

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY ORDER & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD AT 8.00PM ON MONDAY 7th MARCH 2016 AT THE CIVIC HALL,
POYNTON.

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr G King

Cllrs: Mrs R Horsman-Johnson, Mrs S Horsman and Mrs S-J Gilmore

Attending under SO 56: Cllr H Murray substituting for Cllr T Holbrook, Cllr L A Clarke substituting for Cllr Mrs J Saunders.

Also in attendance: Sgt. P Brazendale

A change to the order of the agenda was proposed with Item 7 taken as the first item on the agenda.

RESOLVED: That Item 7 to consider a request for a grant from Poynton Men In Sheds is agreed as the next item on the agenda (NC)

Cllr King declared an interest in the item and left the meeting. Cllr Mrs Gilmore was agreed as the Chairperson and chaired the meeting for Item 1.

Cllr Murray declared a personal interest as a member of Men In Sheds.

1. Consider a request for a grant for £1,000 from Poynton Men In Sheds

Mr Roger Masters, 13 Shrigley Road North, Poynton attended the meeting to speak on the Men In Sheds grant application submitted to the committee. Mr Masters provided a comprehensive brief of the activities and organisation of the Men In Sheds. Men In Sheds has been operational in Poynton for 8 / 9 months and provides an opportunity for men to socialise, interact and work on projects. There are currently about 18 members. Projects include renovating a railway carriage on behalf of Poynton Town Council, renovating a garden and working on various tasks for the benefit of the community. All the projects require funds and the grant request for £1,000 is to enable a float to undertake projects and the cost of necessary equipment, replenishing tools, wood and paints.

Trish Hill, the Adult Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator, informed the committee that the Men In Sheds renovated the bench that is in situ outside the Civic Centre did not receive the funding promised for this work from the Town Council.

Without adequate funds the Men In Sheds would have to refuse projects at a time when they are looking to expand the organisation. The group have been borrowing equipment such as gardening tools from residents or using their own tools but there is also a health and safety issue in ensuring the equipment is suitable for use.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approve a grant of £500 including the funding owed for the bench work. That the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the COPS committee have the delegated powers to approve match funding of up to £500 over the next 12 months (NC)

Cllr King re-joined the meeting and continue to Chair the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

Cllrs: L Berry, T Holbrook, Mrs J Saunders, Mrs J Sewart and Mrs N Wylie

3. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Interests

None.

4. Previous meeting minutes

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community, Order and Public Safety Committee meeting held on 1st February 2016 are approved as an accurate record (NC)

5. Receive a verbal update from the Macclesfield Neighbourhood Policing Team

Sgt. Brazendale provided a verbal policing update. Since 1st February crime has been low with four burglary dwellings, three burglaries from sheds and three thefts related to motor vehicles. The three burglaries other than from a dwelling were from sheds where bikes were stolen. Sgt. Brazendale urged residents to ensure appropriate and adequate security of sheds. The three thefts related to motor vehicles including a van break-in and the theft of wheel trims from a parked car. The police are encouraging bike marking, shed and general security and offer to conduct security surveys for residents.

The priority for the policing website is anti-social behaviour. There has been a high number incidents where eggs have been thrown at properties. The PCSOs are assisting in addressing this issue. Incidents have in the main occurred on a Friday and at weekends.

SID data was unavailable due to technical difficulties and Sgt. Brazendale will forward this information to the Clerk when it becomes available.

On 5th March 2016, a petrol tanker was reported with sparks flying from the back. A fire engine travelling behind the tanker dealt with the incident. Specialised equipment and pumping gear from Carlisle was called upon and 37,000 litres of petrol was removed and the road re-opened at midnight.

A Poynton PCSO has been swapped with a PCSO from Macclesfield. This is a temporary arrangement for development of the PCSOs.

A member requested that the site of Aldi is included on patrols by PCSOs. Sgt. Brazendale confirmed that this would be included on the PCSO patrol.

A member questioned whether Poynton PCSOs are deployed in other Wards such as Rainow. There was a discussion on the definition of the East and West Wards and Sgt. Brazendale confirmed that the information has now been amended and corrected on the police website and this confirms that Poynton PCSOs should remain in Poynton and have been told to do so.

A member brought to Sgt. Brazendale's attention an incident that occurred at the derelict building situated at Vernon Primary School. Members agreed that CE should be asked to secure the building.

