

Main points arising: Questions from members of the public; Minutes of the previous meeting; Policing update; Update from the Adult Health and Wellbeing Coordinator; Provisional COPS budget for 2015/16; CCTV funding; Post boxes; Cheshire Fire and Rescue consultation.

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY ORDER & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 8.00PM ON MONDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2014 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HALL, POYNTON.

PRESENT:

Chairman: Cllr Mrs J Saunders

Cllrs. M Beanland, L A Clarke, I Hollingworth, Ms R Horsman, P Hoyland, Mrs J Sewart and A Smith

Attending under SO 56: Cllrs C Gorst, and B Lewis

Questions from Members of the Public

David Bennett, Anglesey Drive

Mr Bennett said he had attended a Council meeting two years ago to report his concern about the volume of traffic from the Stockport/Hazel Grove direction that travels through Anglesey Drive as a cut through, to avoid queues into Poynton on London Road North. Mr Bennett asked what the Council and the Police could do to address the issue. Mr Bennett had seen evidence on a police website that the police had been able to solve such problems in other areas.

The Chairman noted that two years ago this was an issue because of the road works in Poynton. Mr Bennett clarified for Insp. Griffiths that this issue concerned the sheer volume of traffic. Coaches and lorries mount the curb to manoeuvre round cars parked on the road. Insp. Griffiths suggested contacting CE Highways to arrange a site visit to determine the exact problem. Insp. Griffiths will take the residents details and contact him directly.

Cllr Lewis commented that the high volume of traffic using Anglesey Drive is noticeable in the morning and afternoon peak times.

Valerie Evans, 38 Hazel Drive

Mrs Evans attended the meeting to raise the issue on which she had e-mailed, namely a recent cycle event based at Poynton Leisure Centre. Insp. Griffiths explained that the police had not been notified of the event and are making enquiries to ascertain why they were not advised. He assured Mrs

Evans that they are well aware of the situation. Insp. Griffiths will contact the resident directly. The Chairman asked Insp. Griffiths that she be copied on any correspondence on this issue.

35. Apologies for absence

Cllr Mrs I Thornton-Maddocks

36. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Interests

Cllr A Smith declared a non-pecuniary interest in a traffic issue raised by a resident of Anglesey Drive, since this also concerned South Park Drive, where Cllr Smith has his residence.

37. Minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 2014

Page 113 - Cllr Lewis said that what he actually said was that the spending on a 'No Ball Games' sign should have been authorised by the Committee.

Page 119 – Cllr Lewis asked the Clerk to read out what SO 6.1a). The Clerk read this out to Members, and acknowledged that the reference should have been to SO 6.1b). He apologised to Cllr Lewis for this error and will amend it accordingly. Cllr Lewis said that it worries him that under 6.1b) the Clerk has the authority to spend up to £2,500 without referring it to a Committee. Cllr Lewis said that he is quite content for smaller amounts be spent but if it is an amount of this magnitude then he would suggest that the Chairman of the relevant Committee is consulted beforehand. The Clerk clarified that this delegated authority refers to expenditure within those budget headings already approved by the Town Council.

The Chairman said that she understood this financial limit had been reviewed as part of the periodic review of the Financial Regulations Standing Orders. Cllr Lewis said that it worried him that the authority is as slack as it is, and suggests that this is put forward to the F&GP or indeed the Town Council to review this limit. He said that at least the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the relevant Committee should be contacted by the Clerk and informed of the intended purchase, to seek their agreement.

Cllr Mrs Saunders asked Cllr Gorst, Chairman of F&GP, if he would agree to his Committee reviewing this Standing Order, and he said he would. The Clerk said that the Financial Regulations Standing Orders were in any case coming up for a periodic review by the F&GP Committee.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community Order and Public Safety Committee meeting held on 13th October 2014 are approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman (5 - 3 abs)

38. Policing Update

Insp. Griffiths introduced Sergeant Pete Brazendale, who is taking over from Sergeant Alexander for a three month period initially. Two of the Poynton PCSOs, Sophie and Chris Luke will be leaving Poynton to join the regular police force. New PCSOs will be recruited be in due course. The Chairman on behalf of the Committee congratulated the PCSOs on their achievement.

Sergeant Brazendale provided a verbal policing update as follows:

Mischief Week - Bonfire/Halloween

There were two incidents of egg throwing at a property in Poynton. On Halloween a spent firework was put through a resident's letterbox.

Twitter

There were 93 Tweets this month.

Shared Space

Eight advisory notices have been issued in total but only a couple were for the Park Lane area of Shared Space. People do sometimes drive away when a notice is about to be issued. It is at least having the desired effect.

Drugs

A recent 'stop search' for cannabis proved negative. Patrol plans will be deployed and the neighbourhood policing teams have been informed of various locations, areas and times to ensure smarter patrol plans.

Crime

There have been a couple of burglaries of dwellings and a couple of vehicles were broken into, with groceries taken. There was one assault with no injury.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Woodside Lane - A previously reported incident of anti-social behaviour at Woodside Lane was been dealt with. Barnaby Park has been targeted hard by the PCSOs.

