

**Main issues covered: Local policing update (p.6) /Community grants for Jemmers and Summerfest (p.8) /Future of Poynton Leisure Centre (p.9) /Use of 0844/0855 phone numbers (p.9) / Town Council Website (p.10)**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY, ORDER AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE HELD AT 8PM ON MONDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2013 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HALL, POYNTON

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr Mrs J Saunders

Cllrs. A Smith, L A Clarke, I Hollingworth, Ms R Horsman, Mrs I Thornton-Maddocks

Attending under SO 56: Cllrs C Gorst, Mrs S Horsman and R E West

Also Attending: Inspector Griffiths, Macclesfield Neighbourhood Policing

**PART A**

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllrs. M Beanland, Mrs J Sewart and P Hoyland

2. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Interests

None

3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2013

**RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2013 be approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman (NC)**

4. Policing Update

April

Insp. Griffiths gave an update on the robbery at the Asda store on Park Lane, which is currently under investigation. The police are working closely with those affected by it.

There were a few burglaries in the area of Coppice Road, Park Lane and Clumber Road. One person has so far been arrested. PCSOs have been making leaflet drops and reassuring residents. There were also some shed break-ins in the same area as the burglaries.

There were a couple of shoplifting incidents, one at Waitrose and another at Age UK. At Priorslegh Medical Centre a shutter was damaged. Alcohol had been confiscated on a Friday and Saturday evening. Drugs were seized at Barnaby Park and stop checks for drugs have also been carried out.

Speed enforcement was carried out on London Road South and five cars were caught speeding and necessary action taken.

A few collisions occurred on Chester Road, Queensway and Mallard Drive, all non-injury.

A Crime Prevention Day has been held along with road safety talks at schools and at the Poynton Children's Centre.

### May

Burglaries had occurred on Mallard Crescent, Chester Road and Woodford Road. There were also a couple of shed break-ins. One shop lifting incident was reported at Morrison's. A Crime Prevention Day has been held on Park Lane.

Cllr Clarke asked about the recent attack at the Legh Arms public house. Insp. Griffiths confirmed that no injuries were sustained.

In a discussion about pedestrians and cyclists, Insp. Griffiths highlighted the need to re-educate pedestrians, cyclists and especially children of school age, as there has been a recent increase in the number of cyclists injured.

The Chairman asked Insp. Griffiths if the PCSOs CAT phone could be held by one of his police officers on Bank Holidays given that the PCSOs do not work on such days. Insp. Griffiths acknowledged the usefulness of the CAT phone for low level incidents, but also recommended use of the non-urgent 101 police number. The Chairman asked if the presence of an additional officer in Poynton was helpful. Insp. Griffiths replied that an officer was at the scene of the Asda robbery within 3 minutes rather than the 20 minute response time it takes from Macclesfield. Equally the faster response has helped with the investigation at the Legh Arms. The Chairman said that the extra officers were great news for this community.

Regarding discussion of SID, Insp. Griffiths confirmed that it is now up and working and he will report back with the data.

Cllr Mrs S Horsman raised an issue arising from the recent Annual Town Assembly when two residents, Mr and Mrs Acton, had reported their concern about drugs in and around Poynton High School. Insp. Griffiths reassured members that the police are aware of such problems that affect many schools in this and the surrounding areas. He said that police operations were ongoing and that the matter is being dealt with. The police work in close partnership with the school. There is also much work carried out behind the scenes, rather than overtly. The Clerk added that since the Assembly, Sgt Warren had met with Mr and Mrs Acton. The Headteacher from the High School has also offered a meeting with the couple.

**RESOLVED: That the PART A verbal policing update from Insp. Griffiths is received with thanks (NC)**

5. Youth Co-ordinator's Report

The Youth Co-ordinator Erica Adkins was on leave. The Clerk talked members through the main points in her written report.

**RESOLVED: That the written report from the Youth Co-ordinator is received, and that, following an annual review, the Poynton Town Council's Child Protection Policy for 2013/14 is approved (NC)**

6. Poynton Jemmers Morris Team

The Committee considered and approved a bid for a Community Grant of £100 from this group.

**RESOLVED: That a Community Grant of £100 for the Poynton Jemmers Morris Team is approved (NC)**

7. Higher Poynton Summerfest 2013

Members considered a bid from this group for a Community Grant of £4,000. The Chairman explained that this is an event organised by a voluntary group called Friends of Higher Poynton Summerfest. Unfortunately, the event was cancelled last year due to exceptionally wet weather and a waterlogged car park.

Cllr Gorst asked if a breakdown of payments would be provided. In reply, the Clerk confirmed that he has seen the provisional accounts and this time they are setting up a separate bank account too. Most of the funding is for the various performers and service providers. The Chairman said she hoped that as the event becomes more successful it will attract third party sponsorship. "Johnnie" Johnson Housing had donated £250 towards the event, and this was to be welcomed, but for the moment it was mainly reliant on Town Council support.

