

Minutes of the Carholme Community Forum held on Tuesday 14th January 2019

in Lincoln City Hall, Committee Room 4 from 5.30 pm

Presentation by Steve and Caroline Bird regarding City Hall CCTV

The CCTV suite was placed on the first item on the Forum agenda.

There was a discussion around the invitation to the CCTV suite. Eight people would be attending.

Key points from the presentation:

- It is a 24 hour suite
- It is a 'co-ordinating hub'

David Mitchell asked why there were no cameras in Carholme. Steve explained that the 'criteria' were:

- It has to be practically possible to install the cameras.
- The money is needed to install them (capital and for maintenance)
- They have to be agreed by the surveillance commissioner.

To install cameras on streets like West Parade or Carholme Road there would firstly need to be crime statistics to support the installation. It was also deemed important that other methods of reducing crime/ASB were tried first with the cameras being more of a 'last resort'.

Key factors to consider were also:

- The Data Protection Impact Assessment
- Proportionality

There is a bit of a Catch-22: you have to prove there is a need for cameras. Should you install cameras and the need is reduced or eliminated then you have to take the cameras down.

Jon Davies asked about the basic purpose of CCTV. Steve replied that the basic purposes were:

- Helping with the investigation of crime
- The prevention of crime
- Public health and safety e.g. helping to find missing persons/vulnerable people etc
- Other issues such as dogs in hot cars, traffic violations etc.

David said that the suite was a credit to Lincoln.

Sandra Lewis asked about the usefulness of cameras at night. Caroline replied that they were 'Starlight cameras': the quality of footage at night was good. The images have to have 'evidential value'. If the images are poor then the City Council is not allowed to use the cameras.

The Forum was impressed to hear that CCTV has helped with 14,000 incidents. Directly, the use of the cameras has led to 1200 arrests but the figure could be more if you include less directly related, but still related, arrests.

Apologies

Apologies had been received from Kay Rowntree, Pete Davies, Emma Blackburn, Susie Parry and Heather Woodlock. Laura McWilliams had to leave partway through the meeting to attend a council meeting.

Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

Francesca Bell had still not heard from Public Health England regarding the information about solid fuel burners. She will contact them again.

Action: Francesca Bell

Lucinda had arranged a visit to the CCTV room at City Hall and the presentation by Steve Bird.

Regarding fireworks, Francesca Bell had written up a report to the City Council's Policy Scrutiny committee regarding this issue. It was suggested that if people intended to have fireworks displays they would need people to register. There would be an enforcement strategy if people didn't follow the protocols. Some of the proposed policy would mirror existing regulations and related to the Health and Safety Executive's Code of Practice. A motion regarding this would be going to the Labour Group.

George Woolfenden asked about individuals' misuse of fireworks. Francesca replied that this would be a policing matter.

Action: Francesca Bell/Laura McWilliams

Lucinda Preston had removed the cycling item off the agenda due to the County Council postponing the draft Lincoln Transport Plan going to their Highways committee. This would be put back on the agenda in the Spring. Rob had not yet written to the new MP, police or County Council portfolio holder due to the delays.

George commented on the consultation process for the new plan. Neil Murray and Rob explained that there had been a good response from the public.

Lucinda had circulated the university term dates, as requested at the previous meeting.

Lucinda had sent a link to the Forum regarding the County Council's parking ticket information.

Laura had met with the Students' Union regarding streetlighting. This item would be forwarded to the next meeting.

Action: Laura McWilliams

Long Leys

Jon Davies had previously flagged up an issue with van drivers going up Albion Crescent, mistakenly thinking it would lead them back up to Burton Road. Rob had suggested that Jon write to the County Council about the issue. Jon Davies would be seeking agreement from the forthcoming LLRA meeting to do this.

Lucinda asked about the Waites van issues. Jon commented that problems were ongoing but there were currently no grounds for enforcement so the parking of the vans continued to be an issue.

