

Community Action Team Meeting (CAT)

Wednesday 20th July 2016

Who was there?

Present: Chairman Cllr Sue Bell, Executive Leader, Cllr Seán Woodward.

Residents: 35

What was talked about?

PC Andy Higgs from the local police was in attendance and gave an update to residents of local policing issues in the area.

Updates from PC Higgs included:

- Response & Patrol 24/7 moved to Fareham Reach.

Local issues

- Anti-social behaviour has dropped to almost nothing in the Precinct and Community Centre.
- Lessons have taken place in Portchester Community School about anti-social behaviour and the dangers of jumping into the creek.
- Rogue traders – the area had been hit badly two months ago but there have been improvements.
- The police have been working with Fareham Borough Council in regards to anti-social behaviour from a resident in Portchester.

James Addicott from the Eastern Solent Coastal gave an updated about the Portchester Castle to Paulsgrove coastal defence scheme which included a presentation and information about the upcoming drop in exhibition on Thursday 28 July.

Questions from residents to the Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership

- **Just looking at the picture of the castle, I was wondering where the sea level originates. Where do you get your data from?**

National guidance is provided to all local authorities by central government regarding climate change allowances. These include predicted sea level rise, peak river flow, peak rainfall intensity, offshore wind speed and extreme wave heights. They are based on climate change projections and different scenarios of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions to the atmosphere. There are different allowances for different periods of time over the next century. More information can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-assessments-climate-change-allowances>.

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- **How do planning developers gain information? Do they obtain it from you?**
Developers have to undertake a flood risk assessment for sites that are within flood risk areas. There is guidance and information available on how to undertake these. The Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership is consultee on planning applications within the coastal flood zones and near to the coast within the Fareham Borough Council. ESCP review and comment on the planning applications and Flood Risk Assessments that are drafted to support them.
- **Would this have included the proposed Lidl development?**
Yes the developer would have been required to submit a flood risk assessment and the Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership were a consultee on this application. Detail on both can be found on the Fareham Borough Council Planning Case Tracker webpages.
- **If one proposed development was to take place on a flood plain, would it be pushed onto other areas?** It is more relevant in regards to river flooding rather than sea flooding, as in sea situation; it is assumed to displace back to harbour with a negligible effect on water levels. It is more relevant when considering river and surface water flooding matters where the displacement of water volumes could have a greater effect locally.

Following the presentation, the Chairman opened the floor for questions.

- **Going back to your initial points in regards to the recognition you have had of Fareham in Bloom and the parks. Round the corner there is a weed patch between the road and the pavement, it is unsightly, please could this be sorted out?**
They are not actually our pavement and kerbs they are the responsibility of Hampshire County Council. The weed killer we are allowed to use has limited effectiveness, and we are not allowed to use anything that works to put it bluntly, so physical removal would be the better option. I would suggest reporting it to your local County Councillor.
- **The Wicor Field during the football season on a Monday morning, it is absolutely disgraceful with all the discarded water bottles and everything. I have complained to the parks department before, because the footballers, the trainers and the coaches are known to you. Can you let them know that they need to clear it up? There are also not enough bins which I am sure will come up.**
We can certainly do that, thank you.
- **In regards to the regeneration, are you also using research about retail trends in**

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the long term, like online grocery shopping, markets and pop up shops in town centres?

An important point, yes we are. The reality is that Fareham hasn't suffered as much as some towns have, in regards to many empty units. It is a fact with internet shopping, is anyone actually buying anything or are they comparing, and then purchasing off Amazon?

- **You mentioned Vanguard and that it has saved £500,000 which is great. How much do you pay for Vanguard?**

We initially spent £300,000 and we are saving around £1,000,000 every year so far.

- **Regarding the car parking survey in Portchester, I did actually take part in this a few weeks ago and the person I approached was not near the car park, but was languishing at the bus stop, and the impression that I got was that he was not working hard. He did have his hi-vis on to communicate that he was part of the car parking survey, but would it not be a better idea for him to remain in the area? However when I asked him to take part in the survey, he was very responsive and I was able to take part. We feel that we were not getting very good value for money. Thank you for your feedback. We will certainly look into that and the quality of data.**

- **I would like to commend the litter pickers who cleared up around Castle Street. Thank you.**

- **Is there any news on the development on Windmill Grove?**

I refer you to Cllr Nick Walker who is the Chairman of the Planning Committee.

Cllr Nick Walker: We have actually looked at some of it today and it will come forward to planning in September as there has been an application for 24 houses, and they have worked very hard to tick all the boxes.

The original developers, Barratt Homes pulled out and now I believe it is the factory owners who are now dealing with it. That is the update so far.

- **I think some people will be glad when something is done about that, because the police presence around that site and the fire engines that have to keep going down there, it is just a shame that the building is being used for the wrong purposes.**

Cllr Nick Walker: There is difficulty, as there is a question of raising the land, which a lot of people objected to, and they are trying to come up with a scheme which doesn't make the land look so bad. The buildings have been designed and have been brought down in height and there is a question of sea defences, we now understand that they don't wish to participate in sea defence as they do not own the land beyond the fence that is on the side, so they are proposing to go for the open space element behind it.

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- **I would be interested to know if there is information about further development on the site of the former Catholic Church further along White Hart Lane?**

Cllr Nick Walker: We understand that the application is coming in very shortly and it will be increasing the numbers by one. Some trees have been taken down on the site, and I presume that is to allow for the additional dwelling to go on it. The application should be with us in the next fortnight.

- **Do you know how many houses will be over there? The building of the church is still there, it doesn't seem to have been demolished, and there is more rubbish being brought in to the site?**

Cllr Nick Walker: Our understanding on that is that eventually the remains of the church will be crushed, and they are bringing in the material as the crusher is apparently quite expensive to operate.

In regards to the houses, the previous application had six, so now it is seven.

- **Will the houses be built in the next two years?**

Cllr Nick Walker: That is their intention.

- **With the volume of extra houses happening in the area, what sort of liaison is going on with local health care providers?**

The organisation which is responsible for health provision in the area is the Fareham and Gosport Clinical Commissioning Group, and they are responsible for ensuring that we have appropriate health provisions for our needs. They don't employ GPs, but they pay them, as GPs are private businesses, so they are responsible for making sure that we have enough GPs, and there is a responsibility from the National Health Service.

When it comes to developing new plans for the area, those organisations are consulted.

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