

**Main items covered: Questions from members of the public; Grassed area adjacent to Worth School; Neighbourhood policing update; Update from the Adult Health and Wellbeing Coordinator; Poynton Community Centre; Community road safety event; Access to post boxes.**

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY ORDER & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 8.00PM ON MONDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2014 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HALL, POYNTON.

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr A Smith

Cllrs. M Beanland, L A Clarke, I Hollingworth and Ms R Horsman

Attending under SO54: Cllr G King, substituting for Cllr P Hoyland, and Cllr H Murray substituting for Cllr Mrs J Saunders

Attending under SO 56: Cllr Mrs S Horsman

(Cllr Lewis joined the meeting at Item 20)

19. Appointment of a Chairman (Town Council SO 46)

In the absence of both the Chairman, Cllr Mrs J Saunders, and the Vice-Chairman, Cllr Mrs J Sewart, Cllr Saunders had asked Cllr A Smith to take the chair, but this needed a proposal and a vote.

**RESOLVED: That Cllr A Smith is appointed Chairman for the meeting (NC)**

Cllr A Smith then welcomed to the meeting Chris Bretton, the Town Council's newly-appointed Youth Co-ordinator.

The Chairman asked members of the public to highlight their reason for attending. Cllr Lewis who was in attendance as a member of the public said that he would like to ask questions in relation to the grassed area adjacent to Worth Primary School. Cllr Lewis from Towers Road asked how much it cost to buy, erect and remove the sign, who authorised the expenditure, how the expenditure was authorised and why the expenditure was authorised when the land does not belong to the Town Council. He also asked what references had been made to CE by Poynton Town Council over the alleged nuisance caused by the ball games. The Clerk undertook to respond to the questions and Cllr Lewis confirmed that he was happy to wait for this.

20. Apologies for absence

Received from Cllrs. P Hoyland, Mrs J Saunders, and Mrs J Sewart

21. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Interests

Cllrs Ms R Horsman and Mrs S Horsman declared a non-pecuniary interest in the agenda item regarding the Poynton Community Centre, given a past involvement with it.

22. Previous meeting minutes

**RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community Order and Public Safety Committee meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014 are approved as an accurate record, and signed by the Chairman (5 - 2 abs)**

23. Grassed area adjacent to Worth Primary School

The Clerk explained that the obligation and commitment on behalf of the Town Council was to remove the sign promptly. The Clerk understands that this was done the following day. As far as the residents were concerned there was broad agreement that if any untoward incidents occurred in the view of the older residents who had complained first, then they were to be recorded and brought back to this meeting. Also that residents would self-police the area so there would be some supervision as required and where appropriate. This item had been included on this meeting agenda should any residents wish to provide any feedback. As far as the Town Council is concerned at this stage they would like to think the issue has been settled apart from the questions posed by Cllr Lewis. Cllr Clarke asked if the Town Council had received any feedback, formal or informal, from any local residents. The Clerk replied that there had been a few e-mails and a signed petition. The e-mails were replied to and there are no other issues of which the Clerk is aware. Cllr Clarke suggested that if in future there are any such similar issues then it should always go before a Committee first before action is taken or expenditure incurred.

Cllr Lewis recommended that if the land does not belong to the Town Council then no action should be taken.

The Clerk added that he had checked with the local police sergeant if either he or his team have had any call outs or incidents to the area but there have been none to his knowledge.

Cllr Murray said that looking at the evidence to support bringing in any restriction is a must and that the Town Council do have it within its powers to put byelaws on those spaces as they have with others, but it is a fairly lengthy process. Cllr Murray proposed that in the absence of any data, new

information and facts that would cause the Town Council to take any decision or course of action the Clerk's report is received.

**RESOLVED: That the Clerk's verbal report is received (NC)**

24. Neighbourhood Policing Update

Insp. Griffiths provided a verbal policing report. He explained that he had met with Cllr Saunders and the Clerk regarding the traffic incidents in relation to the recent roadwork issues on Park Lane. Verbal warnings and Fixed Penalty Notices have been issued. 32 general advisory notices and 10 verbal warnings were issued.

