



## CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

NUNEATON & BEDWORTH

# Arbury and Stockingford Community Forum

## Minutes from meeting held on Wednesday 28 October 2019 Stockingford Sports and Social Club

### **Councillors present:**

Cllr Chris Watkins (NBBC Kingswood) – Chair, Cllr Caroline Philips (WCC Stockingford), Cllr Bill Oler (Abbey), Cllr Jayne Sargeant (NBBC Attleborough), Cllr Andy Sargeant (WCC & NBBC Attleborough)

### **Apologies received:**

Cllr Tricia Elliot (NBBC Barpool), Cllr Barry Longdon (NBBC Kingswood), Cllr Golby (Arbury)

### **In attendance:**

Mike Slemensek (WCC), Chris Florance (WCC), PC Claire Jones (Warwickshire Police), PS Adam Skelsey (Warwickshire Police), PCSO Marie King (Warwickshire Police), PC Dave Jeffcott (Warwickshire Police)

13 members of the public and total attendance - 24

### **1. Welcome Introductions and Apologies:**

1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

### **2. Minutes from the previous meeting held on 30 May 2019**

2.1 The minutes were agreed a true record.

### **3. Police presentation**

3.1 PC Claire Jones and PC Jeffcott gave figures for their respective areas.

### **ARBURY (August – October data)**

77 – ASB incidents

13 – burglaries (including a car key burglary in Maple Park)

0 – drugs offences

11 – theft general

9 – public order offences

19 – theft shoplifting offences

17 – vehicle crime

20 – damage and arson

0 – robberies

1 – theft from the person



## CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

NUNEATON & BEDWORTH

### **BARPOOL & KINGSWOOD (August – October data)**

9 – burglaries

3 – burglary sheds

48 – ASB incidents

31 – vehicle crime

PC Jeffcott noted that there had been an increase in ASB incidents which he believed were linked to antisocial/illegal use of motorcycles.

#### 3.2 Policing activity to combat crime has included:

- Bike coding operations
- A local policing operation – 18 vehicles seized from offenders by the police
- Police drop in surgeries
- Operation SNAP – tackling parking issues around schools
- Responding to on- line reports of illegal parking
- Attending events to give crime prevention advice
- Partnership work to tackle problem tenants
- 11 vehicles seized for no insurance

#### 3.3 The following concerns were raised with the police:

- Lots of break – ins being mentioned on Facebook, including vans (resident)
- What is being done about nuisance motorcycles (Cllr Olnier)
- People speeding on motorcycles with no helmets and sometimes with children on the back (resident)
- How can a community Speed Watch be set up? (Cllr Olnier)
- Issue of continued bad parking in Camborne Drive (Cllr Watkins)
- PCC has offered funding for road safety initiatives – but hardly anyone put in for this because people did not know about the funding (Cllr Watkins)

#### 3.4 The police stressed they are focusing on the issue of nuisance motorcyclists and encouraged people to report incidents and in the case of bad parking send in photographs to the SNT so appropriate action can be taken. The police will support Community Speed watch schemes – 6 volunteers are needed for a scheme and the police will provide the training. Up to date crime statistics are available via: [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk)

### **4. Councillor updates**

#### 4.1 Councillor Phillips – Road improvement work. Cllr Phillips updated on work towards several improvements in areas of concern 1) the refuge island on Croft Road will be updated to a crossing from the Safer Roads budget 2) there will be a crossing on Tomkinson Road near to Northumberland Road, funded from her delegated budget 3) the junction of Tomkinson



## CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

NUNEATON & BEDWORTH

and Croft Roads – Cllr Phillips has considered what could be done to improve here – but scope is limited. Possibly improved signs might help and she is looking into this.

4.2 Cllr Watkins – Housing improvements. Cllr Watkins said he was the portfolio holder for housing and he links in well with the police on housing issues. If people have ASB problems in their areas – he advised they should write a letter to councillors – and they can then work with the police to tackle problems. Cllr Watkins also said that most roads in the area had now been adopted by the council.

4.3 Cllr Golby was unable to be present at the forum but had sent in a written update for councillors and residents. It contained the following points:

- More police drop ins at the Bermuda Phoenix centre
- The latest rounds of the Borough Plan consultations took place at the Academy two weeks ago.
- Various small highway works have been completed
- Pavements on Silver Walk have been re-surfaced
- The adoption of several roads as part of the Bermuda Connectivity Project
- Several items of work carried out near local schools to improve safety
- More highways work in the area

4.4 Cllr Jayne Sargeant – gave an update on issues regarding the re-housing of a problem family and gave advice regarding who to approach when residents face such problems.

### 5. **County Council updates**

5.1 Mike Slemensek gave an update to the meeting on councillor grant funding, community laptops and the WCC health and Wellbeing Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. He encouraged people to take part in the survey. He also read out a statement from NBBC about the programme of Borough Plan Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) consultations, including where information could be accessed and dates and venues for the forthcoming drop in consultation sessions. He had also brought paper copies of this information for residents to take away with them.

### 6. **Local Issues**

6.1 Discussion took place around Coventry UK City of Culture 2021 to establish of the Borough was benefitting from this future event and the links with the George Eliot Visitor Centre was discussed.

6.2 Cllr Andy Sargeant circulated information about Attleborough Community Matters – the group provide a booklet about local events, services and businesses and has established a regular market in the Village Green which has now attracted 47 stalls. Many of the stallholders would like to move around the Borough. Cllr Sargeant spoke of how local people had rallied around to support this initiative, to promote the positives in Attleborough and the venture has been extremely successful and is continually gaining strength.



## CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

NUNEATON & BEDWORTH

- 6.3 A resident had not been aware of a recent SPD drop in event at the Academy and had therefore missed it. He asked if another could be held as the previous one was not well advertised. Cllr Watkins said he would look into this.
- 6.4 A resident said that the grass in Kingswood Road had not been cut in 15 weeks. Cllr Watkins will investigate this. He pointed out that there is a Customer Service Complaints service operated by NBBC and urged residents to use this to point out problems to the council by email – as an efficient way of getting things done and having a record of the request.
- 6.5 There were further questions to councillors about highways related issues and parking in Cambridge Drive – which were noted by councillors for further action.
- 7. Summary and closure**
- 7.1 The Chair thanked everyone for attending. The next meeting date will be fixed to take place during the first quarter of 2020. The meeting closed at 8.15pm.