Action: Jon Davies

No one from the police team had been able to attend the meeting. George noted that there was an error in the minutes and that the house with reported drug issues was 175 Carholme Road, not Hewson Road as minuted. Julie reported to the Forum that there was currently a problem with drug activity in the church's graveyard. She had informed the police

With reference to recent events in Bolton, Lucinda had emailed Jacqueline about this issue. Jacqueline said that the audit had included information about the construction materials of university buildings and evacuation procedures. The university was working on a further statement. Lucinda asked about private student accommodation, specifically private developments of flats/flat shares. Jacqueline emphasised the fact that the university did not have any jurisdiction over those types of buildings but that the recommended landlord list did include some of these considerations.

Jacqueline was arranging a meeting with Lucinda, Jane and Sandra regarding the end of academic year rubbish.

Action: Jacqueline Mayer

The discussion about Neighbourhood Watch would be postponed to the next meeting.

Action: Kay Rowntree

Lucinda had contacted the Lincoln City Council officer responsible for pollution readings but had not heard back from him yet. Lucinda would ask Environmental Health if they could do a presentation to the Forum regarding pollution. Rob said he would speak to the relevant officers at the County Council. He emphasised the relevance of the new transport plan in relation to tackling these issues.

Action: Lucinda Preston/Rob Parker

Regarding the possible new bus service, Rob reported that it was under consideration and that a decision would be made when the new County Council budget came into effect. It all depends on such factors as competing bids. Rob said he'd keep the Forum updated.

Action: Rob Parker

The problems with the overflow pipe at 75 Carholme Road were continuing. Neil said that the Building Regulations department will investigate. He was waiting to hear from them but he'd chase.

Action: Neil Murray

There was a discussion around the tragic death of a worker on the Rudgard Lane development. The Forum's thoughts were with the man's family. Work has stopped on the site whilst the Health and Safety Executive undertakes its investigation. It will be kept as an agenda item for the time being. Rob suggested he would speak to the relevant officers regarding temporarily reinstating the parking spaces around the site.

Action: Rob Parker/Lucinda Preston

Lucinda had reported the increased dog mess around parts of the ward, namely Carholme Road, Newland Street West and near the entrance to the West Common.

George had previously asked about 173 Carholme Road: it appears to be being converted into six flats. Lucinda read out the email she'd received regarding this matter.

Action: Lucinda Preston

Planning applications

There were discussions around the following planning applications:

- The appeal re: 79 Carholme Road
- 69 Carholme Road (objections had been sent into the City Council)
- The Digs office - apparently there is student accommodation above there (67 Carholme Road)
- The old Machins site - the proposed flats don't have enough parking and the designs are poor. An extra floor has been added.

Lucinda said she would speak with the planning department regarding the Digs office and would write an objection letter on behalf of the councillors re: the Machins site.

Action: Lucinda Preston

Belle Vue Road parking issues

There are ongoing problems in this area. Rob said he would speak to the relevant officer, Matt Jones, about these issues.

Action: Rob Parker

Policing

It was reported that there had been a prowler on Carline Road and that someone's purse had been stolen from inside their house. There had also been a burglary on Roman Wharf.

Gretchen Fixter noted that there had been a metal detectorist on the West Common, something which is prohibited. A police officer had walked past and not commented.

Francesca informed the Forum that Jon Mellor was returning to Carholme as Sergeant. This was welcomed.

ASB

No particular problems had been reported.

Street Scene

Sandra Lewis noted that Liam and the new officer, Sharna, were doing a fantastic job at ensuring that unsightly rubbish was removed.

Sandra commented on the state of the gutters/roads in the West End. Leaves and rubbish accumulated. She noticed that the weeks before and after Christmas, when the streets had fewer vehicles on them, that street cleansing wasn't carried out: it appeared to be a scheduling issue. Lucinda said she would email Steve Bird about this issues as the system needed to be more intuitive.

Action: Lucinda Preston

Alison Griffiths asked about Alexandra Terrace and the problems relating to the building of houses there.

