



## Market Harborough

**COMMUNITY FORUM 29<sup>th</sup> September 2010**  
**Held at the Evangelical Church Hall, Bath Street, Market Harborough**

- Marion Lewis - Chair
- Councillors present – Councillors Pain, Bremner, Knowles, Mrs Johnson, Dr Hill, Dunton, Davis
- 9 members of the public
- Police representatives – Sgt Jelbert, W Martin
- NHS – L Rowbotham
- Officers present - R Abbot, S Mortimer, D Van Der Wardt, P Rowbotham, S Done, M Howling, S Pointer

**Apologies received** – Councillor Rook

**Approve Notes of last Meeting** – amendment and information regarding issues with food bins not being insect proof, an Officer from Harborough District Council due to contact customer regarding this, P Rowbotham to contact department regarding this issue.

### 1. **Matters outstanding from previous meeting**

- Replacement door locks – contact received regarding this had gone astray. HBS now in contact with Seven Locks Housing, Phil Clark will liaise directly with them to ensure reimbursement of costs.
- Toilet closure – Councillor Bremner explained that although the priorities of the Council had not changed it would be carrying out an audit of all toilets within district which will include footfall, cleanliness, cost etc but budgetary restrictions in the current financial climate would have to be taken into account. Also if the community should come up with any business plans to keep toilets open they should submit these to the Leader Councillor Rook and these would be put forward to the Executive.
- Your Voice Your Choice - The two projects still outstanding from the last meeting have now been allocated funding and can both be progressed. The volunteering project working with Young People at risk of being excluded from education has received £3750, The BeSafe project has been allocated £500 to cover volunteer expenses to accommodate referrals to assist with advice re security. All projects had now been notified and most were now in action. The top voted project was the Mobile Cinema. Alastair Campbell updated the meeting that this will now be sited at Harborough Football Club,

where they will also be able to use the clubs booking and toilet facilities. The mobile cinema is now undergoing refurbishment, with test runs planned for December. The Cinema will be open to the public in January with the new Harry Potter film. The cost for the work will be approximately £50,000, it will be run as a non profit making company and any excess funds will be reinvested into the town. For more information regarding this project, please visit [www.harboroughcinema.com](http://www.harboroughcinema.com)

Chair asked that for future notes any business outstanding which has been completed is marked 'CLOSED' against the note, this would be done from next notes.

## **2 NHS Consultation**

Liz Rowbotham from the NHS talked to meeting regarding a patient questionnaire regarding community pharmacy services within the area. 132 pharmacies providing a range of care, this questionnaire will look at the community needs, there have been 787 responses, the highest user groups are the under 5's and over 70's. Leicestershire County and Rutland County have adequate provision of pharmacies, but there are some locality issues that need to be looked at. Any changes to the NHS needs will be rolled out over the next 2 – 3 years. Copies of the questionnaire were available to the meeting and could also be accessed and downloaded from [www.lcr.nhs.uk](http://www.lcr.nhs.uk)

Q. Will the out of hours pharmacy still be provided by local chemists?

A. Yes but not specifically linked

Q. When looking at adequate provisions is it graded?

A. It is based on likely need and the age, health and rurality of the area

Q. Village surgeries are closing what provision will made for this?

A. 65% of pharmacies will now deliver prescriptions where the level of need requires it

## **Local Police update & Community Safety Partnership -**

An update of information regarding an overview of the priorities locally and local issues –

Issues locally

- Drinking in streets –have been working on a successful campaign in partnership with mobile CCTV to focus in on hotspots of trouble in Market Harborough and Lutterworth
- Halloween trick or treat – educating people regarding the effect this can have on vulnerable people and the fear and anxiety it can cause

Priorities -

- Anti Social behaviour (ASB) in centre and town parks down dramatically on last year
- Speeding on certain roads – speeding will always be an issue but operations are being carried out on certain roads.

