

LITTLEPORT NEIGHBOURHOOD PANEL

Tuesday 15 January 2013

Littleport Community Primary School
Parsons Lane, Littleport

<u>PRESENT:</u>	
Cllr Christine Ambrose Smith Cllr Neil Morrison Cllr Fred Brown (Chairman) Cllr Francis Brown Cllr Darrell Gardiner Cllr Brian Hayes	East Cambridgeshire District Council East Cambridgeshire District Council Cambridgeshire County Council Littleport Parish Council Littleport Parish Council Littleport Parish Council
<u>OFFICERS</u>	
Andrew Killington Inspector Paul Ormerod Anne Marie Taylor Shirley Blake Nick Ball Tracy Couper	Deputy Chief Executive, East Cambridgeshire District Council Cambridgeshire Constabulary Care Network East Cambridgeshire East Cambridgeshire District Council East Cambridgeshire District Council East Cambridgeshire District Council

IN ATTENDANCE:

Members of the public: 15

LNHP 12/21 Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Panel meeting and wished them a happy new year. The Deputy Chief Executive reminded members of the public attending the meeting to sign the attendance sheet and complete the feedback questionnaires.

LNHP 12/22 Introductions

The following apologies for absence were received:

Cllr David Ambrose-Smith ECDC
Cllr Andy Wright ECDC
Cllr Diane Boyd Littleport PC
Cllr Geoff Norman Littleport PC
Cllr James Lee Littleport PC

Terry Jordan Cambs CC

LNHP 12/23 Chairman's Announcements and Consultation Items

The Chairman reported a change to the order of the Agenda whereby the presentation on Community Navigators would be taken before the presentation on Community Infrastructure Levy.

The Chairman highlighted the consultation item on the Ely Car Parking proposals.

LNHP 12/24 Neighbourhood Update (Action since the Last Panel Meeting)

Andrew Killington, East Cambridgeshire District Council, summarised the issues relating to the District Council:

- **Cardboard collections** - There were no specific locations to take cardboard to. It is collected as part of the kerbside recycling collection scheme. All residents should be able to receive kerbside recycling collections, however, if residents experience problems with the kerbside service they should contact the Council on 01353 665555'.
- **ECDC sports club directory** - East Cambridgeshire District Council has recently launched a new online sport club directory. The Council would like to encourage sport clubs to register online to help raise the profile of sport clubs, promote new sessions and increase memberships. The sport club directory will be published on the council website and be a focal point for residents to find out more information about sport clubs and services. If you would like to register a sport club please visit www.eastcambs.gov.uk/sports/sports-club-directory Or for more information e-mail sportandhealth@eastcambs.gov.uk or call 01353 665555.
- **Waste and recycling bid** - East Cambridgeshire District Council has successfully won a £5 million bid from Central Government to fund a new recycling service and retain weekly waste collections.

The funding, from the Department for Communities and Local Government's 'Weekly Collection Reward Scheme', means residents will find it easier to recycle more of their waste with the new service being introduced in late 2013 or early 2014.

The current brown sack and black box collection system will be replaced with:

- * A new wheeled bin recycling collection, including paper, glass, metal cans, plastics, cartons and cardboard. This will be collected fortnightly.
- * A new wheeled bin collection for organics to include food and garden waste. This will also be collected fortnightly.

* A fleet of new vehicles for the new services as well as a rescheduling of rounds to reduce carbon emissions.

The weekly waste collections would be retained and collected via black sacks.

In the absence of a County Council representative, the Chairman gave an update regarding the public transport issues across Littleport. The Chairman informed the Panel that Stagecoach had responded that Service 9 was a commercial service and that they were fulfilling their statutory obligations. He had submitted a formal objection, but this was unlikely to be successful. A member of the public reported that the faulty vehicle activated road sign in Wisbech Road north of Woodfen Road had been repaired. On the issue of street lighting, the Chairman reported that arising from the number of complaints across the County, the issue was to be re-considered by the Council's Cabinet, with a view to reviewing those areas where lights had been removed without consultation taking place. However, the County Council were still required by Central Government to make a 10% saving and therefore it was unlikely that removed lighting would be replaced, but that other lighting would be re-positioned to improve coverage. Town and Parish Councils could purchase additional streetlights themselves and this would involve funding the capital costs directly themselves and entering into a legal agreement with the provider or District Council to maintain the lights and pay for their energy use. The Chairman reported that the costs relating to this option had reduced from those originally notified to Parish Councils. Members of the public referred to problems with the quality and distribution of lighting in a number of streets in Littleport, including The Crescent and Upton Place.

