

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY ORDER & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 8.00PM ON MONDAY 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023 AT THE CIVIC HALL, POYNTON.

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr L Podmore

Councillors: Cllr L A Clarke substituting for Cllr J Waterhouse. Cllr M Beanland substituting for Cllr Ms H Whitaker under SO52.

Cllrs P Bailey, J Saunders, T Swatridge

Also in attendance: Will McKellar, Citizens Advice, Sergeant H Percival.

Officers in attendance: K McDowell (Deputy Town Clerk), G Thurgoland, (CCSO Supervisor), S Duke (Communities Co-ordinator.)

1. Anyone attending or present at the Committee meeting declares that they are making, or intend to make, an audio recording and/or film the meeting

The Chair confirmed that the meeting is recorded for the purposes of minute taking and the recording is deleted when the draft minutes are produced.

There were no other declarations of a recording of the meeting.

2. Questions from members of the public

There were members of the public present regarding agenda item 16, Cheshire East Car parks and item 17, Greater Manchester Fire Service consultation.

**RESOLVED: That agenda items 16 followed by item 17 are moved up the agenda (NC)**

3. To receive and consider the email from a resident to Cheshire East Car Parks and their response regarding the directional signs and traffic flow in the Civic Centre car park.

A member of the public spoke on the email she had sent to Cheshire East and Poynton Town Councils raising concerns around the one-way signage in the short stay section of the Civic Centre car park. She stated that she repeatedly witnesses cars going the wrong way around the car park to obtain a parking space, at speed, despite one way signage displayed and is concerned that the one-way signs were advisory and therefore should be adhered to, although the system was not regularly monitored or enforced. The member of the public was not happy with this response from Cheshire East and concluded that the signage was pointless and needed to be upgraded. Sergeant Percival advised that as the signs were in a private car park and they were probably put up because they are recognisable and identifiable signs. Regarding enforcement, if there was an accident then there were other offences that could be looked at by the Police. CCSO's would not be able to do public education or monitoring of the car park as they only have jurisdiction on the highway.

It was agreed that the car park lines and arrows on the ground needed repainting. The Deputy Clerk confirmed that Waitrose are responsible for the short stay carpark where these lanes are sited. Cheshire East is responsible for the long stay section.

**RESOLVED: That the Deputy Clerk writes to Waitrose to ask them to consider re-painting the road markings and no entry signs in the short stay section of the car park and a post be added to Facebook reminding users to adhere to the one-way system. (1 abs)**

4. To review, consider and agree a response to the Greater Manchester Fire service consultation to review nighttime cover at Offerton Fire Station.

A member of the public spoke regarding item 17 on the agenda. He introduced himself as a constituent and a Firefighter from a fire station in Stockport. He advised that Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service are conducting a Fire Cover Review and it is only a proposal at present. Greater Manchester Fire Service, a metropolitan brigade has whole time stations. The stations are crewed 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Offerton Fire Station regularly comes cross border to assist in Cheshire and can also be the first pump to attend. The Fire Officer advised that the Fire Review proposes to turn Offerton fire station from whole time to day crew. From 6.00pm to 8.30am they would act as a retained station. The saving that would be made by downgrading the Offerton station would result in 2 more fire engines in Greater Manchester. The Fire Officer suggested that Cheshire Fire & Rescue maybe unaware of these proposals and the affect it would have.

A member spoke of his personal experience involving the Fire Service. The Poynton fire engine took six minutes to arrive closely followed by the fire engine from Offerton.

The member recommended that the Town council should show their support by publicising the review on the Town Council website and Facebook Page, encouraging residents to respond.

A member who up to recently sat on the Cheshire Fire Authority confirmed that Cheshire fire Authority is aware of the proposed changes and a response is being put together by Lee Shears, Cheshire Fire Authority. He also confirmed that all fire attendance is organised by the Northwest Regional Fire Control, covering Manchester, Cumbria and Cheshire and they would always send out the nearest fire engine which would still happen if Offerton were to change albeit with an extended performance time.

Another member who had also previously sat on the Fire Authority wanted to know if Congleton changes, where is the nearest full time fire station to Poynton. The Fire Officer suggested it was Cheadle. The member advised that it was necessary to clarify which station with full time cover was nearest to Poynton. A member also noted that Offerton fire station covers Stepping Hill Hospital, which would need a prompt response time in the event of an emergency.

