



**charnwoodtogether**  
making life better

**PEOPLE AND PLACES DELIVERY GROUP  
15TH JULY 2010**

**PRESENT:** Councillor M. Preston (Chair)  
N. Lambert (Vice - chair) (Voluntary Action Charnwood)  
L. Aston (Charnwood Neighbourhood Housing)  
C. Bagley (Leicestershire County Council)  
V. Graham (Charnwood Borough Council)  
T. Kiernan (Charnwood Borough Council)  
Inspector T. McCabe (Leicestershire Constabulary)  
H. Miah (Charnwood Borough Council)  
H. Smith (Charnwood Borough Council)  
Inspector D. Southall (Leicestershire Constabulary)

**APOLOGIES:** R. Downing, M. Madhani and A. Russell

**I. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the People and Places Delivery Group held on 20th May 2010 were agreed, subject to the correction of spelling of INSPIRE in minute 10 – Leicestershire County Council Update report.

**2. NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT (TOWNS AND VILLAGES)**

A report detailing issues and activities across the South of the Borough, arising from Neighbourhood Management meetings and work in the area was submitted.

T. Kiernan and V. Graham made reference to the report, highlighting the following points:

- A positive meeting had been held at the Sorrel Youth Café, attended by H. Clarke, P. Bird, T. Kiernan and representatives of the Youth Café. The project was progressing.

- H. Clarke and C. Walker attended a meeting on 14th July 2010 to consider joint working and meetings between Churchill Area Residents and Tenants Association (CHARTAR) and the Churchill Road Residents Group, providing joint support for events and activities.
- A large number of residents were involved in the Thurmaston Environmental Action Day, held on 21st June 2010. Officers considered that was due to successful promotion of the event. Because of regular litter picks the only area of concern was the paths leading to Watermead Country Park.
- Since the introduction of the SERCO contract all areas in which officers were involved had improved, with fewer complaints received.

**AGREED** that the information be noted.

### 3. NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT (LOUGHBOROUGH)

A report detailing issues and activities across Loughborough, arising from regular Neighbourhood Management meetings and work in the area was submitted.

T. Kiernan made reference to the report, highlighting the following points:

- The Warwick Way Action Group (WWAG) was working well.
- Confirmation had been received of an official visit by Nicky Morgan MP to the Warwick Way and Marios Tinenti Centres on 8th October 2010.
- Co-ordinated by Voluntary Action Charnwood, the Warwick Way Community House and the Marios Tinenti Centre were looking to work together to form a single group for sustainable funding.
- At the Marios Tinenti Centre Management meeting on Tuesday, 13th July 2010, it was reported that over 200 hundred people had visited the centre since the previous management meeting, with 100+ enquiries for Charnwood Neighbourhood Housing and Council Services.
- The University had supported both centres through its Community Donation Fund.
- Shelthorpe was the only Priority Neighbourhood in Loughborough with no meeting space. Officers were working with Charnwood Neighbourhood Housing and other providers to address that matter.

The following issues were raised and comments made by members of the Group:

- (i) Councillor Preston and Councillor Snartt would be invited to the MPs visit to the area on 8th October 2010.

- (ii) The Shelthorpe area was a greater issue for the Police than Russell Street. There was a group causing severe problems in the area and actions to address the situation required a co-ordinated approach.
- (iii) Nicky Morgan MP had reported the successful Rag organised by the Loughborough Students' Union at Prime Ministers Question Time on 14th July 2010.

**AGREED** that the information be noted.

#### 4. CHARNWOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSING

A verbal report detailing issues impacting on community engagement/involvement was given by L. Aston, Interim Housing Director, as follows:

- CNH had successfully appointed a permanent Housing Director, who would take up post during October 2010.
- The new Tenancy agreement had been signed off and a Notice of Variation sent to all existing residents. All associated leaflets had been updated.
- The Housing Services Structure had been officially launched this week. There was an additional Tenancy Support Officer, and an additional Money Management Officer. The existing Participation Manager and Officer were being replaced with a Customer Engagement Manager and Officer. There were also two additional posts, a dedicated Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator and a Lettings Co-ordinator, which would free up the six new housing Officers to work on the estates and be totally accountable for their areas. A copy of the structure chart was available.

