



# RUGBY TOWN NORTH COMMUNITY FORUM

Minutes of meeting on: Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2017 at The Oasis Community Hall, Drovers Court, Rugby

## Councillors Present:

Cllrs Alan Webb (Chair, WCC), Mary Webb (WCC), Claire Edwards (RBC), Ramesh Srivastava (RBC), Maggie O'Rourke (RBC)

## Officers and Speakers Present:

PC Paula Ketley – Rugby Town North Safer Neighbourhood Team, Warwickshire Police  
 PCSO Catherine Donnelly – Rugby Town North Safer Neighbourhood Team, Warwickshire Police  
 Sgt Stuart Powell – Warwickshire Police  
 Amber Merrick-Potter – Benn's Friends  
 Hannah Cramp – Rugby Area Team, Warwickshire County Council  
 Jennifer McCabe – Rugby Area Team, Warwickshire County Council

**Total attendance** (including above) = approx. **35** including representatives from local community groups: Benn Partnership Centre, Benn's Friends, Murray Road Residents Association, Hill Street Youth and Community Centre, and WCAVA

1.	<p><b><u>Welcome, Introductions and Apologies</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Alan Webb welcomed everyone to the meeting and encouraged everyone to sign in. The fire safety procedure was outlined by Bob Reeve, Benn Partnership Centre.</p>
2.	<p><b><u>Matters Arising</u></b> – Cllr Alan Webb presented minutes of last meeting verbally.</p> <p><b>2.1 Update on “Our Rugby Our Future” event in Benn Hall (November 2016)</b>          Cllr Webb reported that the above event took place on 5 November 2016. It was well attended by groups and organisations and provided a useful networking opportunity. Entertainment was provided by local groups – including singing and dancing. A similar event will hopefully take place later this year.</p>
3.	<p><b><u>Public Discussion: focus on parking</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Alan Webb introduced the agenda item in relation to parking concerns around the Rugby Town North Locality. This included discussions around the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residents parking scheme on Cambridge Street (half of street currently covered by a residents parking scheme). Problems being caused by:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>people using non parking permit areas, particularly when commuting by train</li> <li>double yellow lines of Technology Drive</li> <li>increase in cost of parking at the railway station</li> <li>parking from the local businesses, shops and local church</li> <li>width of street</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enforcement, what can be done to enforce parking restrictions?</li> <li>• Differences in parking permit zones (why some areas have just one street included in a zone, where others cover a much larger area)</li> <li>• Impact of new developments in Rugby – where will the cars from this additional housing go?</li> </ul> <p>Questions were raised in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in cost for parking permits (from £15 to £25 per year)</li> <li>• Capacity of car parks at the railway station (are they full on a daily basis)</li> </ul>
4.	<p><b><u>Local Projects in Benn: Millennium Green Park</u></b></p> <p>Amber Merrick-Potter gave a presentation about the redevelopment of the Millennium Green Park on Craven Road. This included the background of when the park was first created and how the local community (led by Benn's Friends – a local residents group) have worked together, with partners to create a new, safe and exciting play area for local children and families.</p> <p>As well as securing significant funding to finance the improvements, Benn's Friends continue to work with others to enhance this community facility. Activities (held, ongoing, planned) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community consultation</li> <li>• Launch party: September 2016</li> <li>• Sports / Play sessions</li> <li>• edible gardens and links to the community allotment</li> <li>• new signage / promotion of new ways to get involved</li> <li>• potential Junk Food Project</li> </ul> <p>Amber added that as a result of the community ownership / pride in the park – incidents of ASB are reported more quickly.</p> <p>It is also hoped that local young people will be involved with shaping the delivery of activities for them in the area – and ultimately will start fundraising themselves.</p> <p>Further comments were made in relation to the initial piece of land set aside for a raised bed as this hasn't worked as intended. Opportunities for ConnectWell (through WCAVA) and / or local residents to get involved.</p> <p>It was also mentioned that the recent improvements to the disused railway line are part of a plan to create "connected open spaces" – whereby local parks / green spaces act as stepping stones, linked together via green routes.</p> <p>A copy of the presentation is attached with the minutes of this meeting on the Rugby Area Team webpage at: <a href="http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/rtnforum">http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/rtnforum</a> .</p>

<b>5.</b>	<p><b><u>Safer Neighbourhoods</u></b></p> <p><b>5.1 PC Paula Ketley</b> (Beat Manager, Rugby Town North Safer Neighbourhood Team), gave an update report including an Update on Priorities from last meeting. An introduction was also made to Sgt Stuart Powell who now covers Rugby Town North.</p> <p>A copy of the SNT presentation can be found with the minutes of this meeting on the Rugby Area Team webpage at: <a href="http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/rtnforum">http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/rtnforum</a> .</p> <p><b>5.2 Agreement of Local Policing Priorities</b> Following the online vote, the following policing priorities were agreed at the meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To detect and deter school parking issues around Brownsover</li> <li>2. To detect and deter parking issues around Benn Beat</li> <li>3. To detect and deter traffic offences along Newbold Road</li> </ol> <p><b>5.3 Public Questions</b> (relating to Community Safety):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where people are parking on double yellow lines (especially on the corners of roads) – this should be reported. This can be done: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) via WCC (<a href="http://warwickshire.gov.uk/contraveningparkingrestrictions">http://warwickshire.gov.uk/contraveningparkingrestrictions</a>) or</li> <li>2) (where the vehicle is causing an obstruction) to the Police on 101</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Ongoing concerns about HGVs using Boughton Road. The Police mentioned that they are undertaking a specific operation to look at this.</li> </ul>
<b>6.</b>	<p><b><u>Any Other Business</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Request for a senior planning officer to attend a future Forum meeting to discuss the planning process for new developments</li> <li>• A question was raised in relation to the pedestrian crossing at the front of the station.</li> </ul>
<b>7.</b>	<p><b><u>Dates of Future Meetings</u></b></p> <p>To be confirmed.</p>