

Neighbourhood Action Group

Crowthorne

19 December 2007

Priority

- 1 – *Speeding (BFBC Medium Term Objective Priorities 3 & 4)*
- 2 – *Youths (BFBC Medium Term Objective Priorities 3 & 4)*
- 3 – *Environmental matters (BFBC Medium Term Objective Priority 2)*

Attendance

PCSO Jaz Arindell-Carty, Rvd Martin Caesar (Churches Together Crowthorne), Fiona Heston (BFBC), PCSO Ivana Houska-Mitchell, Joan Newland (Crowthorne Parish Council), NSO Amanda Price, Cllr Angus Ross (Crowthorne Parish Council), Sgt Graham Thorne, Cllr Sue Thompson (Crowthorne Parish Council), Cllr Bob Wade (BFBC),

Apologies

Dates of Future NAG (Closed Meeting)

13 February 2008, 10.30am The Spot, Sandhurst

Dates of Future Neighbourhood Forums

To be confirmed

Local Publications

Name:	Next publication deadline:	Contact:
Town and Country	March edition – Article deadline 4 th January July edition – Article deadline 25 th April	Ben Funning – Communications Officer ben.funning@bracknell-forest.gov.uk
Crowthorne Eye	Deadlines 13 January, 15 April, 15 July, 16 October	Bob Wade bob.wade@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

1. Results of Consultation

The results of a questionnaire distributed to every household in the Borough asking people to identify the top three priorities for their neighbourhood were circulated. Overall 1576 response had been received from across the borough; of which 103 related to matters of concern in Crowthorne. The top five areas of concern were:

<u>Crowthorne</u>		<u>Bracknell Forest Wide</u>	
Speeding	31%	Parking	21%
Youths	19%	Speeding	20%
Litter/Dog Mess/Broken Glass	19%	Litter/Dog Mess/Broken Glass	15%
Parking	16%	Youths	11%
Visible Policing	15%	Trees/Hedges/Bushes	8%

2. Selection of Priorities

Speeding

Known hot spots for speeding included Upper and Lower Broadmoor Road, Dukes Ride and Nine Mile Ride and it was agreed that many questionnaire returns related to speeding in these areas rather than the locations given on the returns which were roads in the vicinity of the these roads. It was stressed that many complaints about speeding were based on people's perceptions that vehicles were travelling at higher speeds than they actually were and that more information would be required in order to ascertain how serious the problem was.

It was noted that vehicle activated repeater signs would be installed in Dukes Ride and Nine Mile Ride and the Police would be running speeding operations around the Borough once they had completed refresher training courses. Community speedwatch activities had been carried out on the Wokingham Without side of the village, although these had been temporarily suspended due to concerns about insurance cover for volunteers, and it was agreed that expanding Speedwatch activities across Crowthorne would be a useful initial step to combat people's concerns.

Agreed actions:

- Article on Community Speedwatch to be written for publication in the Crowthorne Eye. **Action: Graham Thorne**
- Consultation returns to be examined for more detailed information. **Action: Katharine Simpson/Amanda Price**
- Speedwatch to be discussed in more detail at the NAG's next meeting. **Action: All**

Youths

It was felt that many of the concerns people had relating to youths were based on people's perceptions of groups of youths and the main problem was the lack of facilities in the area for young people. Churches Together in Crowthorne were working on plans to provide refreshment facilities for young people, possibly at the Morgan Recreation Centre, and identify a permanent venue for them to congregate however finding appropriate facilities was proving problematic. The Borough Council's Youth Service were also investigating the possibility of providing a youth centre however it was stressed that any facilities would need to be located near the village centre for people to use it.

Ivana Houska-Mitchell informed the Group that she was developing a multi-agency programme of summer holiday activities for Edgbarrow School students in Years 7 to 11. The programme had been awarded a grant of £2,000 and work was taking place to secure discounted entry fees at facilities across the Borough in order to obtain maximum benefit from the grant. Volunteers would also be required to drive minibuses and assist with supervision and assistance would be required to ensure that volunteers were all CRB checked

Churches Together in Crowthorne were working on a scheme called Hope 08, a programme which aimed to encourage local churches to get more involved in their local communities during 2008; plans for a Motorcycle Club in the village were well advanced with local business involvement and it was hoped that this would provide people with an opportunity to learn more about a range of issues including motorcycle maintenance and safety.

The Police's Operation Lion Cub had produced significant results in targeting underage drinking and would be continued for the foreseeable future.

Agreed Actions

- Cllr Iain McCracken, Executive Member for Leisure, to be approached for assistance with securing discounts to Council owned facilities.
Action: Ivana Houska-Mitchell
- An article asking for volunteers to be written for inclusion in the Crowthorne Eye. **Action: Ivana Houska-Mitchell**

Environmental Issues

Concerns about litter, broken glass and dog mess were borough wide and a number of activities to address the problem in Crowthorne were underway including:

- The Parish Council had recently organised a litter pick attended by 12 people and were considering holding another one in March 2008.

- The Borough Council's Environment and Leisure Scrutiny Panel had set up a working group which would be investigating litter levels across the Borough, ways to improve cleaning methods and educational activities and their next meeting would take place on 29 January 2008.
- Recycling bins would be installed near Crowthorne Station in the New Year

3. Membership of NAG

It was agreed that their greater representation from local businesses and residents on the NAG and an item about the NAG would be written for the Crowthorne Eye. **Action: Graham Thorne**

The NAG still required a permanent chairman and it was requested that people forward the names of any potential candidates to Graham Thorne. **Action: All**

4. Any Other Business

Terms of Reference

The Terms of reference would be signed and returned to Fiona Heston. **Action: Graham Thorne**

NAG Timing

It was agreed that the time of the next Crowthorne NAG would be moved to 10.30am. **Action: Katharine Simpson**

NAG Venue

It was suggested that Crowthorne Baptist Church be used as a venue for future NAG meetings. **Action: Katharine Simpson**