



Henley Neighbourhood Forum

7pm, Wednesday 3rd September 2014

At St. Philips Church, Potters Green (Church of England), Ringwood Highway, Coventry, England, CV2 2GF

Who was at the meeting?

Residents

Margaret Davoll	Pam Randle	Brian Bowsher
Graham Randle	Alan Tyrrell	Martin Smith
Edna Lucas	Dennis Walford	Ruth Smith
Andrew Floral	Sue Grant	Sandra Watt
Jan Phillips	Marie Bowsher	Lynn Lloyd
M Worrall	A Nicholas	D Nickols
A Ctel	C Sandall	J Nickols
Alan Waring	J Fleur	D Peltiffier
Mr R Jones	Mrs R Jones	M Puggatt
Steve Turrall	Linda Baker	Elizabeth Brandrick
Paula Brown	Pauline Sexton	Derek Prestwich
Douglas Brown	Celia Reid	Margaret Galloway
Dan Masson	Kay Owen	G Foster
Dawn Carter	Peggy Buckley	R Foster
B Williams	Barbara Hill	Ronald Hill
M Danur	P Lal	S Goodyer
D Mayors	J Frassel	G Ready
E Nicholls	Linda Dewis	Jen Corrigan
June Nelson	Doran Miller	Paul Collett
J Friswell	Mrs M Smith	Darren Wood
No of Residents: 60		

Officers and Partner Agencies

Name	Representing
Councillor Kevin Maton	Coventry City Council – Ward Councillor
Councillor Ed Ruane	Coventry City Council – Ward Councillor (Chair)
Councillor Lynette Kelly	Coventry City Council – Ward Councillor
Sarah Elliott	Coventry City Council – Senior Support Officer





Action Notes

Parmi Mudhar	Coventry City council – Support Officer
Sgt Adrian Murray	West Midlands Police
Mandie Watson	Coventry City Council – Head of Community Safety
Nigel Clews	Coventry City Council – Assistant Director for Property Asset Management
Helen Lynch	Coventry City Council – Legal Services Manager – Litigation Team
Ces Edwards	Coventry City Council – Head of Parks and Open Spaces
Samantha Tharme	Coventry City Council – Cycle Coventry Programme Manager
Jason Griffin	Coventry City Council – Cycle Coventry Project Manager
Coventry City Council: 11	Partners: 1

1. Welcomes and Introductions

Councillor Ed Ruane welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.

2. Actions from previous meeting

Action	Lead	Deadline	Update
Inform the hospital of the dates for the drop in sessions so they can make staff aware and that they have every opportunity to attend.	Cllr Maton	When dates known for the Public Consultation	Consultation has taken place and works are underway.
Findings from the consultation to be discussed at a future meeting.	Parmi Mudhar	Future meeting	n/a
Update on developments at Lentons Lane	-	Next meeting	On the Agenda
Grace Academy – ask the new Headteacher to attend the next meeting	-	Next meeting	Will be invited to a future meeting
Possible walk about with street services	-	To be arranged in April if possible	On the Agenda





Action Notes

3. Residents affected by Traveler Encampments – Nigel Clews (Assistant Director for Property Asset Management), Mandie Watson (Head of Community Safety), Helen Lynch (Legal Services Manager – Litigation Team), Ces Edwards (Head of Parks and Open Spaces)

<p>Discussion:</p>	<p>This year the Council has seen an unprecedented level of activity in relation to Traveller encampments in the city. The Council has to follow a number of steps when travellers take up camp in the city, they cannot just request they move on or evict them without assessing the situation. The Council requires legal approval from the Courts to evict travellers, which requires the Council to complete a number of steps, including making a case to the courts to seek an eviction. Even if this is granted, it will usually provide the travellers with a specific time frame within which they need to move on. Police authorities have specific powers if there is anti-social behaviour. It is key that residents report all incidents that take place to the Police..</p> <p>The Council has secured an eviction order for Sowe Common, should the travellers return within three months, they will be asked to move on.</p> <p>The Council has been exploring the possibility of securing a pre emotive injunction, to safeguard the most vulnerable sites (those that have been encamped on more than once). This is something other Councils are also considering. There is no guarantee this will be granted this. If the Council was able to secure this, and there were further encounters at such sites, the travellers would be in contempt of court and the Police could then take steps to arrest them and move them on.</p> <p>The current travellers have been in the city for the last 8 weeks, and each time they move, the Council has to consider different circumstances eg.crime and nuisance, proximity to house etc. In all cases the Council will consider what actions will bring the quickest resolution.</p> <p>A resident highlighted she had experienced a number of incidents with travellers to the rear of her property, many of which had been personal attacks, but was unable to get any resolution as the site is private land and falls on the border of Coventry.</p> <p>ACTION – details to be passed to Community Safety to investigate.</p> <p>Access to the common needs to be addressed and the locks need to be changed and concealed so they cannot be opened and cut through.</p>
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Action Notes

	<p>Each time the Council take measures to secure a site, it does not always prevent traveller encampments. Need to consider other measures, such as with mounding etc, so caravans and cars cannot go onto the site, but so tractors can still access the site.</p> <p>Residents highlighted a number of incidents which were noted and where possible will be investigated. For an arrest to take place evidence is required.</p>
Conclusion:	The Council will write to all local residents to provide an update and will work with community to gather evidence to support a pre-emptive injunction.

