

Allestree Neighbourhood Board Meeting

Wednesday 16 January 2008

Present:

Phillip Hickson	Allestree Councillor (CHAIR)
Mike Bickmore	Woodlands Tennis Club
Sarah Dosunmu	Allestree Neighbourhood Manager
Roy Webb	Allestree Councillor
Helen Watson	Minister, St John's Baptist Church
Sue Seward	COMEG, local resident
Margot Keats	School Governor Portway, local resident
Peter Mitchell	Local Youth Group
Peter Statham	Local Youth Group
Insp. R Keene	Derbyshire Police
Peter Steer	local resident
Anne Morgan	Friends of Markeaton Brook, local resident
Neville Wells	University of Derby
Mike Duckworth	University of Derby

Apologies:

Steve Willoughby	Allestree Councillor
Rod Straw	Allestree Preservation group, local resident
Abena Halliday-Fox	Derby City Council Youth Service
Mike Green	Allestree Neighbourhood Watch Schemes

Items and Actions

	Item	Notes	Actions
1	Welcome, Introduction and Apologies	The Board members introduced themselves to the meeting.	
2	Declarations of Interest	Mike Bickmore declared an interest in the later item as the Board is considering an application from Woodlands Tennis Club.	
3	Minutes of November 28 meeting	The minutes of the meeting were agreed with one amendment. 'Alstonfield Drive' not 'Alton Field Drive'.	
4	Matters arising	Cllr Webb reported that no formal reply has been received from the Cabinet Member Lead for Highways and Transportation. A second request and approach has been made to the cabinet member. The Board agreed that if no satisfactory response was received by the Neighbourhood Forum (30 Jan 2008), a motion would be tabled to council.	
5	Youth Provision	The Board were expecting a presentation from Derby	

		<p>they would like delivered.</p> <p>Former Youth Club Cllr Webb informed the meeting that they will have the opportunity to look at the former youth club building on the Woodlands site and that we should investigate the possibility of opening up the facility, ensuring that we work with the school. Peter Mitchell stated that he has been doing a lot of work in recent months for the wider spectrum of young people. It is not a simple response to have a facility on school premises as this will not necessarily attract the young people we are trying to cater for. He would be interested to see which young people attend a future meeting as it is important to get representations from young people who are not currently involved in any form of youth provision. He suggested drop-in provision would be a good option to enable youth workers to then identify ways young people can become involved in various activities and a positive way forward.</p> <p>Sub-Group. It was stated that it is important to engage in dialogue with young people and youth workers. The Board considered that it would be useful to form a sub-group to push forward the issue. It was noted that liaison with the police would be useful as they have knowledge of young people in the area. PCSOs would be invaluable for this. Inspector Keene said that he would ensure police representation was at the meeting but preferably at the second or third meeting as we do not want to discourage young people from getting involved. Officers could attend in civilian clothing and it was stated that young people do have a good relationship with the police in the area. The Board agreed to establish a sub-group and volunteers were sought.</p> <p>The Board agreed that Cllr Webb, Mike Duckworth, Sue Seward, Peter Mitchell and Peter Statham would be members of the sub-group. A meeting of the sub-group to be convened before the next board meeting.</p>	<p>Cllr Webb (chair) Mike Duckworth Peter Statham Peter Mitchell</p>
6	<p>Police and Community Safety Update</p>	<p>Crime Statistics Inspector Keene provided a summary of crime statistics covering the period from Nov 1 2007 to Jan 15 2008. The stats show that compared to other parts of the city, Allestree is the safest place to live. There were 69 crimes over two and a half months. They</p>	

		<p>were as follows:</p> <p>Two house dwelling burglaries, one attempted burglary. One burglary of a non-domestic premises; One street robbery; Nine assaults; Two thefts from motor vehicles; 3 thefts of vehicles; Two instances of making off without payment; 12 thefts; Five shoplifting offences; 22 incidents of damage to property; 3 arrests for possession of cannabis. Statistics from Markeaton Park were: 2 thefts from person; 3 incidents of damage; 1 common assault. Inspector Keene said there were no particular hot-spots in the Ward but elements of disorder around Blenheim Parade, particularly outside the Chinese Take Away.</p> <p>Cllr Webb asked about the number of assaults and criminal damage as the figures represent an escalation of numbers in the area. Insp Keene responded that we had to factor in the fact that the figures covered the Christmas period where there was increased alcohol consumption. Criminal damage appears to be scattered randomly across the ward. There were no issues relating to licensed premises.</p> <p>Sue asked about an incident that the new PC attended around New Year's Day which may have been associated with a specific party and be alcohol related. Insp Keene agreed to provide feedback on this matter. She then went on to ask if the crime stats from the University campus are included with the stats for Allestree Ward. Insp Keene said they were, and agreed to provide a separate breakdown for future meetings. Sue responded that this would be useful as previously when separate crime stats were produced they triggered a campaign to highlight personal security for students. Mike stated that given students cross Markeaton Park in the dark then they are vulnerable to crime. Neville informed the meeting that the University puts in a lot of effort at the beginning of the year to make students aware of safety issues. Mike reiterated this and stated the University and Student Union organise various community safety and welfare campaigns. Every Wednesday the police attend an Open Forum for students to raise issues, get support etc. Neville stated that the University Security Department records crimes that occur at halls of residences.</p>	
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7	Council Budgets	The summary of Council Budget proposals was circulated. Board members were encouraged to send in comments as the Board will not be responding as a body as this is not the Board's role. A number of	

