



# RUGBY TOWN NORTH COMMUNITY FORUM

Minutes of meeting on: Tuesday 9 September 2014 at Warwickshire College (Rugby)

## Councillors Present:

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

## Officers and Speakers Present:

Sgt Sam Watkins - Warwickshire Police  
 PC Lee Maughan –Warwickshire Police (Beat Manager, Rugby Town North Safer Neighbourhood Team)  
 Leonie Fletcher – Warwickshire Community and Voluntary Action (WCAVA)  
 Sarah Dowzell – Community Safety Ambassador, RTN, Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner  
 Neil Benison – Development Management Highways, Warwickshire County Council  
 Ian Davis – Rugby Borough Council  
 Christine Slater – Rugby Area Team, Warwickshire County Council  
 Hannah Cramp – Rugby Area Team, Warwickshire County Council

**Total attendance (including above) = 40 approx**

**Apologies:** None given

1.	<p><b><u>Welcome, Introductions and Apologies</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Alan Webb welcomed everyone to the meeting. Fire exits and evacuation procedures were confirmed.</p>
2.	<p><b><u>Matters Arising</u></b></p> <p><b>2.1 Update on Actions from Last Meeting (24 June)</b>            Minutes agreed as a true record.</p> <p>Ian Davis to follow up on the Newbold Quarry issue, with regards to a timescale for the path around the quarry.</p> <p><b>2.2 Boughton Road Update</b>            Cllr Alan Webb reported that there has been no progress since the last meeting (June).</p> <p><b>2.3 Community SpeedWatch</b>            Cllr Mary Webb reported back from the presentation at the last meeting where PC Lee Maughan provided details on setting up a Community SpeedWatch Scheme. Cllr Webb stated that she is still very happy to support the community to set up a SpeedWatch Scheme, but there needs to be <b>at least 6 volunteers</b> to make the scheme viable. Cllr Webb invited anyone interested in volunteering to speak to her at the end of the meeting.</p>

### **3. Safer Neighbourhoods**

#### **3.1 Report from the Rugby Town North Safer Neighbourhood Team**

PC Lee Maughan gave a presentation from the RTN SNT including an update on Priorities from last meeting (24 June 2014) – which were:

1. Speed checks along Newbold Road in Newbold Village
2. Targeted patrols around the alleyways off Craven Road and Murray Road to detect and deter offences of Anti social behaviour and drug use.
3. Targeted patrols in the area around Rugby Railway Station and Technology Drive to detect and deter the offences of Criminal Damage

A copy of the SNT presentation can be found with the minutes of this meeting on the webpage at: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/communityforums](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/communityforums) - and follow links to Rugby Town North.

#### **3.2 Public Questions (relating to Community Safety)**

Comments and questions from the floor included:

- Cllr Claire Edwards expressed concern about ongoing problems with anti-social behaviour at Newbold Cricket Club. PC Maughan reported that some of the perpetrators (and their parents) had been spoken to – and since then, no more issues had been reported in the last month.
- Concerns raised about public drinking at the intersection of Craven Road and Murray Road. Although the individuals concerned are not really causing a problem, their presence is considered to be quite intimidating. Is this an alcohol-free zone or could this be considered? PC Maughan reported that this is being looked at and the SNT are working with the local shops as part of an educational campaign. Posters have been placed in the shop (in different languages) to explain how this behaviour affects the local community. The area has become something of a meeting place and the Police have been patrolling.

#### **3.3 Agreement of Local Policing Priorities**

The following priorities were agreed by the meeting as detailed below:

1. **Criminal Damage: Rugby Railway Station and Technology Drive** To carry out a minimum of 15 high visibility patrols in the area of the Railway Station and Technology Drive, Rugby with a view to detecting and deterring offences of criminal damage
2. **ASB: flats at Millers Dale Close / Dovedale (Brownsover)** To carry out a minimum of 15 high visibility patrols around the flats in Millers Dale Close, and Dovedale, Brownsover, Rugby with a view to deterring and detecting anti-social behaviour
3. **ASB: area incorporating junction of Craven Road (between Murray Road and Cross Street and including Millennium Green Park)** To carry out a minimum of 15 high visibility patrols in Craven Road, Rugby, between Murray Road and Cross Street, including Millennium Park, with a view to detecting and deterring anti-social behaviour

#### **3.4 Update from the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner**

Sarah Dowzell introduced herself as the Community Safety Ambassador (CSA) for the Rugby Town North locality. This role involves being the eyes and ears of Ron Ball, the Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) – by attending the local Community Forums and engaging with local groups and individuals. The CSAs will then feedback to the PCC on any local issues raised.

