

Notes on NAP Meeting for Great Baddow & Galleywood held in the Millennium Centre, Great Baddow, at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 22nd March 2017

Present: Richard Beck (Chairman), Maureen Miller, Trevor Miller, Chris Shaw, Andrew Sosin, Bob Clarke, Mike Humphrey, Dan Glading, Dave Oldershaw, Alex Nelson, Gill Smith, David Stevenson, Anthony McQuiggan.

1. Apologies: Jenny Chandler, Stephanie Scott, Liz Ahmed, Bob Hendrie.

2. Minutes of the meeting on 11th January 2017 were agreed.

Matters arising.

1. Parking obstruction. Jenny reported that the police would be involved if the obstructive parking was really dangerous.

2. Bell Centre roof. A meeting had been held with the Parish Clerk and steps were in progress.

3. Travellers. It was noted that travellers had returned to Chelmsford, but so far not to Great Baddow or Galleywood.

3. Youth Facility

Mike noted that he had been back at the youth facility soon after his elbow injury. Numbers had nearly doubled since January and there are 30 to 40 young people attending per evening, now going up to college age. There are games activities and music and some young people help with food; the older ones are allowed to go down to the Vineyards. Two paid staff are in charge each evening. In general there had been no damage recently, apart from one light fitting. There had been two incidents outside. Dave Oldershaw reported that there had been more problems the previous night and he had received an email about them from a resident; he felt that some people would be happy to see the centre close. He reported that he had seen young people smoking weed.

Stephanie Scott had emailed Richard about some young people carrying sharpened screwdrivers. This had not been brought to Mike's attention. Stephanie and Alex Nelson had attended a meeting with Ann Wood, Parish Clerk, and two YMCA representatives and Stephanie said she was pleased to hear after the meeting that letters of apology were being written to Dave Oldershaw, Alex Nelson and the residents of Bell Street who had been affected by the behaviour of the young people. Mike reported that the lads previously involved in damaging a car had written a letter of apology; it had gone to Ben Gibbons and Mike would chase up to see what had happened to the letter. Stephanie also advised that the YMCA had said that any further behaviour of the sort that gave reason for apologies ought to be addressed to the police.

Members discussed the difficulty of contacting the police, especially via 101. It was claimed that this number was often not answered because of pressure and people were giving up due to the lack of response. However, Gill Smith reported a prompt response when she had rung about drug dealing taking place outside her house. Richard will contact the police regarding the concerns about lack of response and incidents at the youth centre.

It was felt that with only two paid staff, there were insufficient adults to deal with current numbers. However, Mike reported that volunteers were thin on the ground. Young people were predominantly there because it was a safe place and he pointed out that all volunteers need DBS checks. Alex and Dave may be happy to volunteer, but would need to talk to the YMCA.

4. Highways and Traffic Problems relating to policing

There were no new current issues. An email from Stephanie Scott to Richard had included highways issues relating to disability scooters, but these are not matters relating to policing.

Andrew reported on the 3PR Tyrells School experiment, in which pupils were discouraging parents from parking near the school. Alex reported that this may be extended to Baddow Hall Schools.

Gill Smith reported that Tabors Avenue residents were concerned about the all day parking in Tabors Avenue resulting from the parking restrictions recently introduced in the Buckleys car park. She and Paul van Damme from Chelmsford City Council (CCC) had met residents; the parking order would not be reversed, but double yellow lines had just been painted on the corner of the car parking area to prevent dangerous parking. Gill had also met Colin Barford (CCC) and said that residents had been given forms to fill in if they wanted to have any parking restrictions introduced in Tabors Avenue.

5. Policing Incidents and Issues.

No information had been received from the police.

Bob Hendrie had reported to Richard that youngsters were still observed around the seats in the playground, but that the police seemed to be accepting low-level drug dealing. Richard reported that some adult dealers were booking rooms in hotels (not cheap ones) and selling drugs during their stay.

Chris reported on a Community Messaging report about a number of burglaries in Galleywood. David said this was an ongoing problem, as was dumping of cars in certain areas. Anthony McQuiggan noted that crime statistics were aggregated for Great Baddow and Galleywood. Crime was much reduced from this time last year, although there was a considerable amount of rural crime in Galleywood. Andrew mentioned fly tipping in Brook Lane; Anthony noted that there was still a lot of this in Galleywood, including the Eagle pub garden, but the council does respond and clear up quickly. Alex reported that there had been some dumping in Rothmans Place.

6. Current Traveller Situation

There had been no further incidents since the events in Baddow Hall Park over the August bank holiday and the Section 61 order was in force. Jenny reported that the City Council was going to join the Essex Traveller Unit, which would help with dealing with problems. There was some discussion about the shortage of official traveller sites and Andrew noted that the forthcoming new Chelmsford local plan might include more sites.

Bob Clarke had received an email from The Sheriffs Office with information on the high costs to local councils associated with dealing with illegal travellers'

sites on council land. Anthony noted that there will be more provision for travellers' sites in the new draft local plan.

7. Priorities

It was agreed that the main priority issue for the NAP would continue to be drugs issues in Great Baddow and Galleywood. Contacting the police was also added as an issue.

8. Any other business

None.

9. Date of next meeting

7.30 pm, Wednesday 7th June 2017.

CS 28.3.17