**RESOLVED: That the Town Council should respond to the consultation on plans to reduce nighttime cover by;**

- **Publicising the consultation on Facebook, so residence can have their say.**
- **Contacting Lee Shears at Cheshire East Fire service to make sure they are aware of the consultation and ask what the current nighttime arrangements for Poynton are.**
- **Respond formally to the consultation, pointing out that Offerton is often the first rig to arrive at a fire in Poynton the proposals will have an adverse effect on Poynton if nighttime cover is reduced and the Town Council firmly believes that the Offerton Fire Station should remain fully crewed 24 hours a day (NC)**

5. Apologies for absence

Cllrs D Belcher, J Waterhouse, Ms H Whitaker,

6. Declarations of disclosable pecuniary or other interests

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary or other interests.

7. To approve as an accurate record of the minutes of the previous meeting of the Community, Order & Public Safety meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023

A member pointed out a typing error on page 223.

**RESOLVED: That the record of the minutes of the previous meeting of the Community, Order & Public Safety (COPS) Committee meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023 were approved as a correct record with the amendment of a typing error (NC)**

8. To receive and consider the action log for 2022-2023

The Deputy Clerk gave an update regarding the HGV limited requested for the town. This has since been discussed at the full Town Council with an action to send an email to Craig Browne to advise the police would enforce where practicable. The response will be reported back to full town council.

**RESOLVED: That the request for the HGV weight limit is moved from the COPS committee to Full Town Council (NC)**

**RESOLVED: That the action log for 2022-2023 is received (NC)**

9. To receive and consider the CCTV incident report from Cheshire East.

**RESOLVED: That the CCTV incident report from Cheshire East is received (NC)**

10. To receive a verbal update from the Macclesfield North and Poynton Beat Management Police Team from 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023 to 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

ASB incidents 23 (14 previous period)  
Repeat location Oakfield Road (7)  
Barnaby Park (3)

Burglary 12 (6 previous period)  
Attempts on properties 3.  
Shed burglaries 2.  
Burglary 1  
Cars stolen from property 6.  
Male on remand for series of burglaries across Poynton, Disley, Tytherington and Prestbury

Commercial burglaries 2 (1 previous period)  
3 arrested for breaking into Lexicon House

Theft of motor vehicle 0 (3 previous period)  
Theft from motor vehicle 1 (1 previous period) – Tools from a van

Theft other 4 (12 previous period)

Drugs 3 (8 previous period)

Criminal damage 3 (3 previous period)

Speed Indicator Device (SID) is not working at the moment due to a software issue. Resolution under investigation.

Tru Cam:

Activations 36 (21 previous period)

18.03.23	London Road North 6
08.04.23	London Road North 8
31.05.23	Middlewood Road 0

10.06.23	London Road North 4
23.06.23	Middlewood Road 0
04.04.23	Chester Road 7
04.05.23	London Rod North 3
06.05.23	Woodford Road 0
11.05.23	Brookledge Lane, Adlington 5
10.06.23	Woodford Road 0
12.06.23	Brookledge Lane, Adlington 4

**RESOLVED: That the verbal report from the Macclesfield North and Poynton Beat Management Police Team is received (NC)**

11. To receive and consider the report from the Citizens Advice North Cheshire.

Will McKellar from Citizens Advice North Cheshire gave an overview of his report. A member made the observation that the report demonstrates that there is a definite need to have an advisor in Poynton. The majority of interviews are in person and this too demonstrates what a worthy service it is.

Themes this period included the impact of the high cost of living and that people are making claims for benefits that they wouldn't normally make in an attempt to supplement their income. Tenants are coming to Citizens Advice because their homes are being sold, landlords can no longer afford the property.

**RESOLVED: That the report from the Citizens Advice North Cheshire is received (NC)**

12. To receive and consider the report from end March 2023 to end June 2023 from the Town Council's Community Support Team Supervisor (CCST), Gary Thurgoland.

Members discussed and considered the report. The Committee have asked if the report could be printed in colour with data markers so that incidents on the graphs could be easily identified. A member asked about reports of drug taking on Anson Road. The CCST confirmed that they had found no evidence.

**RESOLVED: That the report from end March 2023 to end June 2023 from the Town Council's Community Support Team Supervisor, Gary Thurgoland is received. (NC)**

13. To receive and consider the report from end March 2023 to end June 2023 from the Town Council's Communities Coordinator, Sharon Duke and to agree the recommendations within

The Communities Coordinator gave an overview of her report highlighting the Coronation events, events relating to Dementia Week were highlighted and the re launch of the Dementia Guide. The Chair asked if any of the volunteering opportunities from the "Big Help Out" had been taken up. She confirmed there had not been any feedback.

