

Main points arising: Questions from members of the public/ Car parking charges at Poynton Station/ Policing update/ Adult Health and Wellbeing Coordinator's update/ Town Council's Child Protection policy

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY ORDER & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 8.10PM ON MONDAY 27TH APRIL 2015 AT THE CIVIC HALL, POYNTON.

PRESENT:

Chairman: Cllr Mrs J Saunders

Cllrs. M Beanland, L A Clarke, Mrs R Horsman-Johnson and Mrs J Sewart

Attending under SO 56: Cllrs C Gorst and Mrs S Horsman

Sgt. Pete Brazendale, Macclesfield Neighbourhood Policing

70. Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllr I Hollingworth.

71. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Interests

None declared.

72. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 16th March 2015

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community Order and Public Safety Committee meeting held on 16th March 2015 are approved as an accurate record, and signed by the Chairman (NC)

73. Questions from members of the public

Roger Bray, a member of the public, raised the following concerns:

- With the new layout on Park Lane, vehicles are travelling faster along Park Lane. Mr Bray said he had witnessed cars travelling in excess of 30mph and asked the Committee to look at this, and consider reducing the speed limit to 20mph.
- There is no reference to blue badge holders on the recent restriction notices. Can they park on Park Lane?

Sgt. Brazendale explained that, as with other areas, there is no specific mention of blue badge holders in the restriction notices on Park Lane. They are allowed to park on Park Lane provided they are not causing an obstruction.

In relation to speeding on Park Lane, the Committee does not have any evidence of this, and more information is required. For this purpose the SID will be deployed to collate data. The Committee will consider the issue in future if there is evidence to warrant it. The more common traffic issue for Park Lane has been inconsiderate parking.

74. Car parking charges at Poynton Station

RESOLVED: That the imminent introduction of car parking charges by Northern Rail at Poynton Station with effect from 18th May 2015 be approved as an item of urgent business, as permitted under SO19d (NC)

The Committee disagreed with the introduction of charges at Poynton Station. Insufficient notice had been given, and train users already pay very high fares. This move would discourage people from using public transport. There will also be unintended consequences with an increase in parking in the surrounding streets.

The Clerk also shared an e-mail from the Headteacher at Lower Park School to Cllr West, in which he expressed concern about the danger posed to school children with the additional car parking on Hazelbadge Road and surrounding streets.

It was noted that Hazel Grove, Bramhall and Disley have subsidised train services. Poynton, on the other hand, receives no subsidies and will now have to pay car parking charges too.

Following discussion Committee members agreed that the Clerk sends a robust letter to Northern Rail regarding the introduction of parking charges, including comments from the Headteacher, the lack of adequate consultation with residents and the Town Council, and the other issues raised above.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk responds as agreed to Northern Rail (NC)

75. Cheshire Constabulary's performance graphic for 2014/15, and 'We're Here' PR campaign

RESOLVED: That the Cheshire Constabulary's performance graphic for 2014/15, and 'We're Here' PR campaign is noted (NC)

76. Update from the Macclesfield Neighbourhood Policing Team

Sgt. Pete Brazendale provided a verbal update on policing for April 2015:

- The number of recorded incidents for 2014/15 has reduced in all areas apart from theft from vehicles and violent offences. The reduction has been in anti-social behaviour, burglary of dwellings, burglary other than

in a dwelling, theft of motor vehicles and shoplifting. The data is encouraging. This means crime is down by 5%. 32% of the crime reported in this area has been detected, the highest outcome since 2010.

- Speeding has been a priority this month. SID has been deployed on Dickens Lane in both directions. The results over two weeks show:
 - 16,777 vehicles during this period. Travelling out of Poynton the average speed was 30.4mph and the maximum speed was 64mph (this was an isolated incident).
 - 18,000 vehicles during this period. Travelling into Poynton the average speed was 27.9mph and the maximum speed was 54mph.

The Sgt. noted that it is encouraging to see that the average speed is 30mph or below. The SID is well-utilised (there is a waiting list) and it is currently deployed on Middlewood Road. The engagement of residents on this issue is very positive and enables evidence to be captured.

The Sgt. will meet with Cllr Gorst to address repositioning the SID on Middlewood Road.

- Two impact days were held on 18th and 21st April 2015.
 - On London Road South on 18th April, a team of officers were using a radar gun, with selected cars being pulled over into the Vernon Arms car park. It was hoped in future to have the 'Think Car' available. During the two hour period, 21 vehicles exceeded the speed limit set at 36mph and above. The impact day is designed to advise and educate drivers.
 - Chester Road/London Road North on 21st April. 7 vehicles travelling in excess of the speed limit were stopped during a two hour period. A ticket was issued for the use of a mobile phone while driving. On Chester Road, because there was nowhere to pull vehicles over, warning letters were issued to the drivers, including a motorcyclist.

More such events are planned with the 'Think Car', which is used to educate people about the dangers of drink driving.

The issue of damage to daffodils around the area of Woodside Lane was reported. Sgt. Brazendale confirmed that the police are aware of this along with other incidents in the area and are speaking to people and patrolling the area.

The issue of anti-social behaviour on Barnaby Fields was discussed. This was reported by a resident and a Councillor who lives in the area. Sgt. Brazendale confirmed that he is aware of the issue and PCSOs are addressing it. The problem tends to be when it is very dark and they congregate in the centre of the park, which is making it more difficult to address. PCSOs will continue to patrol the area. The issue of fencing for Barnaby Field was raised. The Chairman noted that this is an issue for the FIED Committee to consider and include on a future agenda. Sgt. Brazendale confirmed that there is a lack of evidence and reports from residents, and he encouraged residents to provide these.

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

77. Report from the Adult Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator, Trish Hill

The Chairman requested an update on community transport to be included in the next report.

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

78. Annual review of the Town Council's Child Protection Policy

The Clerk has reviewed and updated the policy. Two typographic errors were pointed out. It was confirmed that the Youth Co-ordinator is the Child Protection Officer, with the Clerk as back up.

Page 2 – The Clerk undertook to find out about the on-going child protection training.

Page 7, point 7, “have contact with” – the Clerk will seek CE advice on this issue, particularly in the light of the Library/Civic Centre integration.

The Clerk confirmed that all of the team are DBS checked.

RESOLVED: That the annual review of the Town Council's Child Protection Policy, subject to the clarification sought, has been undertaken, and the updated version is approved (NC)

79. Additional posting box in the Queensway area

RESOLVED: That the correspondence from Royal Mail is received (NC)

The meeting concluded at 8.45pm