

Neighbourhood Action Group

Crown Wood and Forest Park

29 January 2008

Priority

1 – Environmental Matters (BFBC Medium Term Objective Priority 2)

Attendance

Brian Bell (Resident), Ian Boswell (BFBC), Rebecca Brunel-Walker (Winkfield Parish Council), Roberta Kaye (Winkfield Parish Council), Cllr Robert Osborne (BFBC), PCSO Matt Wright

Apologies

Cllr Marc Brunel-Walker (BFBC), PC Terry McKean, Anne Whickham (Co-Op Food Stores)

Dates of Future NAG

To be confirmed

Dates of Future Neighbourhood Forums

To be confirmed

Local Publications

Name:	Next publication deadline:	Contact:
Town and Country	July edition – Article deadline 25 th April	Ben Funning – Communications Officer ben.funning@bracknell-forest.gov.uk
Winkfield Parish Council Newsletter		Winkfield Parish Council

1. Notes of Previous Meeting

Priority Selection

Analysis of the questionnaire returns had shown that concerns about youths in Micheldever Way had originated from a single unsigned letter written on behalf of an unspecified number of people and related to children using the grassed area at the end of the road to play games on. The majority of returns raising the problem of young people hanging around referred to young people congregating around shopping parades and parks. CADIS data for the Crown Wood and Forest Park areas showed 1 report of anti-social behaviour in Micheldever Way for the period September to December 2007; the highest incidents of anti-social behaviour occurred in Nettlecombe, Bere Road and Crown Row with 17, 10 and 10 reported incidents respectively for the same three month period.

Two youth cafes had now opened; the first in the Refresh Coffee Shop at Crown Wood Primary School was open on Fridays and the second in Forest Park Community centre was open on Tuesdays. It was agreed that the parish magazine and website would be used to publicise places for young people to gather and the use of the two youth cafes would be monitored and concerns about youths revisited in six months time.

2. NAG Chairs Meeting

The meeting of the NAG Chairs held on 17 January 2008 had focused on the main issues surrounding speeding and parking in the Borough and had detailed the various approaches that could be taken to tackle these areas of concern. Each chairman had been asked to provide details of the main concerns in their neighbourhood and these would be mapped against a range of potential solutions by the Borough Council's Highways Section and would be looked at during future Chairs' meetings. It had been stressed that evidence would be required before any actions could be considered and that the NAGs would be a link in this process. In addition ideas about how a problem might be tackled would be welcomed

It was agreed that Rebecca Brunel-Walker would attend future Chairs meetings until a permanent chair could be identified.

Action: Rebecca Brunel-Walker

3. Priorities Update

Environmental Matters

It was reported that a significant volume of fly-tipping was taking place on the roads leading down into Savernake Park and in Savernake Way in particular. It was also reported that there was a large amount of rubbish being dumped into the waterways leading to the lake and concern was expressed that the closure of Longshot Lane Amenity Site for refurbishment in March would also give rise to increased levels of fly-tipping.

Although Thames Water was responsible for keeping the lake clear any fly-tipping should be reported to the Borough Council for removal.

Action: All

It was agreed that any Environmental Visual Audits carried out would need to involve the Police and both the Borough and Parish Councils.

It was agreed that a clean up of the area would be arranged to take place in the next couple of months in Savernake Park and the surrounding area and Thames Water would be approached for assistance with clearing up Savernake Pond. **Action: Rebecca Brunel-Walker**

The Borough Council had a supply of graffiti removal kits and litter picking equipment that could be loaned to individuals and groups and the contact details of the person responsible for these supplies would be forwarded. **Action: Katharine Simpson**

Parking

It was felt that attempting to solve the parking situation in the neighbourhood would be an almost impossible task because the lack of driveways and off-road parking provision meant that vehicles would always be parked on the roads and it was agreed that the most effective way forward would be to educate people about who had responsibility for illegal and inconsiderate parking and provide advice about the steps that could be taken to help minimise problems.

Speeding

Speeding along Opladen Way, from Sainsburys toward Harmanwater, continued to be a concern. The majority of concerns related to vehicles coming off the dual carriage way and drivers being unaware that they were entering a 30mph speed limit. It was also felt that the chicanes were in the wrong location and did little to slow traffic down.

The possibility of painting roundels on the road or installing VAS equipment was raised however it was agreed that it would be essential to know whether speeding was a significant problem or if people's concerns were due to a perception of speeding and that carrying out speedwatch would be a useful first step and an article asking for volunteers would be written for inclusion in Town and country and Parish newsletters. Details of the accident rate in Opladen Way would be brought to the next meeting.

Action: Ian Boswell

4. Any Other Business

Vandalism of Vehicles

There had been a spate of vandalism to vehicles parked on Dryden Way and it was thought to be caused by customers leaving the pub in Crown Wood and the possibility of getting the police's mobile CCTV van to patrol the area was suggested.

Vandalism of Bus Stops

It was reported that a number of bus shelters had been vandalised and the NAG were informed that it was a general policy that glass was replaced three times before Perspex was used. Responsibility for replacing panels in bus shelters was split between Adshell and the Parish Council.

Lighting in Savernake Park

A significant number of people walked through Savernake Park to reach the station and concerns had been raised over the lack of lighting along the paths.