- Burglaries in rural districts, there has been a rise in figures, but overall the rate is falling, with a figure of 84 less than last year.

The meeting was advised that people should be aware and keep windows and doors locked if possible to avoid burglaries.

Phone numbers for reporting crime

Urgent – 999

Not urgent – 0116 222222

Community Safety Team – 01858 821352

- Q. Concerns regarding drivers not seeing young people on bikes/skateboard as they leave skateboard park on to Bellfield Road, due to parked cars
- A. Police will investigate this issue
- Q. Concerns raised regarding people cycling in St Mary's Place clearly signposted, what can be done regarding this?
- A. May be issues over signage, the Police will look into to this
- Q. There is a discretionary drinking ban, is there any consideration given to smokers?
- A. The drinking ban is discretionary, but there is an easy approach as most licensees do not let drink outside their part of the conditions

**Local Development Framework** - S Pointer for Harborough District Council introduced this topic and explained that this is a document to look at our core spatial strategy, this is a document looking at the infrastructure in place to support development and the effect of development on local traffic volume. New Government has decided that local authorities should make decision on where and how many properties would be built throughout the District. It was explained that the amount of dwelling anticipated to be built in the district by 2026 was 1200, and that the major area planned for development was Airfield farm, it is anticipated that it would have its own infrastructure, and that this would rely on additional transport measures. The consultation period for this document and plan is from 15 October and it could be viewed at the council offices and parish councils. A proforma for feed back will be available on the council's website, and feedback for this will be for 10 weeks from 15<sup>th</sup> October. The group felt that as it was such a major issue they would like to consider a further forum prior to December to discuss this matter and asked could officers arrange a special meeting for all the forums to discuss this.

**Local Transport Policy & Issues** – Derk van Der Wardt brought information to the group about the Leicestershire Local Transport Plan. A Local Transport Plan is used to prioritise how budgets are spent by identifying priority areas of work. This includes budgets related to public transport, road safety, infrastructure improvements and maintaining roads and pavements. The plan will outline how Leicestershire's transport system will be managed and maintained in the future to support economic growth, Reduce carbon emissions, Contribute to better safety, security and health, Promote equality of opportunity, and, Improve quality of life and a healthy natural environment

The report will be out for public consultation on 1st October 2010 until 26th November and will be available on the LCC website, or contact LCC for a paper copy.

Information regarding the **winter maintenance** plans was handed out to the group, this showed the criteria regarding roads that would be treated, methods by which road are kept clear. Ensure that there is sufficient salt, vehicles, drivers and fuel to deal with cold snaps. Winter maintenance period is from 1<sup>st</sup> October till 30 April, 09/10 was the worst winter for 30 years and supplies of salt did run low but was restocked through additional supplies from Eastern Europe.

### **Question Time**

- Q: What provision is Harborough District Council intending to make for allotments in the Harborough District?
- A. Harborough District Council is fulfilling the duty placed on it by Section 23 of the Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908 by providing 100 plots on 3 separate sites within Market Harborough and a further 29 plots in other parts of the District. The Council has no further plans or indeed resources to add to the current provision.
- Q. The proposed closure of the council offices would be detrimental for the residents of Market Harborough.
- A. Cllr Bremner noted that the Council is at the start of this proposal and are looking at options that would suit the 21<sup>st</sup> century needs of the town. No decision has yet been made, consultation with the public will be made.
- Q. If the council buildings were vacated what is it likely to be used for?
- A. Too soon to say.
- Q. What are the councils doing to consult with residents about the cuts and savings they need to make in their budget?
- A. Derk van der Wardt answered that Leicestershire County Council will be consulting every household about its future budget through a survey that will be distributed with the next edition of the Leicestershire Matters leaflet. Harborough District Council will be publishing a special edition of Talkback which will be delivered to every household, and also questionnaires with its Citizens' Panel & the Youth Council.

### **Date of next meeting**

Next meeting will be 29 March 2011