

Ely Neighbourhood Panel

Tuesday 12th March 2013 Council Chamber
East Cambridgeshire District Council, Ely

PRESENT

Cllr Nigel Clarke	City of Ely Council
Cllr Philip Eden	City of Ely Council
Cllr Elisabeth Every	City of Ely Council
Cllr Elaine Griffin-Singh	City of Ely Council
Cllr Christine Jones	City of Ely Council
Cllr Shirley Overall	City of Ely Council
Cllr Lindsay Harris	East Cambridgeshire District Council
Cllr Richard Hobbs	East Cambridgeshire District Council
Cllr Sue Austen	Cambridgeshire County Council

OFFICERS

John Hill	Chief Executive	East Cambs. District Council
Inspector Paul Ormerod		Cambs. Constabulary
Terry Jordan	Neighbourhood Panel Liaison Officer	Cambs County Council
Allison Conder	Principal Community and Leisure Services Officer	East Cambs. District Council
Adrian Scaites-Stokes	Democratic Services Officer	East Cambs. District Council
Sir Graham Bright	Police & Crime Commissioner	
Anne-Marie Taylor		Care Network

IN ATTENDANCE:

38 members of the public

ENP12/44 Welcome

Cllr Philip Eden, the Panel Chairman, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

ENP12/45 Introductions and Apologies

The Panel Members and supporting officers introduced themselves to the meeting. Apologies were received from Councillors Sheila Friend-Smith MBE and Mike Rouse.

ENP12/46 Chairman's Announcements and Consultation Items

Chairman Councillor Philip Eden asked people to fill in the attendance sheet, including emails and post codes, to enable the database to be kept up to date. Questionnaires had also been distributed and people were asked to complete them as the information was very useful.

The Chairman read out the fire evacuation notice.

The Chairman then highlighted the items currently out for consultation: East Cambridgeshire District Council's Local Plan.

ENP12/47 Update on East Cambs District Council Actions Since Last Meeting

The Panel received a table giving an update on the actions undertaken by East Cambs District Council.

Issue No and Description	Further Comments
The Maltings	A formal report would be made at the next Panel meeting. Negotiations were still ongoing with an established restaurateur and a signing of a contract was close. An announcement would be made on 1 st April.
Magistrate's Court	Things were progressing.

ENP12/48 Update on County Council Actions Since Last Meeting

The Panel received a table giving an update on the actions undertaken by the County Council.

Issue No and Description	Further Comments
Street Lighting, the Barns estate	The replacement works will ensure that the lighting will be adequate. The whole street would be assessed and, although there would be fewer lights, the new lighting would be more efficient with higher lighting levels.
Market Place	The damaged lighting columns had been temporarily replaced. There was no timetable yet for the replacements.
Fly Posting	This had been taken by Councillor John Yates and the town centre team.
Fore Hill Parking	Anyone with a Blue Badge was allowed to park their car there. Such cars could be parked on double-yellow lines provided they did not cause an obstruction. The Police were doing checks on those parking there. The City Council were currently reviewing on-street parking and were considering making a minor highways improvement bid for this area.

ENP12/49 Update on Sanctuary Housing Actions Since Last Meeting

No update on the actions undertaken by Sanctuary Hereward was provided.

ENP12/50 Update on City of Ely Council Actions Since Last Meeting

Councillor Elaine Griffin-Singh gave a verbal update on the action taken by the City Council.

Issue No and Description	Further Comments
On-street Parking	The meeting due 27 th March had been delayed and would be re-arranged within the month.
Off-street Parking Charging	This issue had been dropped.
Maltings Cottage	The lease had been signed. Now surveyors and architects were visiting.
Youth Forum	A website had been launched where groups could publicise activities for the youth. This had been kicked off at an event at the Paradise Centre.
Closed Circuit Television	The City Council would be having a stall on the Saturday market, 6 th April, to promote the CCTV scheme and to seek more volunteers.

