barnes was duly elected Vice Chairman.

2. WELCOME

Cllr. James thanked the forum for re-electing him /Chairman and congratulated Cllr. Barnes on becoming the vice Chairman of the forum.

He would like to encourage all communities within the Alcester/Bidford Community Forum to take part and advised that in order to assist with this, the forums were taking part at various venues such as Welford on Avon, Great Alne, Aston Cantlow, Temple Grafton etc.

He also was eager to have the forum adapt to the necessities of the communities: to discuss issues raised at the fora, either verbally or in writing, so that discussions get to the heart of the communities, in a more informal and relaxed atmosphere.

3. LOCAL POLICING UPDATE AND QUESTIONS FROM RESIDENTS

Sgt. Andy Moss made the presentation. He introduced himself as he has only recently been appointed to replace Sgt. Wilde who has retired.

The presentation on the results of the 3 priorities raised at the July Community Forum is attached hereto.

Sgt. Moss added that although there was an ASB problem in the area, it was by no means a major one.

He also praised the PCSOs who were very pro active.

He then invited suggestions for the three priorities to be taken forward from this forum:

- Speeding in Welford-on-Avon
- Speeding in Luddington
- Improper driving of vehicles in contravention of Sec 59 of the Road Traffic Act 1988

4. POLICE AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVE – Cllr. Hobbs

Due to the requirement to make budget savings, WCC has been in conversations with neighbouring police forces discussing the possibility of closer collaboration:
What did the forum think:

Is Warwickshire Police sufficient or would it like to see them work closer with neighbouring forces

There were various points raised and discussed and the conclusion was that:

The forum would like Warwickshire Police to retain its identity whilst collaborating with neighbouring forces but without reducing the number of visible police.

5. YOU SAID, WE DID

Presentation showing an update on actions taken up at the last meeting attached hereto.

The implementation of the approved WFRS Improvement Plans was going before the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Cllr. Hobbs would be able to report back and give details of closure dates etc. at the next forum

6. NHS – MARK HARRIS, WARWICKSHIRE MANAGER

Briefing paper attached hereto.

A reminder was made about the various Public Health Roadshows that were taking place throughout the county, and an update on the Alcester Project – Integrated Health and Social Care Team (both can be found in the attached sheet).

the following questions were raised:

- Ambulances – people were concerned where the ambulance were taking patients:
The ambulance will take the patient to the hospital that has the best facilities as required by the patient
- GPs becoming stakeholders, will they not become overwhelmed?
GPs better understand the needs and wants of their patients.

7. ALCESTER VISION GROUP UPDATE

Richard Hood gave an update

8. LOOKING AHEAD (DEVELOPMENT OF AN ACTION PLAN)

The issues raised by those attending the July Community Forum as being the most important in the area were:

- **Affordable decent local housing** – all parishes to review the need for affordable housing “How is the process progressing in our parish and what do we need to do next?”

Measures for each parish to include at least one of the following:

- A Parish Plan that has been updated in the last 3 years
- Having an up to date housing need survey
- Identifying sites to meet housing needs
- Taking housing development forward

Community Forum to monitor and ensure all the parishes in the area have undertaken at least one of the measures listed above.

- **Flooding** – ongoing work to address known flood problems.
Cllr. Gittus gave an update on Alcester Town flood defence work, which was proceeding at a slow pace
Bidford-on-Avon PC advise that the EA would be putting in a planning application in respect of the Broom Flood Defence; the EA were also starting looking at Marlcliff.
Alcester TC advised it was participating in a national testing of its Emergency Plan being arranged by Mick Potter at WCC.

It was agreed the forum would invite Peter Bones, Flood Risk Manager at WCC and Mick Potter, WCC to the next meeting

- **Public Transport** – there has been significant improvements in the Alcester/Bidford area in the last 2/3 years:
 - Upgrade to services (No. 28 bus now runs every 30 mins)
 - Dial a ride service
 - Concessionary fares
 - Flexibus
 - Up to date timetables
 - Bus maps
 - Investment in bus stop infrastructure
 - Evening bus fare promotions

However, it was acknowledged there were still problems.

- Access to hospitals was still a problem: a round trip to Coventry takes approx. 12 hours
- Teenagers found that their concessionary fares which were valid on the out trip, were not on the return trip.

- **ACTIVITIES FOR TEENAGERS** – integrated youth services plan identified issues around:
 - Substance/drug abuse
 - Reducing teenage pregnancy
 - Sexual health issuesWhich require raising awareness.

Things already happening:

- Funding for wrap-around at The Pavilion, Alcester

- **HEALTH** –
 - Alcester Primary Care Centre – planning application submitted: decision expected end of October. The centre will provide services to Alcester, Studley and Bidford and is due to open next year.
 - Integrated health and social care team to adult population in Alcester, Studley and Bidford.

It was agreed the Community Forum would receive regular updates on these issues.

