

Agenda Item 2

HUNTINGDON NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM COMMEMORATION HALL

Wednesday 13 January 2010

PRESENT:

Panel

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Cllr T Sanderson
(Chairman) | - | Huntingdonshire District Council |
| N Burgess | - | Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue
Service |
| P Rozier | - | Luminus Group |
| Cllr Sir P Brown | - | Cambridgeshire County Council |
| Cllr A Mackender-
Lawrence | - | Huntingdon Town Council |
| Cllr Ms H Hull | - | Godmanchester Parish Council |
| Inspector I Ford | - | Cambridgeshire Constabulary |
| Mr R Reeves | - | Huntingdonshire District Council |

Other Representatives

- | | | |
|------------------|---|---|
| Mrs K Squires | - | Huntingdonshire District Council |
| Miss J Walker | - | Huntingdonshire District Council |
| J Pye | - | Cambridgeshire Police Authority |
| Ms A Horne | - | Cambridgeshire Police Authority |
| Mrs B Gowling | - | Huntingdonshire District Council,
Community Safety |
| Ms C Waters | - | Huntingdonshire District Council,
Community Safety |
| A Fourie | - | Luminus Group |
| L Livermore | - | Cambridgeshire County Council
Trading Standards |
| Cllr M Simpson | - | Huntingdonshire District Council |
| Mrs D Lane | - | Cambridgeshire County Council |
| Cllr K Churchill | - | Huntingdonshire District Council |
| Cllr J Sadler | - | Huntingdonshire District Council |
| Mr D Vajzvic | - | Cambridgeshire Constabulary |

T Jordan	-	Cambridgeshire County Council
G Ridgewood	-	CPRE
Ms L Keegans	-	Huntingdon Youth Centre
Ms M Kadewere	-	Huntingdon Community Group
P Kadewere	-	Huntingdon Community Group
Ms A Owen Smith	-	Hartford Conservation Group
Mrs B Aveling	-	Co-ordinator – Hartford Rd Group
Inspector P Ormerod	-	Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Ms S Davies	-	Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Ms A Smith	-	Cambridgeshire County Council, Children and Young Peoples Service
Mr J Aspinall	-	Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator

Members of the Public 13

APOLOGY: National Health Service representative
Julie Farrow, Hunts Forum of Voluntary Organisations

	ACTION
<p>1. WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN</p> <p>In his role as Chairman, Cllr Sanderson welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>	
<p>2. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN HUNTINGDONSHIRE</p> <p>The Chairman explained the purpose of the Neighbourhood Forums in Huntingdonshire as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ providing an opportunity to promote understanding of the democratic arrangements and functions of public sector organisations in the local neighbourhood; ◆ informing, consulting and involving the public on issues of local importance; ◆ enabling local communities and the public to raise issues of concern and highlight priorities for action to public sector organisations; 	

<p>◆ and influencing the decision-making processes that direct service delivery.</p> <p>The Chairman pointed out that this meeting differed from the former safer neighbourhood panel administered by the police and would deal with issues relating to other public sector agencies in addition to the police. The Chairman reminded those present that issues raised should relate to a local area or community. Any personal issues particularly in relation to planning/licensing should be discussed with the relevant agency at the end of the meeting.</p> <p>The Chairman also explained that in addition to listening to local residents'/communities' concerns, the meeting would aim to prompt the appropriate agency involved in finding a solution to the issues raised and to report back on progress at the next meeting.</p>	
<p>3. MEMBERSHIP</p> <p>Mr Reeves, explained the purpose of the panel in deciding local priorities for the policing team and also in responding to other issues raised and noted that Panel Members nominated to date included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr T Sanderson (Chairman) - Huntingdonshire District Council • Cllr Sir P Brown - Cambridgeshire County Council • Inspector I Ford- Cambridgeshire Constabulary • Cllr A Mackender Lawrence Huntingdon Town Council • Cllr H Hull – Godmanchester Parish Council • Mr N Burgess – Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue • Mr P Rozier – Luminus Group <p>Representatives from at least one more parish council and NHS Cambridgeshire would also be appointed to the Panel – details of which were yet to be confirmed. Ms L Keegan, Youth Worker from Cambridgeshire County Council also expressed her interest in being part of the panel.</p> <p>Cllr A Mackender Lawrence was appointed Vice-Chairman of the Panel.</p>	<p>Parish Councils / NHS Cambridgeshire</p>
<p>4. CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY – YOUR POLICE FORCE PRESENTATION</p> <p>The Chairman welcomed Mr J Pye, a member of Cambridgeshire Police Authority who delivered a presentation on the Police Authority's role, budget and priorities for 2010.</p> <p>Those present were invited to ask questions following the presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Q – How do the police authority intend to get the community more involved? ◆ A – The authority hopes that by attending 	