Action	Lead	Deadline
Inform Bereavement Services of the issues raised by residents in relation to travellers accessing the cemetery site to take water and defecate on site	To be raised with Bereavement Services	In progress
Consider changes that can be made at a national level in relation to legislation for traveler encampments.	Cllr Ruane to raise with Local MPs	Update at next meeting
Concerns were raised in relation to the clean-up of the Sowe Common site eg. Oil and tissue that remain will be reported the Street Cleansing.	To be raised with Street Cleansing	In progress
A written update will be sent to residents on the approach to traveller encampments.	Cllr Ruane	Prior the next meeting

4. Update on developments at Lentons Lane - Verbal Update by Parmi Mudhar

Discussion:	<p>There have been some issues with standing water on the site, contractors have been on site and excavations to build in trenches to help ease the standing water are due to start next week. Although there may be some temporary disruption with fencing etc being on the site but access to grave will be maintained at all times.</p> <p>Work is being completed in two phases. The first phase is already under way and due for completion in December 2014.</p> <p>The work includes a new entrance off Shilton Lane as well as roadways and a footpath to connect new and the old part of the cemetery. This will include additional parking and a small building with welfare facilities. Phase 2 will include a chapel and road ways but the date for this is yet to be confirmed.</p>
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Action Notes

	Residents raised concerns about Ringwood Highway, following damage by HGVs going to and from the site and Cllr Ruane confirmed works are due to take place to resurface the road.
Conclusion:	n/a

5. Henley Cycle/ Road Improvement – Samantha Tharme (Cycle Coventry Programme Manager)/ Jason Griffin (Cycle Coventry Project Manager) (20 mins)

Discussion:	<p>The Council is considering a path cycle scheme from Sowe Valley to the hospital. This was included in Streetnews, a publication circulated to residents. Samantha and Jason attended the meeting to gauge public opinion.</p> <p>Pathways will provide a safe route to the hospital, without having to use the carriage ways. Paths will be wide enough for cycles and walking, an alternative to other available routes.</p> <p>Residents stated that quad bikers may use these, which may cause problems.</p> <p>Discussion took place in relation to the HGV's and lorries using Ringwood Highway. Henley Road was created for residents and lorries. Whereas, Ringwood highway is not suitable for HGVs, especially 40 tonne vehicles when the area should be for 7 tonnes. Many problems are caused by Sat Nav's providing poor choice to drivers. Could possibly be addressed through better signage. The current plans for resurfacing of Ringwood Highway include the replacement of speed humps, but in a better material than currently in use.</p> <p>ACTION: feedback points raised in relation to signage to see if this can be improved.</p> <p>Hand poll was conducted and residents voted to remove speed humps. ACTION: feed this proposal back to Highways to consider</p> <p>Resident shared positive experiences following use of the cycle path by Homebase, a real asset for the city. Current funding from DfT does not allow the scheme to currently include Most House Park, but it could be considered if there are further phases and funding available in the future.</p> <p>Residents raised concerns about the lighting alongside the river by Henley college. ACTION: this will be raised with the Streetlighting team to see if there is any work that can be undertaken.</p>
Conclusion:	n/a



Action Notes

Action	Lead	Deadline
Signage and speed hump discussion to be shared with highways, to see if these can be explored.	Parmi M to raise with the Highways team	Next meeting
Residents raised concerns about the lighting alongside the river by Henley College and would like the Council to consider if this can be improved.	Parmi M to raise with the Streetlighting team	Next meeting

6. Update from the Police Service, – Sergeant Adrian Murray

Discussion:	<p>Vehicle crime has seen an increase, especially at Walsgrave Triangle, by the cinema.</p> <p>Residents raised concerns about the road leading to the cemetery becoming grid locked with Muslims on the 28th July visiting relations at the cemetery. This caused problems in relation to drives and paths being blocked with cars. Local police were called on 101, but a traffic officer arrived to deal with situation.</p> <p>Crime figures that do not show an increase during the time travellers were camping on Sowe Common. There was an increase in vehicle crime (breaking into a vehicle, stealing from vehicles), but not extra burglaries. Longford did show an increase in crime at this time.</p> <p>Concerns raised about the HGV's on Ringwood Highway can be reported to VOSA, now Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency. They can stop vehicles accessing the country if an overseas company is persistently being reported.</p>
Conclusion:	n/a