The majority of officers would be applying for their own jobs during the next few weeks.

- CNH was involved with the filming of two DVDs. One in association with the Local Government Association focussing on the town centre and one funded by the Community Safety Partnership dealing with complaints in respect of anti-social behaviour.
- CNH was working in partnership with the Council to promote the 'Wild Card' scheme and jointly had successfully bid to provide a free Wild Card for all CNH children.
- As part of a large multi-agency approach CNH was working with the Police and the Council to promote a Football Tournament as part of its summer diversionary Projects.

In response to questions, L. Aston stated that:

- (a) In respect of the proposed Housing Services Structure, the 30 day consultation period had ended, with expressions of interest received. Initially the jobs would be ringfenced, and officers expected 80% of the jobs be finalised within the next month, however, the process would be delayed should there be a need to advertise externally.
- (b) Housing Needs would remain the responsibility of the Council.

### Football Tournament

Further reference was made to the Football Tournament which would be a multi-agency event for 11 to 19 year olds. V. Graham stated that there would be two weekly training sessions in Priority Neighbourhood areas taken by professional coaches. Those attending both sessions would be included in a draw for £500 JJB Sports voucher.

Officers would be writing to 200+ young people/their parents or guardians, who were on the Sentinel system from the Priority Neighbourhoods and officers would have cards to distribute to appropriate young people to encourage attendance.

The finals of the Tournament would be held on 21st July 2010, at Soar Valley Leisure Centre, with the Fire Service providing transport to the venue. Partners were being invited to provide teams to play the 16 – 19 year olds.

The whole event would cost £2,000 and that money had been provided by BCU and ASB funding.

Details of the event had been finalised on 14th July 2010, a timetable would be circulated to partners shortly.

In response to issues raised and questions, officers stated

- (a) to include footage of the event on a future DVD would require parental consent, a request for which could be included on the consent form. However, there would be a cost involved.
- (b) Officers would be meeting with representatives of the Police PR and Caroline Richardson (CBC/NWL Communications) to consider the publicity of good news stories.

Councillor Preston stated that officers should speak with him after the meeting in respect of funding to publicise the Football Tournament.

### **AGREED**

- I. that the information be noted;

2. that a copy of the proposed Housing Services Structure be circulated to members of the Group.

## 5. LOUGHBOROUGH LPU

A report detailing hotspot areas arising from meetings of the JAG, together with information in respect of CCTV issues was submitted.

T. McCabe and T. Kiernan made reference to the following issues:

- The positive performance figures for the previous year had continued, with percentage reductions in crime figures. There was a need to promote Loughborough as a safe town.
- The JAG had raised no major issues. Concerns continued in respect of the Passion Youth Centre in Shepshed, with officers meeting to look for a way forward. At a meeting with Councillor Radford concerns were raised in respect of capital funding for CCTV in the area.
- Other Town and Parish Councils had invested heavily in CCTV for its areas and it would be difficult for the Council to support new proposals without being viewed as favouring those Town or Parish Councils.
- There were parallels between areas of concern around the Passions Youth Centre in Shepshed and the Sorrel Youth Café in Mountsorrel.

In response to issues raised and questions, Officers stated:

- (a) It cost the Council £250 a year to monitor CCTV 24/7. Some Parishes monitored their own system, however, there were legal requirements to be met in order to do so.
- (b) The Parish Councils referred to in the report had funded its own CCTV installation costs and monitoring, with the exception of Syston Town Council, who were operating under a previous arrangement.
- (c) In respect of Shepshed, the Town Council was pushing for the Conservative led administration to fund its CCTV as they believed this had been stated in its manifesto.