Sarah promoted a leaflet outlining the role of the CSAs and gave details of how to contact her: [sarah\\_csa@outlook.com](mailto:sarah_csa@outlook.com)

The following questions and comments were raised:

- Request for Sarah to feedback the issues relating to HGVs using Boughton Road (and the lack of signage)
- Will Ron Ball attend a future RTN Community Forum? – details were given about the next Public

	<p>Scrutiny Meeting of the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable – to take place on <b>Monday 15 September 2014 at King's High School, Smith Street, Warwick, CV34 4HJ</b>. This meeting is part of the process by which the Police and Crime Commissioner holds the Chief Constable to account and is open to any member of the public to attend. An informal open session will begin at 6:30pm which will give the public a chance to speak to the Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable informally. The meeting starts at 7:00pm and for 45 minutes the public will have an opportunity to ask questions of both the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable. This is followed at 7:45pm by the formal meeting and the public are welcome to remain and observe the business. A question was asked about this meeting had been promoted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chris Cade reported that the next Rugby Borough Neighbourhood Watch meeting will take place on: <b>Thursday 16 October at Warwickshire College (Rugby Centre)</b>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b><u>Millennium Park Green</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Mary Webb invited Amber Merrick-Potter to give a presentation about “Project Millennium Green” – a local community project aimed at improving the Millennium Park Green in Benn Ward. Amber gave a background to the project and explained how a group of local people are working together to improve this park for the wider community. Much work has already been done, including a community consultation which has identified what improvements people would like to see. The group are also working closely with RBC to identify and support funding applications.</p> <p>A copy of the presentation is attached with these minutes at:  <a href="http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/communityforums">www.warwickshire.gov.uk/communityforums</a> - and follow links to Rugby Town North.</p> <p>The following comments and questions were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Who is responsible for the park? The site is owned by the Countryside Commission, and the park used to be in the ownership of a Community Trust. For a variety of reasons this Trust dissolved and ownership was handed back to the Borough Council (as the sole remaining Trustee). Around £6k is spent on the park each year on general maintenance but there is no additional funding for refurbishment.</li> <li>RBC is actively working with the new project group to build dialogue and partnerships that can help improve and manage the park.</li> <li>Ian Davis also reported that there is still green space allocation as part of the development of the former cattle market site. This has been delayed due to a change in the developer.</li> </ul> <p>For more information about the project, please visit the Facebook page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/projectmillenniumgreen/">www.facebook.com/groups/projectmillenniumgreen/</a></p>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b><u>Adoption Process for Roads and Services on New Developments</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Alan Webb introduced Neil Benison, Principle Development Manager from Warwickshire County Council, to provide an overview of the adoption process for roads and services on new developments.</p> <p>Neil provided the following information in relation to the role of WCC in this process:</p> <p>Road adoption within residential developments is based on offer and managed by legal agreements under Section 38 of the Highways Act 1980. Under this agreement developers construct the roads to WCC standards as the Highways Authority and WCC supervise the works. Once this is complete the developers dedicate their land as highway and it formally becomes a highway maintained at public expense by the County Council.</p> <p>Although the Section 38 Agreement is triggered by the planning process it is not governed by it. The creation of estate roads for new housing developments, and the subsequent legal agreements, is done under Building Control legislation. Therefore, it is not possible to make the adoption of a road a condition of a planning permission.</p> <p>The County Council do not have any powers to force developers to complete the agreement, although there is a stipulated timescale for the legal agreement, typically three years. At present we allow developers to renew their agreements, when they expire. The only action that could be taken against</p>