9. OPEN SPACE AND SPORTS PROVISION REVIEW

SDC has been carrying out a review of ALL the open spaces in the district to establish

- Quantity – now and for the future
- Accessibility
- Quality – officers have visited all the sites

A report is expected out for Christmas and the evidence will inform planning in the future

10. ALCESTER TOWN DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP

Cllr. Payne made the presentation: the main points raised were:

- The Town Development Working Group was established to support and encourage businesses in the town and improve the appearance of the town to increase the number of visitors.
- Membership includes members of the town council, and of the local businesses.
- The group attended the Tourism EXPO 2010 portraying Alcester as a Festival Town
- The group is reviewing the town signage and designing a Town Event brochure.
- The group attended an Alcester Master plan meeting with SDC planners regarding the future development of the town.

A question was raised regarding empty shops, and whether it would be an idea to offer short time leases to new enterprises as a way of preventing empty shops and

helping new business to start up.

Alcester TC is meeting with landlords to discuss various issues and would take this up with them.

11. QUESTION FROM THE FLOOR

Cllr. Barnes requested the support of the forum to request the release of S106 funds from developers towards camera enforcement equipment for Bidford and Welford Bridges, where weigh restrictions are regularly flouted.

The forum agreed to give its support and to send the request to the appropriate department.

12. INFORMATION SHARING

- Cllr. Gittus gave an update on the Greig Hall. Although important to the people of Alcester and surrounding area, it is having to make decisions to ensure the correct finances are in place. This has meant the proposed selling to allow development, and this will curtail the number of facilities available, especially for teenagers.

The forum was advised that the schools were offering their facilities (St. Benedict's was specifically mentioned as being very pro active in this area) and this should help in ensuring sports facilities would continue to be available.

- Richard Hood reminded the forum of the District Council Open Day on 23rd Sept.
- An update was given on the Conway pavilion project which was proceeded.
- County Council advised the forum of its current community computers promotion:
 - They are offering 25 computers to any community group who may need them free of charge. Max. Of 2 per group.

13. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Dates and venues were confirmed:

- Tuesday 7th December 2010 at Great Alne Memorial
- Tuesday 8th March 2011 at the Crawford Memorial Hall, Bidford on Avon

The Chairman closed the meeting at approx. 9.15 pm

Community Forums briefing paper for NHS Warwickshire managers

NHS White Paper

A White Paper outlining the future strategic position of the NHS has been published. The full document can be found on the Department of Health website www.dh.gov.uk

The concept of the paper is to put patients and the public first. The principle will be "no decisions about me without me". The new health system will be driven by patients. Patients will have access to any information about the NHS that they want to know in order to inform these choices.

This vision involves a significant change to the way the NHS is structured and the role clinicians have to play in service design and delivery locally.

Strategic Health Authorities will be abolished during 2012/13 and Primary Care Trusts will be abolished in 2013. They will be replaced with a new structure focussed around patients and clinicians, with GPs at the heart of this.

GPs will be expected to form consortia in order to undertake the commissioning role that Primary Care Trusts currently undertake. NHS Warwickshire will be working closely with GPs over the coming months to shape the future of the NHS in Warwickshire to the requirements of clinicians and patients.

A national consultation has now been launched on the White Paper. We would encourage members of the public to reply to it. The consultation documents can be found on the Department of Health website and the consultation runs until 11th October.

Rugby Urgent Care consultation

NHS Warwickshire is seeking the views of local people on urgent healthcare at the Hospital of St Cross, Rugby, through a public consultation running until 18 October 2010.

The current arrangements at the Hospital of St Cross provide an around-the-clock urgent care service, but not a comprehensive 'Accident and Emergency', despite signage on local roads indicating an A&E service. The service also gets very little use between 10pm and 8am.

NHS Warwickshire is looking for the public's views on what the service should be called, and whether it should be an entirely specialist nurse-led service running 24 hours with off-site doctor-backup from University Hospital Coventry, or an 8am to 10pm service with doctor back-up on-site.

Options for future forms have been assessed by GPs and other clinicians for their feasibility and as a result, the following options are being put forward to the public for consideration:

- An emergency nurse practitioner led service (24 hours)
- An emergency nurse practitioner led service with doctor back-up (8am to 10pm)

No other changes to the service are envisaged through this consultation, and there are no other knock-on effects for the hospital as a whole which has seen an extensive wider investment programme in recent years.

The consultation document has been widely issued through local voluntary organisations, local councils, and direct distribution to members of the public who express an interest by ringing 0845 423 8903, emailing consultations@warwickshire.nhs.uk, or visiting <https://consultations.warwickshire.nhs.uk/>

Plans submitted for proposed new Alcester Primary Care Centre

The planning application for the proposed new Alcester Primary Care Centre has now been submitted to Stratford District Council. The planning decision is expected by the end of October.