Mr Killington stated that there were problems with the County Council withdrawing support to Neighbourhood Panels and that he would be raising this issue with them.

There were no action updates in respect of Sanctuary Housing and no representative was present.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Inspector Paul Ormerod provided an update on the actions taken by the Neighbourhood Policing Team to address the priorities set by the Panel at its last meeting in July 2012.

Parking in the Panel area

Patrols had been undertaken in areas previously identified as having parking problems, and as a result of this 16 Fixed Penalty Notices had been issued by the Police. Work was continuing with the District Council to run a pilot project to try and tackle parking problems in the area of primary schools, with Littleport Community Primary School identified as the first pilot school. It was noted that parking continued to be an issue of concern, particularly relating to areas around schools.

Speeding, Wisbech Road

With regard to speeding, there had been Speedwatch activity in Wisbech Road. It was reported that 1789 vehicles had been monitored, 107 warning letters sent out to speeding motorists and 3 speed awareness courses offered. Other Speedwatch activity also had taken place in Ely Road and Lynn Road. Overall, Speedwatch had been out on 117 occasions and 23,427 vehicles had been monitored with 2,434 being caught speeding representing 10.4%, which was consistent with national trends.

A member of the public referred to the high incidence of speeding in Wisbech Road in the evening and asked if monitoring could be undertaken at night as well as in the daytime. Inspector Ormerod confirmed that the safety camera could be deployed in the evening.

The Panel was recommended, if so minded, to retain speeding in the Panel area as a Police priority.

Neighbourhood Watch

A meeting had taken place with the East Cambs Neighbourhood Watch Association to discuss a joint action plan to reinvigorate Neighbourhood Watch in Littleport. Efforts would continue to recruit a Village Co-ordinator for Littleport and to increase the number of co-ordinators in the village.

Children Cycling without Lights

PCSO had spoken to several young people on the matter and the Police would look to carry out some educational work with local schools.

Inspector Ormerod concluded by referring to the updated crime statistics for the Littleport Panel Area.

LNHP 12/25 Community Navigators

The Panel received a presentation from Anne Marie Taylor from Care Network East Cambridgeshire on Community Navigators. Ms Taylor explained that the project had developed from a pilot project in Dorset and aimed to use volunteers to help older, isolated and vulnerable people to retain their independence and social contact with friends and the community. The Volunteers would help older people to access the range of support services available including befriending, community car scheme, benefits advice, help and support at home, local clubs and groups, home modifications or mobility aids, etc. The presentation summarised the following areas:

- Care Network Objectives
- Direct Services
- Community Development Work
- Cambridgeshire Population Statistics – showing projected rise in elderly population

- Problems associated with social isolation
- Results of consultation with local elderly people on what they want
- Community Navigator aims
- Structure and Team
- How can I help?
- Contact details

A member of the public asked where the project was based and how long it had been running. Ms Taylor stated that it was based in the Volunteer Centre at Forehill, Ely, and had been running for 3 years. The Local Information Officer, Nigel, was based at Littleport Surgery 1 day per week.

A Littleport Parish Councillor commented that this was an excellent service, the availability of which needed to be actively communicated to the local elderly population. Ms Taylor stated that communication and publicity was currently being developed by means of posters and leaflets to be distributed throughout the District; postings on Shape Your Place; promotional events at the Library; and referrals from GPs.

Councillor Hayes asked if the Team were liaising with Community Nurses and Wardens. Ms Taylor reported that they were talking to a range of partner organisations at the moment to identify the vulnerable and isolated. A Littleport Parish Councillor and member of the public referred to the community car schemes; dial-a-ride; and the Community Warden funded by Age UK already in existence, and Ms Taylor confirmed that the Team linked-in with groups of this nature.