		<p>queries were raised regarding the budget relating to the bus station and the percentage increase in Council Tax. Members were reminded that the police and fire elements have not been agreed as their budgets have yet to be completed. Members note – the police consultation on budgets event is at the Spot Banqueting Suite on Monday 28 Jan at 7pm. There was a query regarding capital expenditure. Members were directed to the capital expenditure paper on the website.</p> <p>A further query was raised regarding budget savings on frontline youth services. The figures suggest the Council is moving away from youth service provision. In response it was stated that the figure reflects the delivery of youth services by other agencies and organisations such as Youth Enthusiasm. The Council is still committed to delivering youth provision.</p> <p>A query was raised with regard to Neighbourhood Renewal Funding and given the government's reduction in this area whether this will mean the disbanding of boards and forums. In response it was stated that Allestree is unaffected as Neighbourhood Renewal Funding is directed to areas of deprivation in the city such as Sinfin, Normanton, and Arboretum. Peter raised the issue of the reduction in Sport England funding and the potential impact on areas such as Allestree. It was considered that this was not currently an issue.</p> <p>Comments on the Budget to be submitted by February 6.</p>	
8	<p>Neighbourhood Profile and Plan:</p>	<p>Profile</p> <p>In terms of future information the Board agreed that they would like a greater breakdown of information around the provision of care services particularly dementia care. Further information was required on the health profile particularly given the amount of older people in the Ward. Information on day care services and services to enable people to live independently are important elements.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>The Board reviewed the Neighbourhood Plan and agreed to prioritise the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provision of youth services – seek to access funding to increase provision. 2. Use of CCTV around Blenheim Parade and on Allestree Rec for the summer. <p>There is a potential to use fixed or mobile</p>	

		<p>cameras. PC Rainsford a good contact as he is aware of a number of issues in the area. Sarah reported that we could make use of the Derby Homes mobile CCTV and CSP's fixed CCTV. Insp Keene stated that his officers can completed a problem profile for identified areas. It was agreed that Sarah would investigate and report back to a future meeting and seek to secure funds from CSP for this.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. University Parking – a meeting has been arranged for Jan 29 at 4pm at the University of Derby. It was noted that joint work with the university has been very positive and all have been encouraged by the approach taken by the University and Student Union. PC Mick Draycott will attend from the police. 4. Produce a disability profile for Allestree. The profile will need to identify the nature of disability, support needs, age profile. The Board will then analyse the data. This is an important area given the high proportion of older persons in the Ward and will be a valuable and useful piece of work. It was agreed that Sarah will start to collate the data. 5. Communication – the Board discussed means of improving communication in the Ward. Sue informed the meeting that Community Matters is produced three times a year and this could be used to publicise the work of the Forum and Board. The publication previously included notes from Police Liaison Group meetings and that a report from Neighbourhood Forum and Board meetings could potentially be included in future issues. It was agreed that Sarah would pass dates of future meetings to Sue and her contact details. It was also agreed to publicise Forum meetings in the Allestree Little Book. Sue stated that the costs for the publication are covered by a grant from the police and a request will shortly be submitted to Insp Keene. It was agreed that the Board could potentially fill any shortfall. 	
9	Community Budget	<p>The application form was circulated to all members. Only one application received to date from Woodlands Tennis Club. The Board were asked to determine the priorities for the funding. These were agreed as follows:</p> <p>The Board discussed the application from Woodlands</p>	

		Tennis Club and agreed in principle to award £800 subject to ratification at the Forum.	
10	Section 106 Funding	A query was raised our contribution of £14,000 to the Darley Park Visitor Centre from Allestree Section 106 Funding. Previously funds had been clawed back from Allestree Ward by Darley and members asked for clarification as to whether this funding could be clawed back from Darley's Section 106 Funds. It was agreed that Sarah would investigate and report back.	
11	Any Other Business	<p>Markeaton Park toilets</p> <p>Councillors have received communication with regard to a plan to demolish the toilets at Markeaton Park at the top end of the car park. The Board agreed that they oppose the plan for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work is currently taking place to try and expand the use of the car park to ease the problems of on-street parking by those using the University. Therefore this facility will be required. 2. It is on the route of busy road intersections therefore requiring a facility. 3. Given the large scale of public events held on the Park it would be unwise to demolish the toilets. 4. This is not the best solution to deal with the problem of vandalism of the toilets. 5. Funds have been spent previously to improve the toilets so demolition would represent a waste of resources. <p>It was stated that one of the solutions was for the toilets to be manned. It was stated that unfortunately the facility attracts some undesirable activity. Mike stated that there had been problems of students being approached in the park and that there needs to be some form of staffing to dissuade the activity. Insp Keene said that it is anti-social behaviour around the toilets in the park that has led to the closure of the toilets. It is a sensitive issue and the area is widely publicised as a place to meet. It was noted that consultation is needed with gay and lesbian groups on this matter.</p>	
20	Date and Time of Next Meeting	Cllr Hickson closed the meeting and reminded members of the forthcoming Allestree Forum meeting on January 30 at Lawn Primary School, starting at 7pm.	