



Crowthorne Neighbourhood Action Group

26 February 2009

11.35 am - 12.45 pm

The Kitty Dancy Room, Sandhurst Town Council

Present:

- Ian Boswell, Bracknell Forest Council
- John Baster, Crowthorne Village Action Group
- John Buckle, Crowthorne Village Action Group
- Wendy Crosson-Smith, Wokingham Borough Council
- PCSO Graham Edwards, Thames Valley Police
- PC Alex Hillan, Thames Valley Police
- PCSO Ivana Houska, Thames Valley Police
- EJ Lyne, Crowthorne Village Action Group
- Zarron Phillips, Community Warden, Wokingham Borough Council
- Richard Price, Crowthorne Parish Council
- NSO Amanda Price, Thames Valley Police
- NSO Andrew Roberts, Thames Valley Police
- Angus Ross, Councillor, Wokingham Borough Council
- Peter Sturgess, Wokingham Without Parish Council
- Sgt Graham Thorne, Thames Valley Police
- Julia Tredwell, Wokingham Borough Council
- Councillor Bob Wade, Bracknell Forest Council
- Derek Williams, Chair
- Councillor Michael John Withers, Crowthorne Parish Council

In attendance: Katharine Simpson, Bracknell Forest Council

Apologies:

- Martin Caesar, Churches Together Crowthorne / Crowthorne Baptist Church
- Jane Carpenter, Edgbarrow School
- Carole Doran, Crowthorne Village Action Group
- Councillor Jim Finnie
- John Horner, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator
- Nigel Scarratt, Wokingham Without Area Inspector

Action Points

Minute	Item
1	<p>Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman</p> <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>Derek Williams be elected chairman for 2009 Graham Thorne be elected vice-chairman for 2009</p>

2	<p>Notes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising not on the Agenda</p> <p><u>Greenwood Road Parking</u></p> <p>Wokingham Borough Council was conducting a complete review of the area around Greenwood Road shops and updates would be provided in due course. Local residents would be involved in the review process. It was requested that local borough and parish councillors were kept informed of any developments.</p> <p><u>Consultation Update – Neighbourhood Forum</u></p> <p><i>Bigshot Park Youth Football</i></p> <p>Problems with parking in the vicinity of Bigshot Park were only occurring at certain times and the appropriateness of imposing parking restrictions on the roads was being investigated.</p> <p>Football clubs using the park were reminding players of the need to park considerately and take rubbish away with them however mud being cleaned off boots and left on the pavements was a concern to local residents.</p> <p><u>Easthampstead Road – Old Wokingham Road Junction</u></p> <p>Progress to improve the junction had been problematic due to its location on the boundary between Wokingham and Bracknell Forest Councils. The highways teams of both councils had met to discuss working together on cross-border matters and concerns about the junction would be fed into this process.</p>
3	<p>Police Neighbourhood Updates</p> <p>The Police Neighbourhood updates were noted. The updates were felt to be very informative about the work taking place on both sides of the village and more recent updates were available from Thames Valley Police’s website.</p>
4	<p>Local Intelligence</p> <p><u>Neighbourhood Questionnaire</u></p> <p>The headline results of a questionnaire, distributed to every household in the Borough, asking people to identify what they considered to be the main concerns for their neighbourhood were circulated. Overall 1,380 responses had been received from across the borough; of which 6 related to matters of concern in Crowthorne.</p> <p>It was unclear why the turnout for Crowthorne had been so low. Other surveys in Crowthorne had also experienced low returns and it had been found that the most effective way of boosting feedback was by visiting people at home and getting them to complete questionnaires there and then.</p>

Arising from the subsequent discussion the following points were noted:

- It was suggested that future surveys were not branded as being council surveys.
- Schools, libraries, police points and other community facilities could be used as distribution and collection points for future questionnaires in order to encourage greater participation.
- Bracknell Forest Council were piloting online forums for three areas. However, these were difficult to find on the Council's website and little used currently.

CADIS Data

CADIS, Bracknell Forest Council's database of anti-social behaviour, showed an overall decrease in the number of reported incidents in Crowthorne in the period April 2008 to January 2009 when compared to the same period in the previous year.

	<u>No of Incidents</u>	
	<u>April 2007 – January 2008</u>	<u>April 2008 – January 2009</u>
Dangerous Driving	66	60
Dumped rubbish and fly tipping	44	65
Harassment	38	37
Noise (including domestic)	58	71
Road Hazard	20	21
Vandalism	150	91
Total	376	345

5

Priority Updates

It was agreed that the title of Priority 2 would be changed from Young People to Anti-Social Behaviour.