	<p>housing developers would be to cancel the Section 38 agreement. This would have some negative consequences:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The developer could force the adoption through the Magistrates Court under Section 37 of the Highways Act and the Council then could be left with an inferior road and an increased maintenance liability.</li> <li>2) The developer could elect to keep the road private. This would be a negative outcome for the residents and is the main reason why as a Highways Authority we do not walk away from Section 38 Agreements.</li> </ol> <p>We have recently made changes to our S38 agreements and have introduced sequential fees, payable by the developer each time an agreement is renewed. Hopefully this will act as a further incentive for developers to complete agreements in a timely manner.</p> <p>Questions from the floor included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does WCC have any influence over the provision of cycleways and bus routes as part of a new development? Yes – but not through the adoption process, but at the planning stage. Ian Davis added that there is more of a problem where new roads have to fit into the existing infrastructure (retro fitting). Cllr Maggie O'Rourke added that Public Health are now part of WCC and are very keen to link into Planning Committees at District / Borough level.</li> <li>• Why is Technology Drive not being used for the purpose for which it was built (ie. as a bypass to avoid Old Brownsover) and why are houses now being built right up to the roadside? Ian Davis answered that it is perfectly acceptable for the houses to be built right up to the road, providing the homeowners know what the road is intended for (ie. HGV use). Therefore, need to get the signage sorted as soon as possible. Cllr Claire Edwards asked that Cllr Butlin (WCC Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning) is made aware of the residents dissatisfaction that the signage issue has still not been resolved.</li> <li>• If some developers are better than others in relation to sorting out adoption issues, can we be made aware of which are good and which are not? Also, can WCC add more strength to the agreements they have with developers to state when things must be delivered by? Finally, can RBC be more discriminate in awarding planning permissions (avoiding developers that have a poor track record with the adoption process).</li> </ul>
<p><b>6.</b></p> <p><b>6.1</b></p> <p><b>6.2</b></p>	<p><b><u>Health Centre Provision in Rugby Town North</u></b></p> <p><b>Brownsover</b></p> <p>Ian Davis provided the following update: currently the whole of Brownsover, Eden Park and Coton Park are served a single GP practice in Brownsover. The aspiration is to increase and improve the local health provision for the area. RBC agreed (2-3 years ago) to make the land at the back of the Brownsover shops available at zero cost – with the agreement that any new health facility should include a community space. Planning permission was granted, so why isn't the new health centre there? Need to understand the complexities of funding within the health sector – where basically capital costs are met by the developer and revenue costs are met by the NHS. However, good news: the moratorium on funding by NHS England has been removed (but in the meantime building costs have increased). Currently trying to sort the situation by amending the plans to reduce the costs. The GPs are hopeful that they will have something to report back by October at the latest. Ian suggested that perhaps the GPs could be invited back to the Forum in March 2015.</p> <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will there be an increase in the number of doctors? Yes – the new practice is likely to house 6-8 GPs</li> </ul> <p><b>Market Quarter (Benn)</b></p> <p>Ian reported that the new health facility in the Market Quarter is now operational and is home to 2 GP practices. The development of the whole site was halted due to the original developer pulling out. The remaining land is in RBC ownership and there is absolute commitment that this will include over provision of much needed green space.</p> <p>Comments and questions:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One of the reasons that the development of a new health facility was supported was because of the promise of a new community facility – and the new centre includes a “community space” - this is currently out to tender with 2 applicants</li> <li>Combining the 2 GP practices has meant that the new facility has a wider catchment, resulting in insufficient parking. Ian responded that the amount of parking provided was considered acceptable at the time of building (would have had to met planning standards to be granted planning permission)</li> <li>The entrance to the site of the new medical facility (off Railway Terrace) is unfinished and therefore dangerous – what can be done about this. Ian responded that as this involves the public highway, this matter should be referred to WCC</li> </ul>
<b>7.</b>	<p><b><u>WCC Councillors Fund: Rugby Town North 2014-15</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Mary Webb gave an overview of the WCC Cllrs Fund 2014-15. This is an allocation of £5k per WCC Cllr across the whole of the county. For Rugby Town North, Cllrs Alan and Mary Webb have pooled their allocations into a combined pot of £10k for the RTN locality. The WCC Councillor’s Fund supports small-scale projects that focus on local priorities. It is aimed at community and voluntary organisations, which need funding to address identified community needs.</p> <p>The Fund is now open and application forms are available from the WCC Rugby Area Team – please contact on: <a href="mailto:rugby@warwickshire.gov.uk">rugby@warwickshire.gov.uk</a> or 01788 533656. Alternatively, application forms can be downloaded directly from: <a href="http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fundinglocalprojects">www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fundinglocalprojects</a> (follow links to Rugby)</p>
<b>8.</b>	<p><b><u>Rugby Borough Joint Forum: 6 November 2014</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Alan Webb reported that the next Rugby Borough Joint Forum will take place on Thursday 6 November from 4.30pm at the Benn Hall. At this there will be an opportunity to find out about groups, organisations, activities and services within Rugby Borough and raise issues of local concern with elected members and representatives from the County and Borough Councils and Police – through the marketplace drop-in. The main part of the Forum meeting will be a Q&amp;A session focussing on “Access to Health, Social Care and Services” – and members of the public are invited to submit questions to be considered by the panel on the night.</p>
<b>9.</b>	<p><b><u>Public QuestionTime</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residential Parking Scheme on Oxford Street – previous correspondence stated that this was going to start September 2014, but no further notification of exactly when it will start (WCC)</li> <li>Cycleway at entrance to tunnel under railway bridge (Mill Road end) – roads need repainting to make drivers aware that cyclists have priority (WCC)</li> <li>Who is responsible for overgrown hedges on private land? How is this enforced? (WCC)</li> <li>WCC local boundary review – public consultation on draft recommendations for new electoral arrangements. For more information visit: <a href="http://www.lgbce.org.uk">www.lgbce.org.uk</a> or to read the full report, view detailed maps and have our say visit: <a href="http://www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk">www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk</a></li> </ol>
<b>10.</b>	<p><b><u>Any Other Business</u></b></p>
<b>10.1</b>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>None.</p>
<b>10.2</b>	<p><b>Items for Discussion at Future Meetings</b></p> <p>Suggestion that there is a single item agenda for the next RTN Forum meeting (March 2015) focussing on the Leicester Road developments (from Avon Mill roundabout to M6 junction) and the impact that this will have on the local area.</p>

11. **Date of Next Meeting**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Venue</b>
<b>Thursday 6 November 2014</b> <b>JOINT RUGBY BOROUGH FORUM</b>  <b>This will follow on from the Rugby COMPACT Event</b>	Compact Event from 2pm  Marketplace drop-in (and refreshments) from 4.30pm  Joint Forum from 6.30pm	Benn Hall, Newbold Road
<b>Tuesday 3 March 2015</b>	From 6.30pm	The Avon Valley School – theatre
<b>Tuesday 16 June 2015</b>	From 6.30pm	TBC
<b>Tuesday 22 September 2015</b>	From 6.30pm	Warwickshire College