Parking in Poynton was raised as an issue of concern. Sgt. Brazendale explained the limited powers PCSOs have to address parking. This is primarily an issue for traffic wardens in the CE parking enforcement team. Sgt. Brazendale explained that the perception is that there is not a parking issue in Poynton because of the low level of complaints received by the civil enforcement department. He suggested that residents directly communicate with CE parking enforcement to register their complaint. Complaints at present are received directly by the PCSOs and although they do forward these to the relevant authority this would be much more effective if residents reported directly to CE parking enforcement. It was agreed that the contact number is provided to residents via the Town Council website and the Clerk will forward the contact number to all councillors too. The Chairman noted that the Clerk has now written twice to CE parking enforcement and has received no acknowledgment in receipt.

Dog fouling was raised as an issue particularly on South Park Drive and Oak Grove. Sgt. Brazendale explained that a PCSO can ticket the offence if it is witnessed by the PCSO.

It was noted that a stencil and spray which can act as a deterrent is available from the Civic Centre to assist in dealing with any complaints received. The issue will be addressed more readily when staffing issues are resolved.

RESOLVED: That the verbal update from the Macclesfield Neighbourhood Policing Team is received (NC)

6. Receive an update from the Future of Policing in Poynton Task and Finish Group

Cllr King reported that the Task and Finish Group visited Chester Town Council and attended a tour of the warden system that is in operation. The wardens work in partnership with the PCSOs and the police in Chester. The Task and Finish Group will consider this option further.

The Task and Finish Group shared with members a recent letter from the Cheshire Constabulary Crime Commissioner. There is some concern that this may have an impact on any future Town Council policing plans.

In conclusion, the Task and Finish Group are making progress and will report on developments to the committee.

RESOLVED: That the verbal report from the Policing in Poynton Task and Finish Group is received (NC)

7. Receive an update from the Town Council's Adult Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator, Trish Hill

Trish Hill the Town Council's Adult Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator spoke on her written report to the committee.

Trish Hill updated the committee on the bookings for the Town Council minibus which include Poynton High School for pupils on the Duke of Edinburgh scheme and also the Baptist Church.

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

8. Receive a report from the Town Council's Youth Coordinator, Louisa Thorman

Louisa Thorman, the Town Council's Youth Coordinator, spoke on her written report to the committee.

The committee considered the grant request of £1,000 towards the Family Fun Event. It was noted that the event is only two months away. The committee agreed that the Clerk will discuss the funding request with Cllr Gorst and report back to Louisa.

What would happen if the funding was not in place?

The event would need to be postponed.

RESOLVED: That the written update from the Youth Co-ordinator is received and accepted. That the Clerk contact Cllr Gorst regarding the grant request for the Family Fun Event (NC)

10. Correspondence in response to queries about the CCTV database incident, from Jan Griffiths, Safer and Stronger Communities

It was noted that the information does not state the outcome of the CCTV cameras as requested by the Town Council.

The Clerk informed the committee that she is unable to attend the Clerk's Forum meeting which will include an agenda item on CCTV.

RESOLVED: That the correspondence is received. That the Clerk present the notes from Clerks Forum meeting on the 18th March 2016 at the next committee meeting (NC)

11. Receive the letter from Steph Corden, Head of Communities, Cheshire East Council, re a three year agreement for the CCTV service

Members considered the correspondence in response to the Town Council queries about the CCTV database incidents, from Jan Griffiths, Safer and Stronger Communities.

It was noted that the location of the sixth camera is not listed in the correspondence. The Clerk will follow up on this. The response states that although the cameras are actively monitored this is not to the extent required to measure the benefit.

Perhaps when staffing is resolved the Town Council could explore other options for the provision of CCTV and until that time the Town Council remain with CE and continue with the one year arrangement.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council respond querying the assertions regarding the demonstrations of the benefits of the CCTV, (paragraph two comparing and contrasting with the earlier reply). That the Town Council continue with the one year arrangement with CE (NC)

12. Receive a letter from John Dwyer, Police and Crime Commissioner, inviting representatives to a meeting with Parish and Town representatives on 14th March 2016

It was proposed that the correspondence is received. As members present confirmed that they were unable to attend it was proposed that the Clerk circulate the correspondence requesting a volunteer to attend however in the absence of any councillor attending that the Chairman and Vice Chairman agree a suitable representative to attend on behalf of the Town Council.

RESOLVED: That the correspondence is received. That the Clerk circulate the correspondence requesting a volunteer to attend. That should a councillor be unable to attend the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the committee agree a suitable representative to attend on behalf of the Town Council (NC)

Meeting End Time: 9.40pm