



Community Forum Action Notes

Forum: Coseley East and Sedgley

Date and time: 1st November, 2021 at 6.30pm

Venue: Online on Microsoft Teams

Attendance:

Councillors: Councillors S Keasey (Chair), P Drake (Vice Chair), T Westwood, B Gentle, S Ridney, M Evans

Officers/Police: PCSO Coffield, Lydia Cooper (Community Development Worker), Linzi Pearson (Community Development Worker) and Kate Edwards (Area Liaison Officer)

Members of the public: 9

1. Welcome and introduction to the meeting

Kate Edwards as Area Liaison Officer welcomed all present to the meeting.

2. Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair

Councillor Keasey was appointed as Chair of the forum and Councillor Drake as Vice-Chair for the remainder of the 2021/22 municipal year.

3. Apologies and declarations of interest

Apologies were received from PS Beaumont and PS Sanders.



4. Communities Together

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Action/Response</u>
The success of the recent Community Cluster event was mentioned with a focus on loneliness and isolation.	Noted.
The Men's Only Group at Summerhill Community Centre was profiled as a positive resource for the community, particularly for those who are widowers.	Councillor Ridney to circulate further details and all Councillors to share information on social media.
The sad death of Jim White and the good work he did in the community was acknowledged.	Noted.
Thanks were recorded for improvements to the War Memorial and the tarmacking of paths in the old cemetery. Plans were shared to add storyboards to the area surrounding the Memorials.	Noted.
The success of the Hurst Hill Junior PCSO scheme was shared. Ten pupils had been learning a range of skills and were awarded a certificate. Parents were being supported back into the workplace via classroom assistant training and qualifications	Noted.
PCSO resources in the Sedgley area were queried by the Streetwatch representative and a request was made to see the litter picking activity built upon.	Assurances were provided and PCSO Coffield advised that this would be addressed under the Police update. The good work of the Streetwatch group was recognised and that the Community Forum grants were highlighted as a possible source of funds for equipment

Query was raised regarding the way in which various agencies work together to address low level anti-social behaviour.

The Chair offered to invite Councillor Taylor to the next Forum to provide a response.

Concerns remain regarding access to the former Horse and Jockey pub site, where anti-social behaviour was an ongoing issue. Councillor Ridney noted this had been looked at, including the Council's Environmental Health Department.

Chair and Councillor Evans suggested that the installation of CCTV at the site could be explored in liaison with the Police

Sherpa cameras' were flagged as a potential useful measure in relation to a number of issues.

PCSO Coffield to confirm whether these devices were still in use.

Concerns were raised regarding the lack of access to sporting and recreational facilities in Sedgley.

Noted.

Query raised concerning the future of the former Age Concern building.

The Chair noted that a process was underway to secure the building for community use.

A number of crime and safety concerns in the area were raised, including parking on pavements.

Members of the community were encouraged to pass information on to the Police and to report 'in progress' anti-social behaviour. All Councillors were working on traffic calming measures at a number of locations across the area.

5. Police update and discussion

Subject

Action/Response

The value of the Junior PCSOs programme was again acknowledged.

Noted.

Staffing – There were two full-time and two part-time PCSOs, with the additional support from other Officers, which included student Officers. Additional PCSO resources were expected, however, no firm timescale had been set.

Noted.

Speeding was being addressed – several Community Speedwatch initiatives were operating across the area.

Coseley figures were to be provided. A request for specific crime figures for the Forum area was made for future meetings.

Crime as a whole in Sedgley was reducing (burglary, theft, car crime)

PCSO Coffield to progress with Councillors.

It was felt that there was a need for frequent meetings between Councillors and the Police, possibly on a monthly basis.

PCSO Coffield to discuss with Police colleagues.

Success in tackling individuals involved in persistent anti-social behaviour through effective partnership work.

Noted.

Concerns were raised regarding the riding of scooters on pavements in Roseville and across the ward by underage people and adults. Query was raised concerning the attitude/position of the Police on the issue.

The Police have powers to seize when necessary and had been liaising with businesses. PCSO Coffield to confirm the current position.

Frustrations with the speed of investigations/lack of feedback on reported incidents were raised.

PCSO Coffield noted the challenges in terms of time in providing feedback on all reported incidents.

A requirement for Speedwatch to work in Brownswall Estate to Gospel End was raised.

PCSO Coffield was happy to support community members who wished to set this up.

6. Community form funding

The Area Liaison Officer noted that there had been no new funding applications received for the Forum to consider and that the report provided contained a record of all funding applications that had been agreed since the last meeting. The Area Liaison Officer advised that Simon Manson, Public Health was happy to receive any questions on the report and would respond to these outside the Forum.

Action: Councillor Evans requested a further breakdown of the figures for Community Forum Funding over the past two years. The Area Liaison Officer to share this request with Simon Manson, Public Health for a response.

An update from the Friends of Alder Coppice Nature Reserve was provided. The new educational noticeboards had been well received by the community. There had been good community engagement and very little vandalism. The group were thanked for their good work.

7. Arrangements for next meeting

The invitation to provide feedback on the present pilot of virtual community forums was shared and links to the survey and reflective session were provided.

Councillors Keasey and Evans noted their preference for face-to-face forums moving forward.

Meeting ended at: 8.20pm