

Main points arising: Questions from members of the public/ Policing update/ Reports from the Town Council's Coordinators/ Poynton Youth & Community Centre report/ Community grants for the Poynton Youth & Community Centre, Christmas Fest 2015 and Poynton Flower Club/ Response to Government consultation of proposed closure of some courts and tribunals

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY ORDER & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD AT 8.00PM ON MONDAY 5TH OCTOBER AT THE CIVIC
HALL, POYNTON.

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr Mrs J Saunders

Cllrs. T Holbrook, G King, Mrs J Sewart and Mrs N Wylie

Attending under SO 56: Cllr C Gorst

Also in attendance: Sgt. Pete Brazendale, Macclesfield Neighbourhood Policing Team

28. Questions from members of the public

Mr Alvan Ikoku, 10 Hazelbadge Road, Poynton

A number of residents from Hazelbadge Road/Wayside Drive were present at the meeting and Mr Ikoku spoke on their behalf. He explained that there are issues with parking and traffic on Hazelbadge Drive, particularly in the morning and in the afternoon at school drop-off and pick-up time. Those problems have been exacerbated by the introduction of car parking charges at Poynton train station.

Mr Ikoku explained that this is a real problem for residents with cars parking inconsiderately, mounting the pavement to park, parking close to junctions and causing problems for cars turning into Wayside Drive.

Sgt Brazendale explained to residents that there are five PCSOs in Poynton and over recent weeks they have been paying particular attention to this area to identify the issues. He added that from his understanding since 1st August 2015 there has only been one reported incident for this area. Residents informed Sgt Brazendale that they have reported incidents by calling 101. Sgt Brazendale said he would check on the data. The PCSOs have also conducted a leaflet drop to inform residents on what they can and cannot do. Sgt Brazendale explained that because there are no yellow lines or signs the only offence the PCSOs can deal with is obstruction.

Cllr Mrs Sewart said that as a pedestrian accessing this road on a weekly basis the parking on this road causes a hazard, whereby a pedestrian has to negotiate between cars, and crossing the road with children between parked vehicles is highly dangerous.

Residents explained that they are keen to find a solution to the problem.

Sgt Brazendale told residents that the police are only able to take action if a vehicle is causing an obstruction and explained that residents should not deal with incidents themselves, but ensure they call 101. Residents also raised concern about emergency vehicles accessing these streets and problems with dustbins that have not been emptied because bin wagons cannot access the road.

Following a lengthy discussion on these issues, it was proposed that Cllrs Mrs Sewart and Mrs Wylie, two resident representatives, a PCSO and Sgt Brazendale arrange a meeting to discuss this further and try to find a solution. The Chairman explained to the residents that establishing a majority view of residents is necessary and helpful to discussions.

Sgt Brazendale will also inform the PCSOs of tonight's discussion.

RESOLVED: That Cllrs Mrs Sewart and Mrs Wylie, two resident representatives, a PCSO and Sgt Brazendale arrange a meeting to discuss further the issues and to find a possible solution and that this is reported back to the COPS/FIED Committees as appropriate (NC)

29. Apologies for absence

Cllrs. Mrs S-J Gilmore, Mrs S Horsman, Mrs Horsman-Johnson and Mrs T Lorde.

30. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Interests

Cllr Mrs Wylie declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 40 due to her involvement in the Poynton Flower Club. She left the Chamber when this item was debated and therefore did not vote on it.

Cllr Mrs Saunders left the room during discussion of item 41 and therefore did not vote on it, given that she is a Magistrate.

31. Previous meeting minutes

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community, Order and Public Safety Committee meeting held on 17th August 2015 are approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman (NC)

32. PCSO funding arrangements for 2016/17

RESOLVED: That the letter from Cheshire's Asst Chief Constable, Mark Roberts, regarding PCSO funding arrangements for 2016/17, is noted (NC)

33. Verbal update from the Macclesfield Neighbourhood Policing Team

Sergeant Brazendale provided a policing update to Members.

The SID has been deployed as follows:

- 17th August 2015 on Park Lane in the direction of Middlewood Road
- 24th August on Middlewood Road in the direction of A6/ Hazel Grove
- Recently on Chester Road in the direction Poynton

Sgt Brazendale shared the data including the number of vehicles and average speeds with the Committee.

Does the data show the proportion of vehicles exceeding the speed limit along Middlewood Road?

Of the 25,000 vehicles, 8,500 were over the 30 mph speed limit.

That is a large number of vehicles exceeding the speed limit, what is the purpose of the statistics if we don't then act upon them?

Sgt Brazendale agreed that one third of the recorded vehicles numbers is a high percentage. Holding an Impact Day is subject to staffing. Sgt Brazendale agreed to consider the options to tackle this issue.

