

**WITHAM AREA PANEL  
18<sup>th</sup> October 2006**

**Present**

Ian Marshall (Vice Chairman)  
Carol Suttle  
Miriam Clarke  
Keith Bigden  
Les Davies Community Warden

Arthur Dunn  
Shelia Vincent  
Richard Scott  
Carol Hine

**Apologies**

Valerie Ahern

Graham Eavery (Chairman)

Panels Members expressed their concern that the nominated Ward Members were often not attending the meetings or offering their apologies.

**Notes from Previous meeting**

The panel agreed the notes from the previous meeting

**Community Wardens town centers and urban areas**

Les introduced himself and the role of the Community Warden and how he hoped to improve the quality of life for the residents as well as reassure them while out patrolling. Currently as the post is new and routes and times are still subject to fine-tuning. Once this has been agreed Les will arrange for this to be circulated. Les is also arranging for contact details to be placed in prominent locations where there may be problems.

Members of the Panel highlighted area of concern for Les to monitor

Action: Les to arrange patrols and contact details for Richard to circulate.

The Panel considered issues around anti social behaviour and felt that many young people feel that there is little for them to do. Carol Suttle explained that in the past she had tried to secure the use of the old pavilion between Spinks Lane and Hatfield Road estate for the use of the young people.

Action: Richard to investigate if this can be resurrected

As the Panel felt that young people are key to a number of issues they would like to focus the next meeting purely on this.

Action: Richard to arrange next meeting focusing on Young People and the issues they face.

The links between the police and Community Warden was discussed the panel were keen to know the number of police patrolling the Witham area and the phone numbers of the neighbourhood policing teams.

Action: Richard to provide details of the number of police offices and the contact details of the neighbourhood policing teams.

**Environmental Improvements**

Richard presented the report giving an update on the individual schemes. Members noted the report saying that they would like to utilise any under spends this year to prepare for schemes next year. The panel felt that next year the funding should be allocated to larger parking schemes and identified two as priorities. The two are Honeysuckle Way Witham and St Andrews Road Hatfield Peverel.

Agreed: Richard to use any under spends to forward fund schemes at Honeysuckle Way and St Andrews Road in preparation for completion next year .

Problems with footpaths on estate inspections were raised, as some repairs were not being dealt with as they are outside the control of Braintree District Council. Particular areas were Powers Hall End and Hatfield Road estates.

Action: Richard offered to accompany Dave Woods, the Estate Manager, on the next estate inspections covering these areas

A request was made to mark out parking spaces in Bryony close to make more efficient use of the space.

Agreed: Richard to try and fund from this years budget.

**Performance indicators**

The Panel considered the performance indicators provided, however due to the terminology, abbreviations and the lack of footnotes they found some areas difficult to understand.

Action: Information to be provided in a 'user friendly' manner.

**Any Other Business**

Grass cutting was felt to of poor quality in some areas with bits missed and the paths not cleared afterwards.

Action: Richard to notify Street Scene services of areas of concerns.

Traffic speeding along Honeysuckle Way was highlighted as an issue with a crash happening that evening. The Panel felt traffic calming might improve the situation.

Action: Richard to highlight problems to the police and Essex County Council.

Problems with rubbish being created around garage sites by those who use them purely for storage for trade purposes.

Action: Panel members to confirm location so Richard can arrange investigation.

Date of next meeting Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2006 Witham Town Hall  
Ian Marshall  
Vice Chairman