



MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 01 DECEMBER 2010

PRESENT: Chair Karen Leakey, Vice-Chair Pam Freegard, Secretary and Archivist Kevin Leakey, Treasurer John Phillips, Muhammad Chaudhry, John and Vi Clark, John Freegard, Axmed Ismail, Alan Jones, Kath Jones, Beryl Phillips, Ros Timlin

ALSO PRESENT: Tim French, Councillor Montaut, PC Diffin, PCSO Bird and Alex Todd - guest speaker.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Kate Johnson, Brian Jones, Kay Malko, Rebecca McIntosh, Cluniford Mason, Evelyn Mason, Mr Murray, Val Purvis, Derek Sutton, Madge Sutton, David Webb.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES: – 03 November 2010 meeting.

These Minutes were confirmed and signed a true record. Proposed by Beryl Phillips and seconded by Ros Timlin

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE NOVEMBER 2010 MINUTES: The white van is still parked in 2 hour bay in Gladstone Street. With regards to the Broadgreen, STFC and Tesco group supplying cones for Marsh Farm Lane to stop parking problems on football match days, the group decided that this wasn't an appropriate use of the monies that have been raised.

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE TEAM REPORT:

Parking/obstruction rear alley Manchester Road – Still issuing tickets, one car has been towed away.

Speeding in Broad Street, Bathurst and Station Road – This is a new priority and will be targeted at key times with Officers conducting speed enforcement operations at times that it is safe to do so because of health and safety issues.

Over all, crime figures for August to October in this area have dropped in comparison to the same time last year, although Anti Social Behaviour has gone up; this is due to one person causing problems and a push to move the drinkers out of the bus station, moving them to this area. There was only one complaint about fireworks during November and this year there wasn't a temporary firework shop in Manchester Road. The Police budget is being cut, but it should not affect the policing levels in Broadgreen.

Questions asked:

People using the Breakfast Club are still drinking outside and hiding their bottles before going in for food. The Police will keep an eye on this.

Cars are being parked all the time on double yellow lines why are they not booked? – This is now a Council problem unless there is an obstruction.

Young people are throwing things off of the top of Carfax Street car park; causing danger to pedestrians. – This is not in the Broadgreen Police area; it is the responsibility of Swindon Borough Council. They will notify SBC, but people must report it in when they see it happening.

The garage door of a Shrivenham Road property was sprayed with graffiti and a golf club thrown in their garden. The residents were very pleased with the response and help given by PCSO Turner and requested that it was recorded.

The Chair asked PC Diffin if the Police would support a couple of grant bids we would like to apply for - with the cuts in SBC's youth budget, a grant to help youth provision at the Broadgreen Centre continue and also a grant to improve the look of the centre. – PC Diffin said he would be happy to do so.

WARD COUNCILLORS REPORT: The 2012 Ward boundary changes might see Central Ward being split into four. As part of the cuts, the Planning Department might be disbanded, with just a Manager overseeing things and enforcement only called in when needed. With so many cuts happening within the Council, Cllr. Montaut felt that communities should stand up against them.

The following questions were asked:

What was happening to the CCTV, who would decide where cameras would be placed as people felt they should just be for fly tipping problems and who would be running it. Cllr. Montaut said that Officers had asked for certain areas to be covered, he had been under the impression that there was a short list of 2 operators, but had now been told it had not gone out to tender.

Cars are being driven the wrong side of the brick plant pot in the S4L zone in Gladstone Street. Cllr. Montaut said the Police and SBC Officers were discussing it and a site visit was needed.

GUEST SPEAKER: Alex Todd - The Census Area Manager for Swindon with responsibility to make sure as many people as possible take part in the 2011 census. Mr Todd explained that the census for England had been held every 10 years since 1801, except 1941 and would be held next year on the 27th March; forms would be delivered by post but could also be filled in online. It was very important that everyone filled in and returned the forms. To allay fears, the census has been underpinned by rigorous legislative and quality assurance procedures, the personal information would be quickly depersonalised and broken down into statistics and would not be released for 100 years, it would also not be shared with any other Government Departments.

The statistical information would be used to plan the future of areas, for example in Swindon over the last 10 years, the population had grown not only in size, but age and ethnicity and therefore for example the needs for schools, doctors and even supermarkets would have changed. Unless a picture of the population size and makeup was accurately measured then funding needed for the next 10 years could be greatly underestimated.

In 2001, Swindon had a 98% response rate and it would be good if this could be repeated. There are job opportunities for people to knock on the doors of households that do not respond and/or need help completing their questionnaire. Landlords are responsible for seeing that census forms for their properties are filled in and returned.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Sent – To Doreen Gordon and Father Leslie re Broad Street Trust bank account

– Overgrown hedge in Gladstone Street reported to SBC.

– Van in Gladstone St. parked in 2-hour bay – reported to parking.