Over the last 6 to 7 weeks there have been three dwelling break-ins and two other burglaries.

There was a spate of related theft incidents from motor vehicles on one night. Two cannabis warnings have been issued in the last six weeks.

The PCSOs have been out in force and there has been a decrease in anti-social behaviour. Insp. Griffiths reported that the two new PCSOs are settling in very well.

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

25. Update from the Adult Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator

Community Transport

Cllr Murray commented that it was pleasing to hear that groups are having days out but he hoped that this did not take the form of shopping trips elsewhere, such as to the Trafford Centre, since this would go against the grain. The Adult Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator explained that the transport is used for example by Peaks and Plains, and to bring the Friday morning shoppers into Poynton.

Cllr Lewis felt that leading up to Christmas the transport could indeed be used to take shoppers to the Trafford Centre for example, to do their Christmas shopping, but agreed that this should not be on a regular basis.

The Adult Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator felt that use of our community transport will evolve over time, and be kept under review.

Meals on Wheels

There was a real concern for dementia sufferers who would have forgotten that Appetito were no longer providing their meals. Cllr Hollingworth thanked the Adult Health and Well Being Co-ordinator for sorting out the situation that

had occurred, and asked if formal representation through the Town Council should be made. Cllr Lewis asked if the service was provided through CE. Trish Hill explained that CE pays directly for users of the service but there are also private individual users that could have been missed. Cllr Hollingworth asked if there was anything the Town Council could do to help with the situation that had occurred, to ensure it does not happen again. Trish Hill said that everything that could be done at the time was done promptly - the problem was identified and dealt with.

Cllr A Smith suggested that a database is organised. Trish Hill said that there is currently a database of over 200 vulnerable residents, but that does not include people who may be isolated. This relies on the goodwill of residents to help.

Cllr Clarke noted his concern for residents over the borders in areas such as Adlington who do not have the benefit of an Adult Health and Well Being Co-ordinator, and who may suffer as a consequence. He proposed that the Clerk write to the Portfolio Holder at CE to express the Town Council's concern.

**RESOLVED: That the Clerk writes to the Portfolio Holder at CE to express concern on behalf of the Town Council, and that the Adult Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator's report is received with thanks (NC)**

#### 26. Poynton Community Centre

Members considered the brief from Cllr King regarding the Poynton Community Centre. Members considered whether they should be involved and the best way forward for such involvement, given that the Centre is an independent body and not connected in any way to the Town Council. Following discussion Members agreed the importance of this community asset. The Chairman proposed that, recognising the local importance of this community asset, the Clerk write to the Secretary of the Trustees seeking a meeting to discuss the current position of the Community Centre and its future prospects, and that any response to this is brought to a meeting of the Town Council.

**RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the Secretary of Trustees of the Community Centre seeking a meeting to discuss the current position of the Community Centre and its future prospects, and that any response to this is raised at a full Council meeting (NC)**

#### 27. Invitation from ChALC

Members received an invitation from ChALC, in partnership with the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire, to a community road safety event at the Cheshire Police HQ in Winsford at 7pm on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2014. Cllr Clarke suggested that the Clerk circulate the information to all

members to find out if anyone is interested in attending. The Clerk confirmed that the information will be circulated.

**RESOLVED: That an invitation from ChALC, in partnership with the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire, to a community road safety event at the Cheshire Police HQ in Winsford at 7pm on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2014 is received and that the Clerk circulate this information to all members (NC)**

28. News Release from the Royal Mail

Members received a news release from the Royal Mail concerning improved access to post boxes. Cllr Clarke suggested asking for a post box to be located at or near the Civic Centre. The Clerk said that this had been requested in the past via the local MP but was refused. Cllr King said that in rural areas there is usually a post box located at supermarkets, such as Waitrose in Poynton.

**RESOLVED: That the news release is received and that Waitrose is approached to request a post box (NC)**

The meeting concluded at 8:55pm