On 16th and 17th September 2015 there were two burglaries, one on Clifford Road and the other on Dickens Lane. There have been a number of thefts from motor vehicles and Sgt Brazendale urged residents to remain vigilant and ensure they remove valuables from vehicles and ensure vehicles are secured. The priority for the police remains burglaries and theft from motor vehicles, and particular attention has been focussed on these areas.

A Member noted that there have been incidents of youths approaching adults to purchase alcohol on their behalf. Sgt Brazendale will address and monitor the situation.

There have been complaints of a lack of PCSOs in Poynton, is this a perception or a fact?

Sgt Brazendale assured Members that the PCSOs are still mainly in Poynton, but there is a period of time when the PCSOs are not but that this is because they have to book on and off their shift in Macclesfield. The PCSOs are brought into Poynton in the morning at the start of their shift from Macclesfield and this is subject to transport availability.

How long does this take?

This can be between 15 and 30 minutes or longer if the vehicles are not available. The Chairman stated that the use of technology would be most useful and allow PCSOs to start their shift promptly in Poynton.

The issue of vehicles parking on Park Lane was raised. Sgt Brazendale explained that the police can only deal with obstruction offences. The police cannot deal with a “no waiting” offence, this is an issue for a civil enforcement officer. Following discussion it was agreed the Town Council send a letter to Steph Cordon, Head of Enforcement at CE to raise concerns on the issue of civil enforcement in Poynton.

A Member raised the issue of the unmarked four way junction at Waitrose. Sgt Brazendale reported that there have been accidents reported in this area. He has previously provided an email with details of incidents in this area. The Committee agreed that this is an issue for the FIED Committee. The Clerk will locate the email from Sgt Brazendale sent to the former Clerk.

RESOLVED: That the policing update is received with thanks (NC)

34. To receive an update from the Town Council’s Adult Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator, Trish Hill

The Town Council’s Adult Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator, Trish Hill, provided highlights from her written report.

RESOLVED: That the written update from the Town Council’s Adult Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator is received with thanks (NC)

35. To receive a report from the Town Council’s Youth Coordinator, Louisa Thorman

The Town Council’s Youth Coordinator, Louisa Thorman, provided highlights from her written report.

The Committee approved the funding request for £760 for the two ‘pop up’ youth clubs on 31st October and 5th November 2015.

Asked if she will be resuming the youth newsletter, Louisa said she will look into this.

RESOLVED: That the written update from the Youth Co-ordinator is received, and that the funding request of £760 is approved. (NC)

36. Progress report on the Poynton Youth & Community Centre

Cllr King reported that the Poynton Youth and Community Centre Committee spent no money last year. This year, the Committee have spent in the region of £19,000. In terms of funding, £14,000 of this was raised by the Poynton community through events and donations. Cheshire East has provided a community grant of £4,000, a contribution towards a new fire alarm system. This has been installed and the Community Centre is awaiting the funds from CE.

RESOLVED: That the progress report from Cllr Geoff King on the Poynton Youth & Community Centre is received (NC)

37. Town Council Community Grant for the Poynton Youth & Community Centre

The Committee members considered an application for a Town Council Community Grant from the Poynton Youth & Community Centre Treasurer. Funds are required for a new carpet, refurbishment of the bar area and redecoration.

The Chairman noted that the positive fundraising from the Poynton community demonstrates how much it cherishes the Poynton Youth & Community Centre.

RESOLVED: That a Town Council Community Grant of £2,000 is approved for the Poynton Youth and Community Centre (NC)

38. CAB Outreach service in Poynton

RESOLVED: That the report on the CAB Outreach service in Poynton for September 2014 to August 2015 is received (NC)

39. Town Council Community Grant for the Christmas Fest 2015

The Committee members considered the application for a Town Council Community Grant from Projects 4 Poynton for the Christmas Fest 2015. Following discussion it was proposed that the grant is approved subject to the following conditions:

- If the £1,000 funding from CE is successful the amount will be reduced accordingly.
- That there is an effort to encourage the retailers in Poynton to contribute.
- That the Town Council expects to receive a detailed breakdown of costs for the 2014 event and for the upcoming event in 2015.

The Committee urged Projects 4 Poynton to fundraise on the night of the event to put towards for the following year's Fest.

RESOLVED: That the application for a Town Council Community Grant of £5,500 from Projects 4 Poynton for the Christmas Fest 2015 is approved, subject to the conditions stated above (NC)

40. Town Council Community Grant for Poynton Flower Club

RESOLVED: That a Town Council Community Grant of £200 for Poynton Flower Club is approved (NC)

41. Provision of Court and Tribunal Services in the NW Region

RESOLVED: That the Town Council's response of 20th August 2015 to the Government's consultation on the Provision of Court and Tribunal Services in the NW Region, and David Rutley MP's letters of 3rd and 24th September 2015 are noted (NC)

The meeting concluded at 9.50pm.