Given the sum of money involved, Cllr Hollingworth asked if there was a wet weather plan as a contingency. The Chairman said this was a large-scale outdoor event, and that last year was the first time she had known the event to be cancelled. Cllr Mrs Thornton-Maddocks asked if the organisers could attempt to negotiate contracts with the performers and service providers to avoid paying the full amount in case the event has to be cancelled at short notice again. Cllr Hollingworth agreed that an element of risk sharing should be sought.

**RESOLVED: That a Community Grant of £4,000 for the Higher Poynton Summerfest 2013 is approved, that provisional accounts for the event be submitted at the next COPS Committee meeting, and that some element of risk sharing is investigated (NC)**

## 8. CE Leisure Options Consultation

The Chairman provided her verbal update regarding a meeting held on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2013 with the Clerk, Mark Wheelton and Chris Allman of Cheshire East to discuss the CE Leisure Options consultation, with specific reference to Poynton Leisure Centre. Cheshire East is currently consulting on the future of all leisure centres across the borough. Given the economic landscape, whilst leisure centres are very important in terms of health and wellbeing, they are becoming very expensive to run and maintain. Cheshire East is proposing that there is a Charitable Trust created for all of Cheshire East's leisure centres. This would bring with it a number of VAT and tax efficiencies. A Charitable Trust would also be required to reinvest and put any profit back into the facilities it manages, which would not be the case if they were controlled by commercial interests.

The High School have a joint usage agreement with Cheshire East. The Charitable Trust status would take at least 12 to 18 months to establish. Cheshire East will have discussions with the school on any changes concerning its use of the Leisure Centre. It is part of the Key Stage 1 curriculum that children learn to swim, so schools will still have access to the pool. Mark Wheelton said that there are times when the facilities were under-utilised. Also, if a Charitable Trust is formed then some 1,000 jobs across all the CE leisure centres will remain secure.

Cllr A Smith asked if the Town Council will have representation on the Charitable Trust. The Chairman agreed that this was important. The issue is going to the CE Cabinet in late May 2013. The Clerk added that the Cabinet papers on this topic are accessible via the CE website. Following discussion it was agreed that representation and an input into the process was necessary.

**RESOLVED: That the verbal update from the Chairman regarding the CE Leisure Options Consultation, with specific reference to Poynton Leisure Centre, is received, and that Town Council representation on the Trust is sought (NC)**

## 9. Use of 0844/0855 (chargeable) telephone numbers by Poynton health service providers

The Clerk had circulated as part of the agenda pack a recent article from the Daily Mail concerning this issue. The Chairman explained that increasingly people are using their mobiles rather than landlines as their primary source of communication. The 0844/0855 and other numbers are dearer when they are called from mobiles, and members considered if residents are aware of this and also if there an alternate local landline (01625) number that could be accessed. Cllr A Smith had originally raised this issue because "Which" magazine recommends that everyone reports this to their health authorities expressing their concerns. Cllr A Smith said he will investigate the matter further to find which other organisations use these numbers.

**RESOLVED: That the verbal report on the use of chargeable telephone numbers by health service providers in Poynton is received; that Cllr A Smith is requested to investigate this matter further; and that delegated authority is**

**given to the Chairman and the Clerk to put the matter to the local health authority, with a copy to our local MP (NC)**

10. Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service's Integrated Risk Management Plan 2013/14

**RESOLVED: That the Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service's Integrated Risk Management Plan 2013/14 is received (NC)**

11. Town Council Website

Cllr A Smith pointed out that the unofficial Poynton Forum website gets more hits than the Town Council website. One of the reasons for this is because so many of the local societies such as U3A provide a link to the Forum website rather than the Council's. Cllr A Smith said that developments to promote the Town Council website will include reciprocal linking. He requested Chairmen and all Committee members help to consider better ways in which to promote the work of the Council. Cllr Mrs Saunders suggested that headlines or a synopsis with a link to the main story could be effective. Cllr A Smith said that it is very useful to encourage people to access the website because it is proven to be successful in highlighting and better communicating the work of the Town Council.

A 'Promoting Poynton' video as part of the Town Council's work on the visitor economy is being produced. A version of this will be shown to the Visitor Economy Working Group at 7pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> June. All are welcome.

**RESOLVED: That the written update from Cllr A Smith concerning the Town Council's website is received, and that Town Council members actively endorse and support development plans for the website in 2013/14 (NC)**

12. Poynton LAP-wide Rural Action Group

**RESOLVED: That Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2013 is noted as the date for an initial meeting of a Poynton LAP-wide Rural Action Group at the Civic Hall, from 2pm to 4pm; and that the Clerk circulate the e-mail to all Councillors (NC)**

**(PART B removed from the public record on the basis of the Town Council's Standing Order 71 b vii, given that it concerns action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime)**

The meeting concluded at 9.00pm