Ms Taylor highlighted the leaflets circulated to those present and encouraged people to spread the word about the service or to contact the Team.

The Chairman thanked Ms Taylor for her attendance and presentation.

LNHP 12/26 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

The Panel received a presentation from Shirley Blake, Principal Sustainable Development Officer ECDC, on Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). Ms Blake reported that this would largely replace S106 funding and was a levy on new developments based upon a sum per Sq Metre. This was payable on the commencement of a development to help pay for new infrastructure to meet growth needs and Parish Councils would receive a 'meaningful proportion' for their area. Central Government had announced in the preceding week that this 'meaningful proportion' for Parishes would be a minimum of 15%.

The presentation summarised the following areas:

- What is CIL?
- How does CIL differ from S106?
- CIL implementation timetable
- ECDC charging schedule

- Is CIL relevant to Parish Councils?
- CIL income estimates
- Summary of benefits
- Further information

Ms Blake stated that leaflets on individual developments were available at the meeting.

Councillor Hayes queried whether the fact that CIL was an ‘up front’ payment was likely to result in phased developments. Ms Blake confirmed that this was likely to be the case. The District Council was also likely to allow instalment payments to assist developers.

The Chairman thanked Ms Blake for her attendance and presentation.

LNHP 12/27 Neighbourhood Issues

The following issues were raised by Parish representatives/members of the public:

LOCATION	ISSUE OF CONCERN
Wisbech Road	Parking and yellow lines. Objections have been raised in consultation. Progress to be made. Next 5 or six weeks
Lynn Road	Parking around Lynn Road and double yellows needs progress. Issue going on for up to 3 years.
Health Centre	Patient referred to Ely - cost him twenty pounds in taxi fares. Practice manager feedback on clinics - provide information but organisers can withdraw, causing patients to be referred elsewhere. Dial a ride service to be provided for patients?
Friars Place	Derelict land opposite garage. Fly tipping and rats. Needs clearing
Parsons Lane	Parking blocking exit from resident’s property at 98 Parsons Lane. Large vans and other vehicles from new developments down the road.
Woodfen Road/Gilbert Road	Parking update. Funding to improve public open space is in place. Residents to receive letter explaining options available to them and costs to provide secure access for parking on drives, or public open space otherwise protected.

LNHP 12/28 Panel Prioritisation

Mr Ball reported that it was intended to run another Community Action Day following the success of the event in the preceding year. Those present were asked to inform the Littleport Parish Clerk of any work that they would like carried out on the day.

Discussion took place on whether parking should be continued as a priority. Inspector Ormerod considered that matters had generally improved and, if continued, should focus on parking around schools. Councillor Hayes commented that there was still an issue with parking close to bends and junctions and parking on footpaths. Inspector Ormerod stated these were not offences as such, but only constituted an offence when causing an obstruction, and that parking on the footpath often was necessary to allow sufficient road width for emergency vehicles access in narrow streets.

A member of the public referred to issues of rubbish in the street/gutters caused by burst refuse sacks on collection day and asked if the contractor had an obligation to clear this up. The Deputy Chief Executive confirmed that the contractor had an obligation to clear such spillages and stated that he would feedback concerns to colleagues at the District Council.

A member of the public commented that there were still issues regarding obstructive parking outside of schools in the morning.

A member of the public was pleased to note the progress made on the issue of access/parking for properties at Woodfen Road/Gilbert Road/Longfield Road.

The Panel agreed that the policing priorities should be:

- Speeding throughout the panel area including evening enforcement
- Obstructive parking at bends and junctions.

The panel agreed that the new (non-policing) priority should be:

- Fly tipping (Friars place clean up)
- Community action day
- Split refuse collection sacks

LNHP 12/29 Forward Agenda

Forward Agenda Plan for 2013 received.

It was agreed that the Manager of the Health Centre should be invited to make a presentation at the next meeting and that the new Street Lighting Manager at Cambridgeshire County Council should be invited to attend the next meeting.

Next meeting: Wednesday, 13 March 2013, 19:00 – 21:00 hrs

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.