ENP12/51 Update on Police Actions Since Last Meeting

The Panel received a table giving an update on the actions undertaken by the Police. Priorities from the last Panel meeting were: 1) obstructive and inappropriate parking and 2) speeding.

Issue No and Description	Further Comments
Obstructive and inappropriate parking	PCSOs and Police officers had undertaken frequent patrols, resulting in a number of tickets being issued.
Fore Hill	Checks had been done on cars parked on Fore Hill to ensure they were Blue Badge holders. 2 vehicles had been found to have parked illegally. A joined-up multi-agency approach would be needed to address this issue.
Speeding/SpeedWatch	Not much work had been done on this, due to officers being deployed on an ongoing operation. The camera unit could be used to do survey work in specific areas. A SpeedWatch voluntary group had been set up in Queen Adelaide.
Anti-Social Cycling	PCSOs had been out in various areas but had found no instances of anti-social cycling and had received no complaints about it.
Foot Patrols	Additional funding had been found for foot patrols over the Christmas period, as visible presence was wanted. If possible, further foot patrols could be undertaken during peak times, such as market days.
Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour	This year's figures for reported crime/anti-social behaviour were all below the previous two years. The January 2013 figures were the lowest since the introduction of the new reporting system.
Performance	Across the district burglaries were up but not in Ely. East Cambridgeshire was showing the biggest crime reduction within the Constabulary's area. There were a number of reasons for this reduction: a new approach, working with other agencies, supporting offenders to prevent re-offending, CCTV.

Inspector Ormerod replied to a number of public questions by stating:

- Officers were around the city on Friday and Saturday nights so any problems in St Marys Street should have been covered. This would be looked into.
- A police operation had been held outside Ely police station to tackle the problem of drivers using mobile phones. 49 drivers were caught within 4 hours. This could be done again.
- The Police could do as much speed enforcement as was wanted and had the resources to look at parking issues.

ENP12/52 Audience Issues

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>ISSUE OF CONCERN</u>	<u>LEAD AGENCY/OFFICER</u>
Market place lighting columns	When will they be replaced? What is the timetable?	CCC
Maltings	News on the restaurant provider when available	Darren Dixon
Flyposting	Can this be picked up by John Yates town centres team?	COEC (and through Environmental Action Day –

		ECDC)
St Mary's Street	Clarification of licensing requirements for the new hotel	ECDC – Env services
Panel Area	Mobile phones being used while driving (no location given)	Police
St Johns Road – One Stop	Illegal parking outside 'One Stop' shop	Police
Railway station roundabout	Drivers indicating incorrectly, dangerous for cyclists	Police
Bypass	Will there be speed restrictions on the new bypass	CCC
	Parking on both sides of road Deacons Lane (paradise centre) and New Barnes Avenue.	Police
	Rubbish Angel Drove car park	Tracey Harding/ Dave White
High Street	Alignment of parking cars on high street dangerous	Police
Lisle lane	Speeding and ugly Aldi sign	Police
	Signage in car parks is confusing can it be improved?	ECDC – Tracey Harding
Cam drive	Speeding Cam Drive near schools 7-10am between Stour Green Rd and Downham road	Police
	Skateboarding Market Square – advice to young people from PCSO's.	Police
Residential Streets near station	Streets near station with commuters parking – Can this be a priority now that charging dropped?	COEC street parking review team
High street	TRO Saturdays – bring into on street parking review? Offence if you move not if you park	COEC
Stour Green	No parking restrictions and offences being committed (obstruction?)	Police
Fore Hill	Blue badges but can they only park on one side?	CCC and fed into COEC parking review
Stour Green to The lantern	Stopped cutting round trees but led to a lot of dog fouling and concern about welfare of children	ECDC Open spaces team?
New Barnes Road & Beech Lane	Monitoring of erratic driving, speeding ignoring road markings. 20 mph considered?	Police and feed into COEC review
New Barnes	Hedging on narrow pathways overgrown to Kings Avenue	CCC
St Marys school	Parking in neighbouring streets on grass etc at anytime	Police
St Marys surgery	Parking issues	Police
New Barnes allotments	Golf balls on allotments	COEC
Lisle Lane	Delivery lorries Travis Perkins parking on road	Police
Lynn Road	Road surfaces dangerous for cyclists – Lynn road	CCC
	101 not easy to get through, waiting too long and needs better staffing	Police
West Fen road junctions	Needs looking at from Downham Road onto West Fen Road	CCC
	Cycling – out routes from Ely for cycling. Joined up thinking needed	CCC
Lisle Lane	Ban parking all together with cycle track on one side	COEC on street parking review
Prickwillow	More HGV's going through – why? Are there works somewhere?	CCC