The Group considered the priority profiles for Crowthorne and the following points were noted:

Priority Profile: Speeding

- It was preferable that any roads targeted in the Priority profile were suitable for active police speed enforcement i.e. roads needed to have good visibility, and somewhere for the police to park and pull drivers over
- Before the Roads Policing Unit Mobile speed van could be deployed a significant amount of evidence needed to be gathered locally including data from speed indication device and laser gun activities and archers strips
- Although there were limited places to conduct speed enforcement exercises in Nine Mile Ride, speed enforcement work had been carried out. A significant number of drivers had been caught breaking the speed limit and prosecutions would take place.
- The Police's mobile speed camera unit had been in use on Dukes Ride on at least two occasions since the NAG's December meeting and this would

continue for the foreseeable future. It was therefore agreed that Dukes Ride would not be considered a current priority.

- The layout of Bracknell Road made it difficult for the police to use laser speed guns on the road and it was agreed that a request would be made to the Borough Council for Archers Strips to be installed.

Priority Profile: Anti-Social Behaviour

- The trial closure of the Morgan Recreation Ground car park had been successful in reducing levels of anti-social behaviour. A proposal to fit electronic timed gates to the car park would be considered by the Parish Council at their next Full Council meeting.
- Once restrictions were in place at the Morgan Recreation Ground car park the police would be able to remove mini-motor bikes and prosecute their owners if they entered the car park after the gates had closed.
- Churches Together in Crowthorne, in conjunction with the Police, were setting up a youth outreach programme in the Morgan Centre and the Woodley based group, Just Around the Corner, had been invited to carry out training
- Crowthorne Parish Council had a working group which met regularly to monitor the situation at the Morgan Recreation Ground. A representative of Churches Together would be sought to sit on the group and regular progress updates would be given to the NAG.
- Paul Crawte, Assistant Youth Services Manager at the Borough Council, was carrying out youth work at Edgbarrow School
- The possibility of getting local schools involved in helping to plant up and look after the area was being explored.
- There was good communication between the various organisations working to solve the anti-social behaviour problem in the area and this needed to be acknowledged.

Priority Profile: Environmental Matters

- Wokingham Without Parish Council would be employing a litter picker to keep the parish tidy.
- The division of the village was problematic and the two parishes needed to co-ordinate their litter picks
- Crowthorne Parish Council ran monthly litter picks activity targeted at those areas reported to the Parish as being a problem. However, the area that could be covered was limited by the number of people who turned up.
- Wokingham Borough Council were organising a big litter pick on the 26 April and have asked all parishes and NAGs to get involved. A co-ordinator was needed to help organise things in Crowthorne and details would be forwarded to Derek Williams and Peter Sturgess.

(Action: Wendy Crosson-Smith)

- Wokingham Borough Council's Youth Offending Team were involved in graffiti removal and litter picks and the possibility of getting Bracknell Forest's Youth Offending Team involved was raised
- Making litter a community problem rather than the responsibility of one particular person or group meant that everyone did their bit to keep the village clean.
- Schools carried out a lot of work with their pupils to educate them about the need to keep the environment clean however this was not always translated into action outside the school.

	<p>The Neighbourhood Priority Profiles would be updated to reflect the Group's discussions then circulated to the Police for additional comment.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Action: Derek Williams/TVP)</p>
6	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p><u>Ravenswood Avenue</u></p> <p>Ravenswood Avenue was jointly owned by the Parish and Borough councils. A disagreement between the Councils and the developer meant that work to bring the road up to an adoptable standard had been delayed.</p> <p><u>Post Office Closure</u></p> <p>Wokingham Without parish Council would be meeting with Post Office representatives on 3 March 2009 to discuss the closure of the Royal Mail Sorting and Delivery Office in King's Road.</p> <p><u>Burglaries</u></p> <p>There had been a rise in the number of burglaries in the Wokingham Without area, particularly in Ellis Road and Greenwood Road. The Police had a number of operations in place to tackle the problem and educate residents about the need to be vigilant.</p>
7	<p>Dates of Future Meetings</p> <p>It was noted that the next meeting of Crowthorne Neighbourhood Action Group would take place on Tuesday 26 May 2009 at 10.30am at St Sebastian's Memorial Hall.</p>

This page is intentionally left blank