

Guiseley & Rawdon forum

Minutes of meeting
7pm-9pm, 5th February 2013
Rawdon Little Moor Primary School hall

- | 1.0 | <u>Introductions</u> | Actions |
|------------|---|----------------|
| 1.1 | <p>Cllr Latty welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the evenings speakers
Police ; Inspector Richard Coldwell
Highways; Gillian Macleod – Transport Development Services Manager (GM)
Nathan Hunt – Principal Traffic Engineer (NH)
Richard Holdsworth – Operations Manager (RH)</p> | |
| 2.0 | <u>Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Matters Arising</u> | |
| 2.1 | <p>2.5 Disappointment was expressed over the analytical skills of the Inspector in terms of deciding the number of houses allocated for Leeds in the Core Strategy. Cllr Latty advised that numbers are still to be confirmed and the important part of the decision was not the numbers rather the distribution.</p> | |
| 2.2 | <p>12.4 Concern was expressed over what the precept might be if Guiseley formed a parish council. Cllr Latty advised that Leeds City Council would set the first years precept for a new parish or town council. However no estimate can be given for either the first year or subsequent years.</p> | |
| 3.0 | Neighbourhood Policing Update | |
| 3.1 | <p>Inspector Richard Coldwell was present to provide an overview of the recent police changes that had taken place in Leeds and also at a more local level.</p> | |
| 3.2 | <p>The Police service had to find £125 million of savings across West Yorkshire without losing frontline officers. The three divisions are merging into one with a new headquarters to be sited at Elland Road from April. Millgarth police station has been sold and Holbeck is for sale but Otley police station is not closing. Inspector Coldwell is staying on to lead the team there approx. 75 staff including the airport officers. When questioned he said he did not believe the public would see any detriment to the level of service and things should remain the same or improve.</p> | |
| 3.3 | <p>Local performance over the past year remained about the same. Anti-social behaviour issues were down. Burglaries are down 32 on this time last year although there has</p> | |

been an increase burglaries from non dwellings garages, sheds etc. Insp Coldwell advised that 30% of these break ins were from insecure properties and thieves had just opened a door and taken goods. Lock it or lose it.

- 3.4 Insp Coldwell informed the forum that there was a budget for target hardening property paid for by local Councillors. CASAC would install good quality locks if there was a need and if people were given the opportunity to have the work done they should take advantage of the offer.
- 3.5 There is an ongoing issue with a group of young people hanging out at the McDonalds on the Westfield trading estate. Police are working with the company to come up with a strategy to handle the problem
- 3.6 Insp Coldwell talked about the need to find sustainable solutions, working with partners and the community to resolve issues. The area is large for Police to cover and expectations from residents are high. However on a positive note the crime rates are lower than ever before. Bad weather does have an effect to lower crime rates but only temporarily. The cuts being faced by Police will not affect frontline services such as firearm licensing checks.

4.0 Highways and Transportation

- 4.1 Highways were asked about the planning application made by Guiseley AFC to increase capacity from 3k to 4k in anticipation of their being promoted. GM advised the application was being considered and the effects of the extra traffic, cars and potentially buses would be looked at. Concerns were expressed that traffic and parking was already an issue in Guiseley without extra pressures. A discussion took place around parking spaces and the car park at the football club not being utilised during the week. Consideration to be given to improved signage for the car park but it is recognised that this is not a popular space as people prefer to park on the road. Netherfield Road car park is well used and a question was asked around the car park having an extra deck to double capacity. This would be an expensive option as the current foundations would likely need reinforcing to cope with the extra weight.
- 4.2 A complaint was heard about the stretch of road near the Benfield Ford where cars were unable to pass if a bus was parked at the bus stop. NH agreed that he would investigate the issue.
- 4.3 A discussion took place around the problems with the EMIS site. A complaint was made about driving down Greenacre Road and the traffic issues there. The forum was advised

that Highways are aware of the issue and are carrying out surveys; these should generate some proposals to mitigate the problems.

- 4.4 It was acknowledged that cars are parking on the grass and this was a hazard. Highways advised EMIS continue to enter into discussions with them regarding the ongoing parking issues. Whilst EMIS have 100 spaces they are a staff intensive company. Rawdon House have now sold another storey which will only worsen the situation. It was asked why Planning had not been involved but as there was no change of use involved, there had been no requirement for permission. Cllr Latty said he had asked that the company look at increasing the car park provision at Micklefield Lane but so far EMIS had not responded. He asked if GM could put any pressure on them to do so.

GM

- 4.5 A suggestion was made for webbed matting to protect the grass on the EMIS site to allow extra cars to park was discussed but this did not appear to be a straightforward solution and may be unsightly which would not be popular with residents.

- 4.6 The lack of driveways on Ings lane causes parking problems. The issues at Ings Lane might be solved by a yellow lines being put along Back Lane however it was acknowledged this would only disperse the cars.

- 4.7 All agreed Guiseley has no quiet days and weekends were busy football match or not. A complaint was made about the tarmac on Oxford Road breaking up and pot holes appearing near the railway bridge.

- 4.8 The planned maintenance team have identified a section from Netherfield Road to the A65 to be resurfaced. RH advised the Netherfield Road to Towngate section was in poor condition. It had been part resurfaced 10 years ago but had failed quickly and patching had been done. It was hoped that Oxford Road would all be resurfaced in the near future so major resurfacing was not to be done in the meantime. No work is currently planned for Kirk Lane to the retail park.