**RESOLVED: That the report from end March 2023 to end June 2023 from the Town Council's Communities Coordinator, Sharon Duke and to agree the recommendations within is received (NC)**

14. To receive and consider an application for a Community Grant of £300 for seasonal bedding from the Poynton Heritage Garden Volunteer Group

The grant request was considered.

**RESOLVED: That the application for a Community Grant of £300 for seasonal bedding from the Poynton Heritage Garden Volunteer Group is received and awarded (NC)**

15. To review the criteria for applying for a Poynton Town Council Grant and to agree any changes

The Deputy Clerk gave an update on the current criteria and recommended that it. The Deputy Clerk advised members that there were some uncertainty and possible legal difficulties when funding Church and school projects. Applications from a Church should be none religious and application from school must be non-core educational needs, PTA applications are fine. If there is any doubt on whether we can issue one of these grants CHALC could be contacted for advice. A copy of Nantwich Town Councils grant policy was shared as an example of best practice for awarding grants.

**RESOLVED: That an updated Community Grant Criteria is drafted taking best practice from the Nantwich Town Council model and brought to the next meeting for consideration (NC)**

16. To receive and consider the email from the Neighbourhood Watch network regarding the Neighbourhood Watch Community Safety Charter.

The network and charter were discussed. Attempts have been made to contact them for further information but no reply has been received.

Sergeant Percival advised the members that the police have a police led messaging system that residents and homewatch groups can sign up to. This service is reviewed every year. Sergeant Percival confirmed that there were not a lot of residents on Neighbourhood Watch anymore. Residents tend to use What's App covering their own areas.

**RESOLVED: That the email from the Neighbourhood Watch network regarding the Neighbourhood Watch Community Safety Charter is received and noted but no action to be taken (NC)**

17. To receive and consider the email from the ASB and Community Enforcement Manager at Cheshire East regarding potential joint funding for locking Barnaby Park.

A member confirmed that since the locking up at Barnaby park has been in place, residents have been able to enjoy their gardens again. The problem does not seem to have moved elsewhere in Poynton.

The Deputy Clerk reminded Councillors that Poynton Town Council do not own this park and are therefore not responsible for it so should not become involved with day-to-day activities. However, we are able to help submit a joint funding request to try and secure funding for the locking to continue, with the practical arranges being organised by Cheshire East if successful.

**RESOLVED That the Town Council supports any bid made by the ASB & Community Enforcement Manager at Cheshire East to secure funding for them to continue locking/unlocking Barnaby Park (NC)**

18. To note the following actions taken under SO51;

- That 50 coronation emblems and 50 round union decorations are purchased to decorate shopping areas in the town at a cost of £345.00.

**RESOLVED: That the purchase of 50 coronation emblems and 50 round union decorations to decorate shopping areas in the town at a cost of £345.00 is noted (NC)**

19. To receive and consider a verbal report from the Deputy Clerk on the library consultation.

The Deputy Clerk advised that the report has changed to a written report sent out from the Clerk regarding the library consultation. The Clerk has put recommendations at the end of the report for the committee to consider.

The Deputy Clerk gave an overview of the report. Cheshire East Library Service want to reduce the library opening hours across Cheshire East. The proposal was discussed at Town Council and the Clerk prepared a draft response to be sent to Cheshire East regarding the “topping up” request.

**RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange a meeting with Cheshire East to discuss topping up. All Town Councillors to be invited. Once the meeting has taken place the draft response will be circulated to all Councillors and approved under SO51(NC)**

20. The Chair proposed an urgent item regarding the local bus consultation under SO19.

**RESOLVED: That the urgent item regarding the Bus Consultation should be added to the agenda (NC)**

A member gave an overview of the local Bus Consultation.

**RESOLVED:**

- That PTC respond to the consultation pointing out elderly, disabled, non-drivers rely on the service and even in a so-called affluent area there are still people in poverty and there is no alternative transport links to the bus.
- That the Consultation is sent to Cllr K Booth, Chair of FIED.
- That the Bus Consultation is publicised in the PUN and on the Town Council Facebook Page. (NC)

21. To consider and agree any communication messages arising from this meeting

**RESOLVED: The following messages should be communicated (NC)**

- Bus Consultation
- Library Consultation
- Car park one way system
- Fire Service Review

Meeting end time: 9.45pm

Chair.....

Dated.....