7. Update on the Walkabout in the Area – Councillor Maton

Discussion:	<p>Cllr Maton presented some pictures that had been taken on the Walkabout in Woodend.</p> <p>Key points summarised below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were some broken fences in Moathouse Centre, plus graffiti, but this should have all been removed now. • Moat House Park is an important resource in the areas. • Former garage areas that are near the park need some work. • Overgrown parts of the park, requires on-going maintenance, plus some overgrown footpaths.
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Action Notes

- Action needed on derelict buildings and replacement of road signs.
- Footpaths had broken bottles and cans, require sufficient litter bins.
- More signs are in place re dog mess.
- State of roads is an area of concern and needs work.
- Site of the White Horse Public House and sites adjacent to it attracts fly tipping.
- Cars feel they can park on grass verges, finding a solution for this is a concern. Parking on verges is a problem and there are some areas where the kerb stones need replacing.
- Vandalism re telecoms has now been resolved.
- Bus stop outside sports centre, needs to be realigned to provide more space.
- Secret garden in Woodend – photos show some areas of beauty.

The walkabout will hopefully be undertaken annually in the area to observe any changes and highlight any works required.

ACTION: residents requested a breakdown of charges for dropped kerbs – included in the minutes.

Costs with regards to domestic vehicle footway crossings

An unclassified road does not require planning permission, so a one off application fee of £100 is payable. A classified road does require planning permission, so these applications would require a planning fee of £175, in addition to the application fee (so £275 in total).

On receipt of the application fee, an inspector will make a visit to the site and inspect to decide whether a crossing is appropriate (and therefore approved) and provide a bespoke quote for the works. Since the new policy was introduced in November 2011, the City Council undertakes any works for footway crossings.

The price of the work will depend upon the size of the footway/verge. The standard crossing width is 2.7 metres, so this will need to be multiplied by the width of the footway to be crossed to give the area to be excavated. The average cost of a crossing is around £1,000 but every site varies so this should only be used as a ballpark. It should be noted that the footway crossing, as it has to be delivered to the Highway Authority specification (as it is likely to be in place for in perpetuity on-going maintenance needs to be minimised), often costs more than any forecourt works the applicant has already paid for.





Action Notes

	<p>Path from Pandora Road to Winston Avenue gets waterlogged. ACTION: Cllr Maton to follow this up and see if this needs resurfacing or drainage works.</p> <p>Most house park, overgrown. The residents are looking at training to keep on top of this. Looking to raise funds to cover initial cost £250. Moathouse is one of the 18 community parks that is not visible from the road. Funding could be sought from Coventry City Funding Help desk (http://www.coventry.gov.uk/info/200047/grants).</p> <p>Doctor's surgery in Walsgrave has a disgusting car park and access issues. This is located alongside a Community Centre which belongs to the Council, but leased to club and medical centre. Residents asked if the Council could step in and do anything to improve this situation. ACTION: Cllr Maton to follow this up and see what action can be taken.</p> <p>There are five food outlets outside St Philips church that leave lots of rubbish. When the streetlights were removed the bins attached the old lampposts were not replaced. ACTION: Explore if the bins can be replaced or alternative bins provided.</p> <p>Walkabout will take place in Potters Green – to be arranged.</p>
<p>Conclusion:</p>	<p>All issues should be raised through Coventry Direct, using the details below:</p> <p>Tel: 0500 834 333</p> <p>Mobile friendly: 024 7683 4333</p> <p>E-mail: coventrydirect@coventry.gov.uk</p>

Action	Lead	Deadline
Waterlogged issues with the path from Pandora Rd to Winston Avenue to be investigated to see if this can be resolved	Cllr Maton	Next meeting
Condition of the car park at the doctor's surgery to be investigated to see if the Council can take any action.	Cllr Maton	Next meeting
Explore if the bins can be replaced by the food outlets at St Philips Church or if alternative bins can be provided.	To be raised with the Streetlighting Team and Waste Services	Next Meeting



Action Notes

8. Brief update on consultation for the Coventry Local Plan – Councillor Maton (5mins)

Discussion:	Public Engagement will go live on Friday 12 th September after this paper has been presented to Council on the 9 th September and will run for 7 weeks to the 31 st October. It will be available on the Council website as well as included in social media.
Conclusion:	n/a

9. Pinch Point update – Councillor Maton

Discussion:	Cllr Maton will attend the residents meeting in Walsgrave on the 9 th September to update on Pinch Point works.
Conclusion:	n/a

10. AOB

Discussion:	n/a
Conclusion:	n/a

If you would like to find out the most up-to-date progress on the action notes above please call Parmi Mudhar on 024 76 83 1970 or visit http://www.coventry.gov.uk/meetings/committee/11/henley_neighbourhood_forums.

If you wish to start/stop receiving information relating to Neighbourhood Forums, please email michelle.rose@coventry.gov.uk call 024 7683 3111 giving your details and requesting that you are added or removed from our mailing list.

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