- 4.9 RH informed the meeting on how potholes were dealt with. In case of an urgent problem it would be made safe within 24 hrs. with whatever materials possible. A return visit would then be made to patch the hole, which would hopefully last long term. Full resurfacing work would be contracted out. Work was guaranteed for 12 months in most cases.

- 4.10 A complaint was made regarding the condition of the road on Moorway that had been resurfaced last March. Highways are aware of the problem with 30 yards of road that was not done properly and had believed the contractor had sorted this out. RH to

RH

- 4.11 chase up the matter.
A question was asked regarding the comeback on utility companies who excavate and do not reinstate to a good standard. RH advised that this is monitored but by national agreement there was a requirement only to monitor 6% of jobs. The companies are obliged to put right any works within 12 months or they can be fined but unfortunately,
- 4.12 frequently roads are left for many months without proper reinstatement. Action would be taken to pursue the contractor in the vent of reports from the public.
A complaint was heard that Oxford Road had seen excavation by utilities and different contractors had carried out repairs but there had been impaction by traffic. Highways
- 4.13 advised the company was waiting for the full 12 months to do a full repair before the council carried out a final inspection. Cllr L
It was felt that guarantees for work should be longer and utilities should be more strictly dealt with, could this be escalated to the MP?
Grit bins were discussed next and a question was asked as to removal of a grit bin on Belmont Grove. Cllr Latty responded that the road was of an insufficient gradient to warrant a yellow grit bin however an approach could be made to their local Otley and
- 4.14 Yeadon Councillors for a blue grit bin as their locations were agreed with members as opposed to Highways. RH
- 4.15 A report was made of several grit bins on Netherfield Road, by the car park, that were empty. RH to look into.
It was commented on that the correct procedure to report a damaged manhole, pot-hole etc. was to either; ring the call centre on **0113 222 4407** , email Highways at; **highways@leeds.gov.uk** or contact a local Councillor.
- 4.16 In terms of future works, pedestrian phases had been requested at the junction by the Station pub. A design has been agreed but the effect on traffic flow needs to be
- 4.17 considered. Cllrs Pat Latty and Paul Wadsworth have been looking at this junction for a solution to make crossing safer particularly for school children.
A question was asked over the hold up of traffic near the gyratory with a left hand turn only lane by the side of Aireborough Leisure Centre. Highways responded that the road
- 4.18 had been reorganised to reduce accidents but that it continues to be assessed and in view of increased traffic NH will have a look at it again. NH
- 4.19 Concerns were heard about speeding traffic on the stretch of road from Kirk Lane to the JCT roundabout. The Councillors agreed that they would support speed cameras but it was acknowledged that Highways would have to prioritise, as there was a limited

budget.

4.20 In terms of 20mph zones, both Benton Park, which incorporates Quaker Lane, and Back Lane in Guiseley should be complete by April 2014.

A discussion then took place regarding the promised traffic lights at the Hawksworth Lane junction. There have been numerous difficulties with the contractor going back years. GM explained that a reduced cost scheme had now been agreed with the contractor and there was an expectation it would proceed May or June 2014. However

4.21 Leeds City Council are still to receive the agreed costs from the contractor and if this is not forthcoming legal action would need to be considered.

Questions were asked as to why this scheme has taken so long to be implemented. In addition did the fact that the costs had been revised mean that the scheme would not be as robust. GM explained that the original agreement had not been strongly worded and had not put the council in a good position to enforce it. Discussions over cost and scope of the works had been ongoing but the revised scheme did not compromise on

4.22 safety and the costs saved were from the omission of an unnecessary footpath and amended kerb lines.

GM was asked if she had the power to get S106 money before a scheme commenced which would avoid this situation. GM agreed that S106 money could form part of a

4.23 contract with triggers for it to be paid as in before first occupation. In this case the other junctions were completed as agreed but this one remained outstanding.

With regards to the airport there are currently no plans for the potential link road,

4.24 perhaps running from the crematorium on the A65 up Red Beck to go forward. A railway link would be very costly and there is nothing in the pipeline for this.

A report was made of the traffic lights by Manor Square in Otley being hard to see due to the filters. NH advised that filters were supposed to make the traffic light easier to see in bright sunshine but sometimes they could be knocked and obscure the lights, he will check have them checked.

NH

5.0

5.1

Any Other Business

Cllr L

5.2 A concern was raised regarding the condition of the stone chimney on the Naylor Jennings site; which appears to be leaning towards the red brick chimney. This has been inspected but no further action has taken place.

Leaflets were made available for the forum in regard to the proposal to form a Guiseley Parish Council. It was heard that the Aireborough Neighbourhood Forum were in

- 5.3 discussions over boundaries as the ANF are approaching designation by Leeds City Council to create a neighbourhood plan for Aireborough.
Cllr Latty commented that he believed a forum that had a neighbourhood plan for the whole of Aireborough would be of more benefit in terms of locality than a parish council only covering a part of the area and additionally the forum would not have a precept attached.
- 5.4 A concern was raised over what democratic safeguards were in place in terms of a neighbourhood forum. It was explained that there would need to be a minimum of 21 people to form a forum and they should be from a range of; businesses, residents, different ages with a range of experiences and backgrounds, but all associated with Aireborough by residence or work.
- 5.5 Concerns were again expressed over the undetermined precept and how a parish council came into being. It was explained that there would have to be 1000 signatures from residents giving support to the proposal and then a referendum carried out by Leeds City Council before anything would be agreed.

The next meeting will be at Guiseley Methodist church on Wednesday 4th April 2014