POLICING PRIORITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antisocial parking and speeding at various locations as specified above. 	
OTHER PRIORITIES		

ENP12/53 Police & Crime Commissioner's Priorities

Sir Graham Bright thought that Cambridgeshire Constabulary were an excellent police force, as demonstrated by crime rates falling. However, to make it more accountable he had re-located his office to Cambourne. As he had replaced a committee of 17 people, decisions could be made quickly.

A number of priorities had been set out in the Police and crime Plan. This was not set in stone and would need to be reviewed regularly. One priority was to maintain front line services and get extra resources. He was keen to get more Special Constables, targeting 350. Specials provided a fantastic service in assisting the Police. It would take a big effort to get more people for this and other companies would be urged to introduce a scheme similar to Sainsburys, who encouraged staff to become Specials.

Voluntary organisations would be involved to work in the community. Joined up working with the National Health Service would be undertaken to help deal with mentally-ill patients, as this was not the Police's job. The Neighbourhood Watch scheme would be helped by the introduction of the 'Alert' computer software system. The 101 telephone help line had been a problem but now a target of answering call within 30 seconds had been set. This was a new system and was now working.

The Chief Constable would be supported through more technology and officers on the beat would be able to access management information. This would revolutionise the way they worked and would help keep the Police in the community.

The whole of all these measures was to ensure a safer Cambridgeshire. To assist this, the Police and public needed to get better connected. An outreach worker had been appointed to work in Peterborough and Fenland to help keep in touch with parish councils, voluntary organisations and schools.

The Commissioner was not responsible for the operation of the Police force but for monitoring its performance. The Police have been very co-operative with this.

In answer to public questions, the Commissioner stated:

- Any anti-social behaviour on the roads had to be dealt with.
- Plans were being made to make things safer for cyclists.

ENP12/54 Community Navigators

Anne-Marie Taylor explained that this project was funded for 3 years by the County Council. It offered practical help to people in need. The Community Navigators helped keep isolated people happy, healthy and in their own homes. They targeted social isolation and aimed to help overcome the barriers these people faced and help plan for their futures.

Offices had been set up in Hardwick but there were branches everywhere. The service worked with partner organisations and navigated people to other services. There would be a big launch of the service mid-May.

ENP12/55 Panel Prioritisation

The Chief Executive of East Cambridgeshire District Council summarised the various issues brought up during the Audience Issues discussions.

Updated information wanted on:

- A timetable for replacing the lights on the Market Place.
- The Maltings restaurant.
- The High Street Road Traffic Order.
- County Council speed restrictions on the new southern by-pass.
- Vehicle weight restrictions in Prickwillow.
- Signage in the car parks.

Activities:

- Tackling fly posting.
- Clearing rubbish in the Angel Drive car park.
- Managing grass cutting around trees.
- Overgrown hedges on the Barns estate.
- Mending the road surfaces on Lynn Road.

Anti-Social Behaviour on the roads:

- Vehicle drivers affecting cyclists and pedestrians.
- Speeding – short term response needed.
- Inconsiderate parking in various locations.
- Travis Perkins delivery parking, Lisle Lane.
- Longer-term off-street signage.
- Bring forward on-street parking enforcement scheme.
- Cycling priority out-routes and safer routes.

ENP12/56 Forward Agenda

Forward Agenda was noted.

The Meeting closed at 9:12pm.