

Community Action Team Meeting (CAT) 19 June 2018

Who was there?

Present: Cllr Ian Bastable (Chairman), Cllr Bayford, Cllr Cartwright, Cllr Butts, Cllr Evans and Cllr Woodward

Residents: 60 residents

Venue: Victory Hall, Warsash

What was talked about?

Cllr Bastable, the Chairman of the meeting, gave a brief introduction and introduced the speakers.

1. Sgt. Nick Morgan gave an update from the local Police.

Questions from the floor

Q: My number plates were stolen from the back and front of my car. What crime is that categorised under?

A: Theft from motor vehicle.

Q: Speedwatch was a common sight in this area. Why hasn't this happened recently?

A: These were voluntary citizens not sure why they have stopped. The local beat office can sign you up as a volunteer if you are interested.

Q : 'Assessment matrix' – I've heard the term but what is it?

A: The matrix is used to assess whether we investigate a crime. We review the weight of evidence for each crime, and work out using the matrix if there is a realistic chance of prosecuting.

Q: What can we do as residents to help reduce crime?

A: Install CCTV, record on phone an incident, or take a record of the registration of a vehicle if it's suspicious, but don't put yourself in danger.

Q: Do you use dashboard camera information as evidence? I am aware of someone who is travelling with an out of date tax disc.

A: Tax and out of date MOT are dealt with by the Department for Transport not the local police.

2. Hayley Hamlett gave an overview of the work of One Community.

No questions from the floor.

3. The Executive Leader of Fareham Borough Council, Cllr Woodward, gave a presentation about developments in the Borough over the past year and a look at what is happening now and then took questions from the floor. You can view the presentation here.

Questions from the floor

Q: With regard to the proposed housing developments, the local schools cannot cope.

A: It's calculated one extra primary form of entry (210 places) is needed. Hook with Warsash or Sarisbury Schools have said they will consider an extension.

Q: The museum of Westbury Manor should be reflective of the history of the town. It is something that could be used better.

A: We are hoping to use the local archives so we can display more things relevant to Fareham.

Q: Planning applications don't have much detail on infrastructure in terms of schools, and doctors surgeries.

A: Outline planning applications establish the principle of development e.g. the number of houses. If approved, detailed applications are submitted that include precise plans for on-site infrastructure provision. These will be consulted on with the public. Developers will have to agree with us their legal obligations to help mitigate the impacts of their developments.

Q: My concerns are too much housing in the area. The head teacher has written to the Council to say there is not enough space in the schools.

A: There are similar sized development proposals in other parts of Fareham. We can't just say no more housing in this area. We need to find around 2,500 more homes up to 2036. Councillors weren't involved in the site allocations. 120 sites were ranked by Planning Officers and the sites

at the top went into the Draft Plan. We are in a difficult situation, the Government has consulted on increasing the number of houses we need to allocate.

We are going to have a new secondary school in Whiteley and one in Welborne. Whatever mitigation is needed, it will be paid for by the developers.

Q: Warsash will no longer be a village.

A: Warsash has already changed dramatically over the last 40 years.

Q: Does the Council ever evoke the Untidy Land Notices legislation to deal with 'eye sores'?

A: Difficult to do if it is private property. Yes, we use it, very rarely.

Q: When an outline planning application is approved, will the developers be able to add more houses to the same plan?

A: No.

Q: You've invested £26 million in commercial property. Why don't you spend that on affordable housing instead?

A: The investments come from our General Fund. Our Housing Revenue Account pays for the repairs and maintenance of our social housing. We are not allowed to use the General Fund to build council housing. This is something we have challenged the Government on to increase the amount the housing revenue account is able to borrow.

Q: Is the new legislation about habitat protection being taken into account by the planners?

A: Yes.

Q: Developers to fund school placements? How are you going to build extra space for school places without harming the education to the current students?

A: Hampshire Highways and Hampshire Schools tell us what provisions are needed, and then the developers will need to ensure that funding is in place to provide it.

Q: We were promised a new secondary school in Hunts Pond Road in the 1980's and nothing materialised. Need more emphasis on education and healthcare.

A: The Education Authority said it was a requirement and then changed its mind. Brookfield doubled in size, ironically, 30 years ago pupil numbers were on the decrease.

Q: I think that the schools education authority is wrong. There are various additional needs in the area, including dyslexia, and autism, and children can't cope.

A: I do have regular meetings with the Education Authority to discuss how this is going to work.

Q: The quality of the schools are not very good, how do you plan to support the schools if your going to make the bad things worse?

A: If you want me to talk to the Head Teacher about something that is not good about a school I can do so. It shouldn't be down to the size of the school, it should be the culture of the classroom.

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