

## **CROSSPOOL FORUM – OPEN MEETING**

**Thurs 24th April 2015**

### **Bullet Points**

Cllr Geoff Smith, PCSO's Gary Hizam & Pam Thompson 33 residents, 8 Forum committee members, attended, with guest speakers, Dr Alan Billings & Chief Insp. Jane Forrest,

Apologies were received from Cllrs Rob Frost & Ann Murphy, Claire Tideswell (Amey) & Andy Metcalfe (First Bus).

**Ian Hague** welcomed everyone & invited **Dr Alan Billings** (S.Yorks Police & Crime Commissioner) to speak.

He started by saying this meeting was the closest he had attended, to his home in Crookes; in somewhere like Doncaster telling his audience he "lives in the middle of crooks" causes some consternation!

Having been in post since November 2014, Dr Billings found the work of the police "an eye-opener", having to write an annually reviewed action plan, based on asking local people what they want from their police – "the common thread" is "feeling safe" – at home, work & in public places both day & night. With regard to funding, South Yorkshire police receive about £190m p.a. from the government, & £50m from the Council funding – but this year the government decided on a 5% cut in the budget sent to the area. "Cut to the bone it has been a very difficult year". He has overseen a new Local Policing Model in which the previous two teams (response police – after a 999 call, for instance) & safer neighbourhood police (local PCSOs & PCs) are combined – with staffing cuts being made in the backroom to secretarial staff etc. Our dedicated local PCSOs – Gary Hizam & Pam Thompson will from the implementation in September 2015, "own everything that happens" in our area & file immediate reports back to base on their laptops. **Chief Insp. Jane Forrest** took the floor & said she felt there were "very real opportunities", with officer skillsets being upgraded, & shift patterns changing, to meet modern crime needs.

Questions were taken – Lydgate Lane's police house flag was thoroughly approved of! The 101 service needs looking at; perhaps too many call-takers have been lost causing waiting time delays in replying back to callers. New technology is being bedded in.

**Gary & Pam** had little to report this quarter; a stolen vehicle recovered & perpetrator arrested. Watch out for "rogue traders" & cold-calling in zone streets.

#### **NATIONAL TRUST ALLOTMENT**

**Martin Gourley** (NT volunteer) asked for more helpers at the NT-run Hagg Lane allotment his team have brought back into production. Every Tuesday they meet - can take home produce they've grown. Unwanted produce is taken to Longshaw café. It was also suggested that Stephen Hill & Tipton Cong lunch clubs could benefit from the surplus.

**Debbie Kerry** (Hagg Lane Allotment Society) reminded people of the current weekend plant sales - & the shocking vandalism last year on site.

#### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

**Ian Hague** read out a report from **Amey (Streets Ahead)** – work on Sandygate zone lights are almost finished; pavements to be done in June. Fulwood will see kerbs & pavements in July - affected streets will receive letters.

**FirstBus** had also sent a report - Chester Zoo coach confirmed. Summer weekend services to Derbyshire have started – 240 & 241 Sheffield to Bakewell & Chatsworth, 273 to Ladybower, Derwent & Castleton (2 hourly). More information can be found on [www.firstgroup.com/peakdistrict](http://www.firstgroup.com/peakdistrict). The 51 is in the middle of consultations about how the changes have gone. Clarkson St is closed (Children's Hospital work); inbound 51's etc can only turn right along it & so avoid the roundabout.

**Moor View Farm** – Ian has contacted Jaguar estates re the poor sight lines for vehicles leaving the site & the danger of pedestrians getting run over - advised that while development is taking place someone will be in attendance to direct the huge Lorries exiting & entering the site.

**Manchester Rd** – any support for requesting the 40 mph limit be reduced to 30? – contact Ian.

**Plough Inn** – a report that this had been sold to Sainsbury's, - Local people have started a campaign to have the building registered as a "community asset".

**Scout Hut** (Benty Lane); fundraising is taking place to provide disabled facilities here.

**The Crosspool Tavern** is due to close for 4 days for refurbishment.

#### **COUNCILLOR'S Q&A's**

**Cllr Geoff Smith** was asked to look into Moor View Farm - disturbance to a Den Bank Close garden. No decision had been reached for use of the blue box v blue bin for paper waste.

The problem of overcrowded local junior schools was raised – parents are not happy that they must drive their children great distances to their allocated school – while other parents are coming in the opposite direction to bring their children to Lydgate schools.

The settings of the Manchester Rd pelican crossing– very short GREEN light for cars to pass as compared with Fulwood Rd was brought up

Vehicle parking with two wheels on pavements inconsiderate not a police priority.

The multiple failure of some new Amey streetlights on Stephen Hill Rd & on Manchester Rd over the last few months, were discussed.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT.**

**Angela Southward** said 27 Market Stalls had paid up, as had Clarion advertisers. The Tai Chi classes are just about covering their costs. The main annual insurance has been paid.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LIAISON?** – Ian requested anyone running a business to attend the Open Meetings & put forward their views

#### **EVENTS:**

**1/ Festival Week; Sally Turnbull** said the Festival brochure will be delivered in the next Clarion, or available in the precinct. There will be a scarecrow competition!

At Stephen Hill Church - Monday morning Jazz session with Ian Sharpe - Thursday evening Gala Concert with The Sheffield Folk Chorale with an accomplished Harpist & the usual entertainment each morning

Plans are now underway with Pat Lintott for the Well Dressing - celebrating the 800th anniversary of the signing of the Magna Carta

**2/ Car Boot sale** – Sat, 8am 6th June, Crosspool, Tavern Car Park.

**3/ Nominations** please for local charities & community groups to receive proceeds from the festival Week –one had been received by the Management Committee to date, any further nominations by 6<sup>th</sup> May.

**The Next Open Meeting will be on Thursday 30th July.**