meetings like the forum, and asking for residents feedback via consultation surveys they will be able to engage with and involve local communities. Mr Pye asked those present if they would complete a police authority questionnaire on policing priorities to assist in this process.

- ◆ Q – If community panels are merged into one larger forum, how will priorities be set for more local areas?
- ◆ A – Mr Pye explained that the neighbourhood policing teams will address common themes but will continue to identify issues in local areas.
- ◆ Q – How many of the current policing priorities are an issue in the local area and how can the public be better informed so they can understand how services should be prioritised?
- ◆ A – Mr Pye explained that the request for people to identify what they regarded as important locally would help shape police priorities for the following year which had been drafted currently on statistical evidence.

5. NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING PROFILE

Inspector Ford introduced himself to the Forum as the Sector Inspector for the local area.

Inspector Ford gave a presentation on the policing pledge which had been set nationally and explained how police forces locally were committed to working with communities and individuals to meet their needs. Copies of the presentation were distributed to those present at the meeting.

Inspector Ford went on to speak on the neighbourhood policing profile for Huntingdon and the Hartford/Oxmoor area, both of which had separate neighbourhood policing teams under his overall control.

Inspector Ford reiterated that the forum meeting would not be able to address issues of a personal nature but that he and representatives from his teams would be happy to discuss these at the end of the meeting.

Inspector Ford introduced his team and explained their areas of responsibility.

Inspector Ford provided an update on the priorities identified at the previous safer neighbourhood panel meetings -

Speeding in London Road and Cambridge Road, Godmanchester and cycling on the pavement on Cambridge Road

- Inspector Ford advised that presentations and work

in schools had taken place on cycle safety, in addition to patrols during peak times when enforcement notices and advice had been issued where appropriate

- In relation to the speeding issues he added that speed surveys had been conducted in both locations and high visibility patrols and speed enforcement checks had been undertaken. In addition a local Speedwatch scheme was being set up.

Anti-social Behaviour, Memorial Field, Brampton

- Inspector Ford noted that ASB had fallen in the area during the last quarter but that one prosecution had been undertaken for damage to the community centre.
- Inspector Ford advised that regular update meetings would continue with the Parish Council and his officers would continue to monitor the situation by regular high visibility patrols at the times when previous disorder had taken place.

Anti-social Behaviour in Huntingdon Town Centre related to the night time economy

- Inspector Ford reported that a joint agency licensing operation had been carried out with the District Council and trading standards in conjunction with high visibility patrols which had increased in frequency during the Christmas and New Year period
- Inspector Ford advised that 17 ASB arrests had been made and provided a breakdown of these to the meeting.

Mini motos on Park and Norfolk Road (Oxmoor) and parking problems (same location).

- High visibility patrols had resulted in 42 fixed penalty notices for varying road traffic offences
- A speed watch scheme had been set up with eight enforcement letters sent out as a result
- Leaflets regarding mini motos had been issued to residents in the Sapley Road area.

Anti-social Behaviour in Beech Close, Medway Court and Tomlinson Court (Oxmoor)

- High visibility patrols in the area had resulted in a number of warnings and charges relating to cannabis related activities (possession, cultivation etc).
- In addition nine arrests had been made in relation to public order offences, nine charges for assault, two charges for criminal damages and three for burglary.

Inspector Ford noted that overall crime statistics were down in comparison with the same period in the previous year. Policing profile information was distributed to all present at the meeting and Inspector Ford suggested that the hotspots/proposed priority areas were:

<p>Huntingdon North (Sallowbush Road) - theft from shops Huntingdon North (Thongsley) – criminal damage Abbots Ripton Road – shoplifting ASB in Sapley Road area</p> <p>A question was raised relating to Neighbourhood Watch and information from the police which Inspector Ford agreed to discuss at the end of the meeting.</p>	
<p>6. NEIGHBOURHOOD ISSUES</p> <p>A question was asked about clearing driveways and front paths (including the adjacent public footpath) of snow and ice during the current period of weather. Currently a group of residents undertook to do this but they were becoming concerned about public liability issues. It was agreed that a County Council representative would report back to the resident direct on this issue but that the question of personal liability had featured in a number of press articles in recent days as a result of the poor weather.</p> <p>An issue was raised in relation to parking permits for Euston Street in Huntingdon and inconsistent enforcement issues. It was agreed that the Chairman would investigate from a District Council perspective as the organisation distributing parking permits and that Inspector Ford would look at the enforcement situation.</p> <p>A local resident asked what the police were doing to address the problem of cycling without lights and bells in the area. Inspector Ford advised this was not an issue that his officers were specifically targeting at present but that they would deal with individual cases if brought to their attention. It was agreed Inspector Ford would discuss this further with the resident in question.</p> <p>A question was raised about cycle routes and their improvement around Huntingdon and it was suggested that cycle routes be included on the agenda for the next meeting.</p> <p>A concern was raised by a local resident about cycling on footpaths and in the pedestrianised area of Huntingdon town centre. Inspector Ford advised that this was an ongoing issue and he hoped to involve local schools in helping to resolve the problem. Ms Keegans suggested that many of the local school children did cycle on the ring road but wondered if a dedicated cycle path could be established through the town centre to segregate cyclists and pedestrians.</p> <p>A question was raised about the supply and location of grit bins and the gritting of local pavements. It was reported that the County Council had offered to supply bins at a discounted rate to town and parish councils on request and would ensure that this was refilled for public use.</p>	<p>Cambridgeshire County Council</p> <p>Cllr Sanderson/ Inspector Ford</p> <p>Inspector Ford</p> <p>Mrs K Squires</p> <p>Inspector Ford/HDC/ Ms L Keegans</p> <p>Town and Parish Councils</p>

<p>There was concern about the number of un-numbered street lights without CCC numbers in the Huntingdon area, without which it was difficult to report that they were not working. The County Council's street lighting team would be asked to investigate.</p> <p>A concern was raised about children playing on the ice at a pond in Godmanchester and who was responsible for safety. As it was unclear who owned the land, Cllr Sanderson agreed to investigate.</p>	<p>Cllr Sir P Brown</p> <p>Cllr T Sanderson</p>
<p>7. FUTURE ITEMS</p> <p>The Chairman requested items for future agenda, as a result of which the following suggestions were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycle routes and cycling in pedestrianised areas/pavements • Parking charges at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital (Roy Reeves advised that the District Council was currently undertaking a scrutiny investigation on this subject, an update on which would be provided to the next meeting) • Youth involvement – Ms L Keegan to discuss with Mrs K Squires and the Locality Manager to arrange a presentation on activities available locally for young people <p>It was agreed that these items would be considered for the agenda for the next meeting.</p>	<p>Mrs K Squires to arrange</p> <p>Mr R Reeves</p> <p>Mrs K Squires/ Ms L Keegan/ Ms D Lane</p>
<p>8. FUTURE MEETING PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Forum noted that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 14th April 2010 at Pathfinder House, Huntingdon.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked all for attending and asked that people take the time to complete and return the feedback forms provided.</p>	
<p>9. PANEL PRIORITISATION</p> <p>At the conclusion of the Forum meeting, the Panel agreed the following policing priorities for the three months to March 2010:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Crime and ASB linked to the night-time economy in High Street, Huntingdon. 2. Youth-related ASB in Armstrong and Garner Courts, Huntingdon. 3. General ASB in Sapley Square and Oak Drive, Huntingdon. 4. Cycling in Huntingdon town centre. 	<p>Inspector I Ford</p>

5. Concerns of Perry residents in relation to the prison.

The Panel agreed that the issues raised as potential agenda items would be followed up for inclusions where possible on future agenda.

Panel members were also asked to address those issues marked for their attention in the notes of the forum meeting.