The new centre, to be built on the existing Alcester Hospital site, will provide services to Alcester, Studley and Bidford-on-Avon and will open next year. The centre will incorporate the existing Priory Road Health Centre and the Arrow Lodge Medical Practice as well as the existing physiotherapy, pharmacy and out-patient services offered by Alcester Hospital. The Integrated Health and Social Care team run by NHS Warwickshire Community Health and Warwickshire County Council will also be based at the new centre.

Public Health Roadshows

NHS Warwickshire and Warwickshire County Council are inviting local people to a series of Public Health Roadshows to be held around the county this Autumn, which will focus on older people's issues.

The roadshows will showcase the latest research published in the Director of Public Health's Annual Report, which is this year entitled *Best Health for Older People in Warwickshire*. With an expected growth in the population of older people in Warwickshire, these events will give people the chance to hear about the work being done throughout the county to improve healthy living and prevent disease as well as providing a forum to discuss plans for improving the health of local people.

The events will be taking place at the following times and locations. There is limited space available so places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Register by contacting your local Area Office using the contact details below.

Benn Hall, Rugby - 21st September, 5pm – 7pm.

Contact Sarah Butter (sarahbutter@warwickshire.gov.uk or 01788 533656) to book your place.

Horticultural Research Centre, Wellesbourne - 22nd September, 7pm.

Contact Lizzie Price (elizabethprice@warwickshire.gov.uk or 01789 260133) to book your place.

Nuneaton Town Hall, Nuneaton - 6th October, 7pm.

Contact Pamela Williams (pamelawilliams@warwickshire.gov.uk or 02476 375700) to book your place.

Shire Hall, Warwick - 12th October, 4pm.

Contact Anita Kendall (anitakendall@warwickshire.gov.uk or 01926 456102) to book your place.

Mancetter Village Hall, Mancetter - 13th October, 7.30pm.

Contact Jo Roberts (joroberts@warwickshire.gov.uk or 01827 719317) to book your place.

Shipston High School, Shipston-on-Stour - 19th October, 7pm.

Contact Lizzie Price (elizabethprice@warwickshire.gov.uk or 01789 260133) to book your place.

Learning disability

NHS Warwickshire has shown its commitment to ensuring that people with learning disabilities have easy access to healthcare by signing up to Mencap's Getting it Right charter.

The Getting it Right charter is part of Mencap's Getting it Right campaign for fair and equal healthcare for all people with a learning disability. By signing up to the charter, NHS Warwickshire has committed to fulfilling all of its nine points, including making sure every person with a learning disability has an annual health check and providing ongoing learning disability awareness training for all staff.

Alongside the nine points of the charter, NHS Warwickshire health professionals will be working with Mencap to ensure that adjustments to working practices are made in order to improve the way staff treat people with a learning disability.

**Welcome to the
Alcester and Bidford
Community Forum**

21st September 2010

You Said We Did!!

ISSUE 1

Police - Integrated Service Delivery – Update required for next forum

OUTCOME

Move took place on Monday 2nd August. Services available at Globe House include bill payments, enquiries about all district council services, reporting of crime and anti social behaviour incidents and lost and found property enquiries. Office is open 9 – 5 Mon to Fri, closed Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays. The police station remains an operational base and home to both North & South SNT. There will be no reduction in policing as a result of the changes.

You Said We Did!!

ISSUE 2

Continuing the development of a Locality/Action Plan

OUTCOME

Appears on the agenda for this meeting

You Said We Did!!

ISSUE 3

Forum requested that important issues, such as the Fire Service review, to be discussed as single issue forum meetings

OUTCOME

Noted

You Said We Did!!

ISSUE 4

Warwickshire County Council Gritting Policy – update required

OUTCOME

All parishes were asked for their views via a questionnaire and a positive response was received. Any changes to primary gritted routes suggested will require a similar section of primary gritted road to be removed and the changed route must allow the strategic traffic flows to be maintained.

You Said We Did!!

ISSUE 4 (continued)

Warwickshire County Council Gritting Policy – update required

OUTCOME

For Alcester/Bidford no primary route changes are occurring. WCC have noted from useful feedback that Bidford the need to ensure that the gritters go an extra distance on Honeybourne Road to turn at the gliding club. This will be applied for the new season.

You Said We Did!!

ISSUE 4 (continued)

Warwickshire County Council Gritting Policy – update required

OUTCOME

Secondary routes to include: Dunnington to Broom (Broom lane) 2.4 km (secondary routes are gritted when severe weather continues over several days not on each precautionary grit). Just over the community forum boundary we have Pettiford Lane, Wootton Wawen

Primary routes will be published early October and sent to parishes and the secondary routes will be on the web later month.

You Said We Did!!

ISSUE 5

Closure of Bidford Fire Station

OUTCOME

County Council considered proposals at its meeting on the 20th July and Bidford Station is to remain in place as a retained station

You Said We Did!!

ISSUE 6

Parking in Temple Grafton - no off street parking at the school

OUTCOME

This is still under review. Contact made with the Headteacher who has confirmed that the issue is still dangerous. Yellow lines are needed. School is reiterating to parents not to park near the school and avoid turning at the cross roads.