### **AGREED**

1. that the work led by police with regard to providing reassurance to residents in Shepshed be noted;
2. that the ongoing partnership work with regard to anti-social behaviour issues around the Bullring in Shepshed be noted;

3. that officers approach Shepshed Town Council to further consider the purchase of CCTV cameras.

## 6. CHARNWOOD LPU

A report detailing crime figures and statistics was submitted.

D. Southall made reference to the report, highlighting the following points:

- There had been a positive start to the year, with crime figures down.
- There was an expectation that there would be an increase in ASB reported crime, due to increased monitoring and better reporting systems.
- ASB interventions were well imbedded with the Council and the first CRASBO had been issued in the area.
- Thurmaston and Birstall Action Plans were ongoing.
- In respect of reported 'car cruising' in East Goscote, measures were being implemented to address the matter.
- Officers were supporting the Sorrel Youth Café.

In response to issues raised and questions, D. Southall and T. McCabe stated:

- (a) Following the success of achieving targets last year, the targets for 2010/11 were challenging. Initially those targets were being met through the traffic light system and using intelligence received to monitor those the police considered to be a threat.
- (b) Neighbourhood Management had introduced a tier approach to criminals, using Neighbourhood Management Sergeants, integrated offender management and multi-agency working.
- (c) Following the Pilkington case, officers considered that dealing with victims in isolation left them vulnerable, however, the situation improved with an integrated approach.
- (d) There was a 44% detection rate with Neighbourhood Management, the result of smarter working practices and partnership working. That had been evidenced in the Highfields area of Leicester, where the police were sharing accommodation with the Council's Housing Officers successfully. Such work was more difficult in rural areas.

## Crime Figures

The Group expanded the discussion to consider crime figures and how best to publicise successes.

- The Crime figures were published in the Police Newsletter. In other areas such information was published on bus shelters to ensure the message reached local residents.
- In response to a proposition by the Chair, T. Kiernan stated that the Community Safety Partnership could investigate the possibility of advertising crime figures on the side panels of the SERCO waste collection vehicles, to publicise the success around the Borough.
- Successes could be promoted at the ASB Road Shows to encourage communities to act, as had been witnessed in the Peel Drive area.
- Consideration should be given to influencing the new Chief Constable and Chief Officer Group, together with the Police Authority and MPs.
- Consideration should be widened from publicity. The successes were that of co-operation of partners, doing the right thing and ensuring investment was made in the County to prevent ASB.
- The use of the posters 'You Have the Right not to Remain Silent' were used to promote and encourage people to report incidents.
- With the threat of the cessation of Area Forums and Government cuts it would be important to have evidence of what was working well with, where possible, resources available. Inter agency working could provide the opportunity for sustainability.

## **AGREED**

1. that the information be noted;
2. that the Community Safety Partnership be requested to consider the possibility of displaying crime figures on the side panels of the SERCO waste collection vehicles in the Borough.

## 7. PREVENTION OF VIOLENT EXTREMISM

A report detailing programme preparation and delivery of the Prevent Violent Extremism agenda was submitted.

H. Miah made reference to the submitted report and highlighted the following issues:

- Arrangements were being made for members of the Reference Group to visit Tower Hamlet in London on 21st July 2010, to provide a flavour of how prevent was being delivered in a similar Muslim community in London and to witness how an East London Mosque responded to terrorist related issues.
- Following incidents around Ramadan last year, officers were meeting with representatives of Rendell Street Mosque to discuss support and commitment for that period this year.
- Female workers had been appointed to work with the South Asian Women's Project.
- Level 1 training sessions had been successfully completed. Level 2 training was ongoing.

The following issues were raised and comments made by members of the Group:

- (i) The Prevent work had commenced prior to funding being received. That had resulted in integrated work with the Police and links made with Leicester City Council.
- (ii) Officers were looking at countywide links with other District Councils, Muslim Leaders and members of other Councils.
- (iii) Working closely with the local Mosques, officers were able to tackle misinformation that had been circulated.
- (iv) Reference was made to NI35 and self assessment being at level 3. With Prevent funding it was hoped that progress be made towards level 5. There was a fragile situation, with a one year window of funding, after which communities would still require support but there would be no new funding – therefore it was important that an exit strategy be built into all projects.