Rob noted that following an ultimatum given to the developer, the County Council had received some proposals regarding the plot. It was currently looking at the quality of those proposals. Rob would see if Mike Reed from the County Council would be available to come to the next Forum meeting.

Action: Rob Parker

Alison also enquired about the allotment next to Liquorice Park. It was still overgrown and encouraged fly tipping. Lucinda noted that it was near the time of year when allotment contracts were sent out again and said she'd contact the relevant officer.

Action: Lucinda Preston

David Mitchell raised the issue of the box markings on The Avenue. Rob confirmed that repainting them was on the County Council work schedule. David also raised the issue of

broken streetlights and issues around the public reporting them. Rob said that most streetlight problems were dealt with quickly.

Long Leys

The bid for the playground renovation had been submitted to Antony Angus but Jon had been told that the City Council was currently working on its new play strategy. It looked like it wasn't a priority. Given that the playground has got Section 106 money and a plan in place this seemed strange. Neil said he'd look into it.

Action: Neil Murray

Jon had had a meeting with a City Council officer regarding housing allocation as this relates to the Long Leys Neighbourhood Plan. With regard to the Central Plan, all landowners who could submit an application had made a submission. Such submissions could potentially impact on the Neighbourhood Plan.

Community issues including the Gala

Rob suggested that the LLRA get involved with the Gala but Jon did not think that anyone could commit to it. There were discussions around the date of the 2020 gala. It was likely to be Sunday 20th September but this would need to be confirmed. Rob Lewis would be sending off the costings but Lucinda was gathering that information from the other councillors.

Action: Lucinda Preston

Jane Kilby noted that the Student Union 'Make a Difference' week would be on in March again. Lucinda commented that she'd already been in touch with the university about this. Alison expressed an interest regarding volunteers for Liquorice Park.

David enquired as to how many HMOs had been registered and Lucinda said she'd look into this.

Action: Lucinda Preston

Lucinda explained that she had been contacted by residents regarding issues with horses near one of the West Common gates. A small number of horses had been dumped there. There were also issues with boggy/muddy land where they usually stood.

George Woolfenden recommended an extension of the enclosure. Gretchen noted that the horses shouldn't be fed by members of the public. It was noted that there were no figures regarding things were better or worse since the building of the fence. George pointed out that there was little maintenance of the horse feeding areas where drainage

was also poor - this had an impact on where they wanted to stand. Some of these points were on the agenda for the next Commons Advisory Panel meeting.

Action: CAP members

Environment events

Lucinda was planning to hold an environment event in February. This would focus on the Carholme environment. She informed the Forum that the City Council would be holding a series of public engagement events regarding the environment in March and May (there would be a break for Local Elections purdah). Lucinda urged Carholme representatives to attend those events so that Carholme had a voice.

Any Other Business

There was a discussion around road closures regarding children playing out as well as the West End Lights. Rob commented that it would be highly unlikely that the County Council would agree to such road closures.

Sandra raised the issue of the use of a skip in the front garden of 264 West Parade. Rob replied that because the skip was on private property there was nothing that could be done. She also asked if anyone was living in the house on the corner of Ashlin Grove/West Parade. Lucinda said she'd look into who was/wasn't living there.

Action: Lucinda Preston

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 25th February 2020 at 5.30 pm

Carholme Community Forum, Tuesday 14th January 2020

Present:

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| Sandra Lewis | WERA/Small Business Action Group |
| David Mitchell | WERA/Small Business Action Group |
| George Woolfenden | WERA/Open Spaces |
| Jon Davies | LLRA |
| Gary Stimson | LLRA |
| Francesca Bell | Lincoln City Council |
| Jacqueline Mayer | University of Lincoln |
| Jane Kilby | UoL Student Union |
| Alison Griffiths | Liquorice Park |
| Rev Julie Wearing | St. Faith's Church |
| Gretchen Fixter | Lincoln Commons Horse Association |
| Rob Parker | County Councillor |
| Neil Murray | City Councillor |
| Laura McWilliams | City Councillor (part) |
| Lucinda Preston | City Councillor/Secretary |