Advisory Notices

Cllr Lewis requested that the PCSOs only hand these out when they have the authority to do so. For example, he said, that in his view they have no authority in the Civic Hall car park to issue these, so it is totally pointless. Cllr Lewis added that you get replies like, "we've got to be seen to be doing something" and when you point out that this is not a public area and owned by CE the reply is, "well Poynton Town Council pay my wages". Cllr Lewis said these are inept replies and the main thing is not to give them out if there is no authority to do so. Insp. Griffiths asked if Cllr Lewis had witnessed this incident. Cllr Lewis said it was he who received the advisory notice because he was parked on a section of hazard lines at the end of a parking line.

Cllr Clarke asked about a couple of areas where light columns have been destroyed - one on South Park Drive and one of the entrance to Glastonbury

Drive. He asked if police action follows such incidents, or are they listed as damage to Council property. Insp. Griffiths said if they have been destroyed as a result of an accident then the police will get involved in the interim and inform the Council. It would depend on the cause of the damage.

RESOLVED: That the verbal policing report be received with thanks (NC)

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

In the absence of the Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator the Clerk provided some highlights from her written report. Cllr Mrs Sewart commented that it is very encouraging that there is pro-active help for people suffering from Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. Also that Peaks and Plain Housing Trust are going to work with the Town Council to address a gap which needs addressing.

Cllr Clarke commented that there is jargon creeping into the report and asked that more plain English is used.

RESOLVED: That the report is received with thanks (NC)

40. Provisional COPS Budget for 2015/16

Members considered the written brief from the Clerk on the provisional COPS budget for 2015/16.

CCTV

The Clerk informed members that when he had attended the recent annual Town and Parish Council conference Steph Cordon of Cheshire East gave an assurance there that, under the terms of the agreement with CE to maintain CCTV networks, if any of the old style cameras fail they will be replaced with the new 'bowl' type. The Clerk had asked Steph Cordon to confirm this at the conference, and she had. The Chairman requested the Clerk to follow this up and have this assurance in writing.

Cllr Lewis said that from the last meeting the police were supposed to report on the effectiveness of CCTV cameras and what they could and couldn't be used for. The police didn't do this he said and it seemed pointless to ask given that there is a new sergeant in place. Cllr Lewis requested that the Town Council finds out what traffic offences cameras can and cannot be used for. The Chairman asked Cllr Lewis if he was specifically citing traffic offences, and he said he was. Cllr Lewis provided some examples and referred to London Boroughs who have used cameras for this purpose. The Chairman said that from her understanding this cannot be done retrospectively for road traffic issues. Cllr Lewis said he was asking to find out which hoops have to be jumped through to get them used in Poynton, and asked the Clerk to research this. The Chairman said she would ask the police to look into this, not the Clerk. The Chairman reiterated that she knew for sure that you cannot get information retrospectively about traffic offences. This was considered

about two years ago when it was possibly Cllr Lewis who had asked if CCTV could be used to provide evidence for parking offences and it was found out at the time that this could not be done. The Chairman said she was informing Cllr Lewis what they were told at the time.

With regard to Cllr Lewis's comments, Cllr Hollingworth said that having been the victim of an assault CCTV had proved very useful. Cllr Lewis said he was only talking about traffic. Cllr Hollingworth said he was just illustrating the fact that about 90% of the time they are effective, certainly for anti-social behaviour. Cllr Lewis said that this is only the case if this is done straight away, adding that it is unlikely if after an event the police will go back any further than 48 hours from the report for any offence. The Chairman disagreed, and said the police will go back weeks if necessary.

RESOLVED: That the written report on the provisional COPS budget for 2015/16 is received (NC)

41. CCTV funding

Members received a letter dated 14th October 2014 from Steph Cordon, Head of Communities at Cheshire East Council, regarding the funding of CCTV networks by Town and Parish Councils.

RESOLVED: That the letter from Steph Cordon, Head of Communities at Cheshire East Council, regarding CCTV funding, is noted (NC)

42. New Post Box

Members received a letter dated 17th October 2014 from the Chief Executive Officer of the Royal Mail Group regarding positive consideration of a new post box for central Poynton.

Cllr Mrs Sewart asked where the post box would be sited. The Clerk explained that he thought that inside the Waitrose store would be a logical location, and this was supported by Cllr Lewis.

Cllr Hoyland suggested that if the location of the post box at Waitrose was unable to go ahead that a good alternative location maybe Queensway. The Clerk said this could be proposed as well as the Waitrose location.

RESOLVED: That the letter from Royal Mail regarding consideration of a new post box for central Poynton is received; that this issue is included in the COPS agenda for March 2015, and that the Clerk requests that there is one new post box located at Waitrose and one at Queensway (NC)

43. Annual consultation on the Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service

RESOLVED: That the e-mail and attachment from the Chief Fire Officer, Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service, concerning the annual consultation on future plans for the Service is received (NC)

The meeting concluded at 8:40pm