**AGREED** that the information be noted.

## 8. LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

A report detailing issues relating to Leicestershire County Council was submitted.

C. Bagley made reference to the submitted report and highlighted the following issues:

- The latest round of Area Forums had been completed.
- LCC officers were supporting H. Fish's team from the Rural Community Council with its work in Shepshed. Work was ongoing with Hind Leys Community College to ensure its complex and swimming pool was accessible to the public.

- C. Bagley had attended the Ward Walk with Councillor Radford in Shepshed. The Highways Department was looking at the possibility of extending the pavement outside the Passion Youth Club. C. Bagley offered support with this matter.
- In respect of the Better Places Community Plus budget, the reductions would affect a number of Community Centres within the Charnwood area. As would the reduction in the Youth Services budget. All of the Community Centres had been advised of the situation by Mike Thompson at LCC, who would be available to offer them support.

The following issues were raised and comments made by members of the Group:

- (i) It was of concern that the budget cuts would affect Community Centres in Priority Neighbourhoods.
- (ii) The cuts to Community Centres in Priority Neighbourhoods would have an impact on the communities officers were working with.
- (iii) The Sure Start Centres would also be affected.
- (iv) The Shree Ram Centre would lose its Under 8s funding, together with funds from other areas.

In response to issues raised and questions, the Chair requested officers submit details to him for further consideration with LCC.

## **AGREED**

1. that the information be noted;
2. that C. Bagley be requested to assist with the proposal to extend the pavement outside Passion Youth Club in Shepshed;
3. that officers invite M. Thompson to discuss issues surrounding the cuts to Community Centres at a strategic level;
4. that officers submit further details to Councillor Preston in respect of issues arising from the budget cuts to Community Centres.

## 9. YOUR HEALTH MATTERS

### Well Families Clinics

A verbal report providing information in respect of Well Families Clinics was given by V. Graham. She reported that two Clinics had recently been held, the Sure Start Centre at Shelthorpe and at Gorse Covert Community Centre. Information had been available in respect of diet, smoking cessation and Environmental Health

officers had been in attendance. At Gorse Covert a situation had been successfully dealt with in respect of a vulnerable adult, who would not have received support elsewhere. H. Smith stated that at the end of July 2010 officers would revisit those residents who had concerns in respect of cholesterol readings to recheck and offer support.

The next Clinic would be held in September 2010 at the King Street Mosque, specifically for men to address issues relating to diet and smoking.

There were outstanding issues in respect of engagement and support from the PCT, there appeared to be a lack of communication between the commissioning service and ground level commitment, however, that matter was being addressed. It was of concern that there were a number of residents were not registered with a GP and chose to use the Walk-in Centre or Emergency and Accident facilities instead.

#### Ward Walks/Neighbourhood Walks

A report in respect of Ward Walks, advising a change in name to Neighbourhood Walks was submitted for the information of the Group. An Annual Plan would be available for the next meeting of the Group.

V. Graham made reference to the submitted report and highlighted the following issues:

- The Neighbourhood Walks would reduce duplication with partner agencies.
- Future Walks would include, where appropriate, Beat Surgeries.
- Priority Neighbourhoods would be the main focus for the Council but other areas with social or ASB issues would also be addressed.
- N. Rein would co-ordinate the Walks to ensure partners were kept informed.
- Drop in Sessions would continue as part of the Ward Walks, with CNH support.

**AGREED** that the information be noted.

#### 10. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Dates for the 2010/11 Council Year had been agreed as follows:

16th September 2010  
18th November 2010  
20th January 2011  
17th March 2011  
19th May 2011

**AGREED** that the dates for future meetings of the Group be noted.