

Clayton-Le-Woods North Area Forum

Thursday, 12 October 2006

at Saint Bedes Old School Parish Centre, Preston Road, Clayton-Le-Woods

Present: Councillor Alan Cullens (Chair), Councillors Peter Baker and Magda Cullens

Also present: Eric Bell (Executive Member for Streetscene, Neighbourhoods and Environment) and John Walker (Executive Member for Customer, Democratic and Legal)

Co-opted Members: Bev Gore (Representing Lindsay Hoyle MP), County Councillor Mrs E Livesey (Lancashire County Council), PS Christina Shorrock (Lancashire Constabulary), Liz Easterbrook (Chorley and South Ribble PCT) and Cindy Lowthian (Lancashire County Community Engagement Team)

Chorley Borough Officers: Donna Hall (Chief Executive), Steve Pearce (Assistant Head of Democratic Services), Simon Clark (Commercial Manager, Streetscene, Neighbourhoods and Environment), Lorraine Cross (Leisure Services Manager), Lucie McFall (Communications Officer), Jim Wild (Senior Neighbourhood Warden) and Ruth Hawes (Assistant Democratic Services Officer)

10. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Councillor Cullens welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the co-opted members and officers from Chorley Borough and Lancashire County Council.

Councillor Cullens explained that this was the third and final Area Forums pilot meeting in this area. There would be an opportunity for feedback on the pilot scheme at the end of the meeting.

11. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Lindsay Hoyle (MP), Roy Ormston (Parish Councillor), Anne Smith (Parish Councillor), Eileen Whiteford (Parish Council Clerk), Inspector Jo South (Lancashire Constabulary), Teresa Spears (Age Concern) and John Lechmere, (Director of Streetscene, Neighbourhoods and Environment).

12. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Clayton-Le-Woods North Area Forum held on 21 June 2006 were confirmed as a correct record.

13. "YOU SAID, WE DID"

Councillor Cullens updated the meeting on three queries relating to public transport where further information had been received since the agenda was published.

A query was raised in respect of the 126 bus. The bus could be overcrowded with school children, to the extent of children having to sit on the stairs.

Councillor Cullens read a brief statement from John Lechmere, Director of Streetscene, Neighbourhoods and Environment, about Chorley Council's intention to support the appointment of additional Police Community Support Officers for deployment in Chorley. An extract from the statement is enclosed below.

“The Council has had initial discussions with Lancashire Police about supporting up to 22 Police Community Support Officers in Chorley, 6 of which will be new recruits and up to 16 recruited from the Councils existing Neighbourhood Warden service. There have been initial discussions on the organisation of this scheme and the Council’s Executive Cabinet will make any decisions about the future of these services when discussions are completed and following consultation.

The Police Community Support Officers supported by Chorley will be deployed and tasked jointly by the Police and the Council and will target the priority crime and nuisance problems agreed by the community in the Community Safety Strategy”.

It was noted that the Junior Neighbourhood Wardens Scheme would continue and the importance of maintaining the excellent relationship built up between the Wardens and the children in the area.

14. KEY ISSUES FOR CLAYTON-LE-WOODS NORTH - OPEN DISCUSSION

The Chair explained that a period of 30 minutes had been allocated to allow local residents to raise questions and express views on any matters relating to the provision of local services. Question cards were available to enable residents to document their questions and views.

Officers and Partner representatives responded directly to queries and issues where possible. Where this was not possible the details were noted and a written response was be sent to the resident.

The following list summarises the issues and questions that were raised directly or via question cards at the meeting:

- Targeting hotspots by the Police
- Police visiting schools and youth centres
- Positioning of the bus stop and shelter on Great Greens Lane
- Selfish parking
- Litter and monitoring of CCTV
- Local NHS dentists
- Bin cleaning

15. CHORLEY COMMUNITY AGENDA

(a) Chorley Borough Council Issues

No issues were raised by the Borough Council.

(b) Lancashire County Council Issues

County Councillor Livesey highlighted a Youth Opportunity Fund. Young people could apply for funding for various activities. Contact details for further information were..... A figure of was available for the Lancashire area. (Cindy – have you got the details for this – I didn’t get them all down)

(c) Clayton-Le-Woods Parish Council Issues

No issues were raised by the Parish Council.

(d) Lancashire Police Issues

PS Christina Shorrocks advised that Police and Communities Together meetings (PACT), were held every month in every area of the County. Police attended Parish Council meetings on a regular basis.

The aim of the PACT meetings was to enable local residents to drive policing priorities in their area. The PACT Panel decided after each meeting which would be the 3 policing priorities that month and report back the following month.

There was a need to identify any groups of people who PACT did not currently reach and take PACT to them. There were examples of successful Junior PACT.

There were a number of initiatives in the area, including Operation Control targeting violent, anti-social behaviour and criminal damage. The Fire service and local Councillors were involved in the initiative.

Operation Cable targeted violent, anti-social behaviour and criminal damage. Hotspots were targeted and underage persons would be sent into off licenses. Operation Bright Sparks was a multi-agency operation related to firework nuisance, criminal damage, Halloween and bonfire night.

The Forum noted the success of the operations and thanked the Police for their work.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Jean Cronshaw reported that the Borough now had an Older Peoples Forum. The Forum would be launched on 28 November in the Lancastrian Room, Town Hall commencing at 1.00 pm. The first issue to be discussed would be transport. The meetings would be held every two months.

The Chair congratulated the people involved in this initiative.

17. FEEDBACK ON THE AREA FORUM PILOT SCHEME

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance at the meeting and explained that the Council would write to all the attendees of the three pilot scheme areas to ask for feedback on the scheme.

The Council's Area Forum Working Group would meet to discuss the feedback in November and to make a recommendation to the Executive Cabinet and Council on the way forward for Area Forums in Chorley.

Chair