Received – Doreen Gordon – She will write to the bank to have her name removed as a Trust Account Signatory.

No reply from Father Leslie.

PLANNING

S/ADV/10/1735 - Display of 16 no. Advertising Banners attached to lamp posts - Lamp Posts 260, 261,262, 263 Magic Roundabout, Queens Drive, 101, 163, 164 Drove Road, 103 Fleming Way, 1,2,3,94, 96 County Road, 96, 97,98,99 Shrivenham Road - Application Pending Consideration - Case Officer, Miss Kimberly Walter

S/10/1393 - 117 Manchester Road, SN1 2AF - Conversion of first floor to 2 no. flats and erection of first floor and single storey rear extensions including an external fire escape - Application Refused - Delegated Decision - Case Officer, Mr Rob O'Carroll

TREASURERS REPORT: Proposed by Pam Freegard and Seconded by Ros Timlin.

CHAIR REPORT: BSACC Christmas meal will be held at the 'Plum tree' at 7pm next Thursday. The Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer have visited the bank to find out about the Broad St. Trust accounts. The 'young people' drop in was successful and the findings will be written up for members to look at. Thanks were given to Vi Clark who made lots of cakes for the evening, they went down very well. The Youth Service are going to be hit with a 60% cut in their funding, there will be no youth workers as we know them now, instead they have to apply for new jobs as Youth Engagement Workers. It looks probable that Skeetz will not be open for much longer.

Last month the Chair visited 2 classes at St. Josephs School as they have been studying the work of the BSACC as part of an exam project. The BSACC has requested the chance to hold a drop in session once a month. the Chair was happy to do this and asked if anyone else would like to help – no offers were forthcoming.

Ros, Axmed and Karen are working towards a monthly programme on 105.5, which will hopefully start in the New Year. Members were asked if they could help.

Karen and Ros will be starting health walks for all in the New Year, details to follow.

With regards to the bid for monies from 'Groundwork', we have got through stage one and now the Chair will be meeting with Kerry Wray to sort out the application form.

The Tasking Group was to be chaired by Axmed, but this would not now be happening, Karen has still not had a reply about the complaint she had put in concerning the problems that caused her resignation, she felt that if the problems had been reversed then it would have been dealt with immediately. At the last Tasking meeting it was decided by PC Diffin that it had moved away from the original idea of finding the Police priorities and had become a community meeting, therefore it would now go back to the original idea and only a representative of the community that had a problem would be invited to the meetings, although Councillors, Police, Fire and SBC people that could help would still be in attendance. As there would be no representation every month from the Broadgreen Area, the Chair felt that we should look at how we work in the future and what information etc we would pass on, the meeting agreed. It was suggested we should look to hold our monthly meeting in St. Luke's Hall so we would not be using SBC facilities, although some felt we should stay at the Broadgreen Centre, as we would be stakeholders if there were moves to alter the use of the building. It was agreed that we would look to hold a special meeting for committee members in February to decide how and who we will work with in the future. It is still being planned to start a Community Leader and Traders forum, one that would only be for people living and working in the Broadgreen Area. Would people be interested in an over 50's drop in/coffee afternoon once a week, possibly at St. Luke's? Quite some interest was shown, and Pam and Vi offered to help.

BROADGREEN HISTORY PROJECT: At the November BSACC meeting, Kevin put on a half hour show of images from around this area. One previously unknown group of people, pictured in what is now the Broadgreen Centre Area, were identified by Vi Clark as members of the Elim Church who at the time, c1933, would hold a mission in a tent set up on the green. The people were identified as Mrs Munday, her 2 Daughters and Pastor Carver. The information has been passed to the Swindon Society as they hold the image but had no details other than it was Broad Street.

Next year it is planned to start recording verbal memories of the area to continue the work started by John Taylor.

Request for any old photos of the area, shops, people, churches, events held in this area – VE day celebrations, Queens silver jubilee, street parties, fete's etc

SHRIVENHAM ROAD REPORT: There has been some graffiti in the alley recently. The Police regularly patrol the area in a van.

NEIGHBOURHOOD/STREET WATCH REPORT: Nothing to report from N/W but with regards to S/W, there has been an increase in dog mess in the alleys; people at a shop in Broad Street are pouring ice and water from their frozen fish across the path and down the gully drains, in this freezing weather it is freezing making it very dangerous.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: Axmed asked if we should look at putting out a monthly or quarterly magazine for the area. Finance was a problem, but if sponsorship from businesses could be found, this might overcome the problem. To be considered in 2011.

The road sweeper has been cleaning the alleys this week, this has not been seen for many months.

Madge Sutton sent news that Derek had been in hospital with a chest infection.

Councillor Montaut will now give his monthly report after matters arising, allowing him to leave earlier.

The Chair thanked everyone for the outstanding work carried out in 2010 and said that the hard fights will no doubt continue next year.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm.