

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
HEATH HAYES, NORTON CANES AND RAWNSLEY COMMUNITY
FORUM

THURSDAY, 13 JUNE, 2013 AT 7.00PM

AT NORTON CANES HIGH SCHOOL, NORTON CANES

PRESENT: Cannock Chase Councillors:

Sutherland, M. (Chair)
Bernard, Mrs. A.F. (Vice Chair)

Bernard, J.D.	Spicer, Mrs. A.
Gilbert, P.	Todd, Mrs. D.*
Holder, M.J.	Whitehouse, Mrs. L.
Rowley, J.	

Other District Councillor(s):

Kraujalis, J.	Todd, R.
Toth, J.	

Cannock Chase Council Officers:

T. McGovern	Corporate Director
S. Partridge	Democratic Services Manager

Representatives from the following organisations:

Cannock Chase CCG	(J. Bletcher)
Staffordshire Police	(Sgt. Lawlor; PCSO Liz Dale)
Staffordshire County Council	(SCC Cllr. G. Adamson)
Staffordshire County Council	(SCC Cllr. Mrs. C. Mitchell)
Staffordshire County Council	(SCC Cllr. Mrs. D. Todd*)
Heath Hayes P.C.	(A Dean)
Norton Canes P.C.	(J. Beddows)

Approximately 1 local resident

1. Appointment of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Councillor M. Sutherlans was elected as Chairman, and Councillor Mrs. A.F. Bernard as Vice-Chairman for the current Municipal Year.

2. Apologies

None.

3. Declarations of Interest

None.

4. Notes

The notes of the meeting held on 14 March, 2013 were agreed as a correct record.

5. Matters Arising (Not Otherwise Covered on the Agenda)

None.

6. Questions for Staffordshire Police

Sgt. Lawlor introduced himself to the forum. He was relatively new to the area, though he had substantial police experience in various fields of work. He would be covering the combined Cannock Chase police area, along with Sergeants Edge and Kenny, and working closely with the respective PCSO's, such as Liz Dale, who was with him.

No questions had been submitted in advance, but Sgt. Lawlor invited questions from the floor.

A Member enquired if any information was available about an incident that had happened the previous day in St. James Place, Norton Canes, which had required an Armed Response Unit to attend. Sgt. Lawlor advised that he was not aware of the incident, but would try and find out and provide feedback.

Norton Canes Parish Councillor John Beddows commented that Norton Canes had got its own Neighbourhood PC in 2000, but there didn't appear to be much of a police presence at all recently. Sgt. Lawlor advised that this had been due to a combination of sickness and changes in neighbourhood policing policy. As a result, there appeared to be less bobbies on the beat, but this was offset by an increased PCSO presence and more responsive policing.

7. Cannock Chase Clinical Commissioning Group

Jonathan Bletcher, Director, Cannock Chase Clinical Commissioning Group provided a presentation entitled "NHS Cannock Chase – Integrated Plan and Commissioning Intentions". The presentation outlined the responsibilities of the Cannock Chase CCG which had officially come into being on 1 April, 2013; and shared a management structure (35 people), with Stafford and Surrounds CCG. The two had a

combined budget of £304m, covering a population of 270,000 (132,000 in Cannock Chase area, i.e. CCDC plus Huntington; Cheslyn Hay and Great Wyrley). The CCG covered 27 local GP practices.

Members expressed concern about inconsistencies between GP practices, for example in the lead times from booking an appointment to getting to see a GP. Mr. Bletcher advised that the CCG was attempting to raise standards generally, and improve patient access and choice.

Members also enquired if patient choice had impacted negatively on Stafford and Cannock hospitals, i.e. following the bad publicity, doctors had advised patients to go elsewhere for treatment. Mr. Bletcher advised that it was as much about patient choice as doctors' recommendations, and the CCG had no powers to force GP's to use particular hospitals.

8. Mid-Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust

Because of the ongoing Trust Special Administration, nobody was in attendance. Mr. Bletcher was able to advise that he had become aware that afternoon of a request from the Trust Special Administrator for extensions to the consultation (30 days) and consideration (10 days) periods. As a result, the public meetings etc that had just been arranged and publicised would need to be reorganised.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Bletcher for bringing the matter to the forum's notice.

9. Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Services

No questions had been submitted in advance of the meeting for the Fire and Rescue Services, consequently no representative had been sent to the meeting.

No other matters were raised for referral back to the Fire and Rescue Service.

10. Questions for Staffordshire County Council (Highways)

Mr. P. Gibbs was unable to attend the meeting, but had submitted the following question:

'Why have Highways spent considerable monies on additional speed humps in Wimblebury Road? They do not prevent excess speed by wide wheel base vehicles. They prevent proper road clearance of snow, as evidence and appear to be at random spacing and style.'

Mark Keeling, Community Infrastructure Liaison Manager, Staffordshire County Council (Highways), had provided the following response, as detailed on the agenda:

'The speed cushions have been spaced at 50- 60m intervals. We do agree that the speed cushions do not always prevent wide wheel based vehicles to exceed the speed limit, and this is one of the reasons behind installing flat top road humps at either ends of the scheme and a kerb to kerb flat top road hump outside the school, roughly, in the middle of the extents of the scheme.

The flat top road humps are designed to initially reduce the speed of the vehicle, and the speed cushions to help maintain the lower speed. The kerb to kerb flat top road hump has been design to provide a flush surface to facilitate easier crossing for pedestrians and to further lower the speed of vehicles.

All of the residents along Wimblebury Road, and many of the adjoining streets were consulted, we also consulted with the County/ District Councillors Members, and also the Parish Council, prior to its installation.

In terms of snow clearance the strategic routes (on A&B roads) do not have traffic calming features, however on the more residential routes general gritting is not effected by traffic calming to a great extent, in terms of ploughing the blades travel up and down as they approach the ramps but I do appreciate there may be some gaps.

Overall problems with snow are a small issue compared with providing a safety solution along this road 365 days a year.'

11. Any Other Business

None.

12. Next Meeting

Thursday, 12 September, 2013.
Venue: Hayes Green Community Centre.

13. Forward Agenda for Future Meetings

None.

The meeting closed at 8.00 pm.

CHAIRMAN