

**Minutes of a meeting of the Ashby Area Community Forum held at
Ibstock Community College, Central Avenue, Ibstock on Tuesday 8 July
2008**

Present

Members

Mr S D Sheahan CC (Leicestershire County Council) – in the Chair

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| Cllr R Bayliss | North West Leicestershire District Council/Ashby Town Council |
| Cllr A Bridges | Moira Parish Council |
| Cllr J Bridges | Moira Parish Council |
| Cllr J Hoult | North West Leicestershire District Council |
| Cllr R Merry | Oakthorpe and Donisthorpe Parish Council |
| Cllr G Jones | North West Leicestershire District Council/Ashby Town Council |
| Mr J Shepherd | Heather Parish Council |
| Mr P Hyde | Leicestershire County Council |
| Mr P Pugsley | Shepshed Parish Council |

In Attendance

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Ms R Elliott | Ibstock Community Enterprises |
| Rev V Elphick | Local Churches |
| Mr S Shepherd | Hospice Hope Charity |
| Mrs S Smith | Hospice Hope Charity |
| Mr C Tandy | Ashby Civic Society |

Partner Agencies

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|----------------|--|
| Ms C Davenport | Leicestershire County and Rutland Primary Care Trust |
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Officers

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| Ms K Ball | Community Engagement Manager, Leicestershire County Council |
| Mr A Davies | North West Leicestershire District Council |
| Ms A Flynn | North West Leicestershire District Council |
| Mr D Van Der Wardt | Leicestershire County Council- Community Engagement Team Leader. |
| Ms N Green | Leicestershire County Council – Better Places |
| Mr G Cave | Committee Officer, Leicestershire County Council. |

21. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited those present to introduce themselves.

2.

Apologies for absence were reported on behalf of: District Councillors F Fenning, R Blunt, and G Allman, Mr J G Coxon CC, Cllr T Nielson (Measham Parish Council) and Mrs K Last (Hospice Hope).

22. Declarations of Interest

The Chairman invited members of the Forum to make any declarations of interest.

Mr Hyde declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest (as a member of the Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee) in respect of the items covered in the PCT presentations (minute 27).

23. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Forum held on 29 April 2008 were agreed as a correct record subject to a correction being made to the spelling of the name of Dr O Mulka in the list of attendees.

24. Matters Arising from the Minutes

(i) Minute 19(a) : 'Community Kitty' – Participatory Budgeting

Kristy Ball reported that detailed proposals were being prepared on the practical arrangements for the allocation of budgets to the Community Forums and a report on proposals would be presented to the next meeting.

NOTED:

that a report would be submitted to the next meeting.

(ii) Minute 19(b): Ashby de la Zouch Police Station

The Chairman reported that, unfortunately, Chris Brown, Local Police Unit Commander, was unable to attend the meeting, as had originally been planned, in order to discuss the Forum's concerns regarding the effects of reduced opening hours at Ashby Police Station. He would attend the next meeting to update the Forum on the position and respond to questions.

As background to this matter, Mr Hyde, in his capacity as a member of the Leicestershire Police Authority, informed the Forum that reduced opening hours at divisional police stations had been introduced as a consequence of a reduction from four to three Divisions and the resulting reduction in resources. Cllr Bridges added that North West Leicestershire District Council

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had been informed by the Police at a meeting 9 months ago that the reduction in opening hours was due to a shortage in funding.

NOTED:

that this matter would be discussed in full at the next meeting.

25. Albert Village Maintained Nursery Class

Further to discussions at the previous meeting (minute 16 refers), Kristy Ball reported that representatives of the 'Albert Village Save Our Nursery Action Group' were unable to attend this meeting and that a response to their concerns, which they had elaborated upon at the last meeting, had earlier in the day been received from the County Council's Director of Children and Young People's Service. This response, which referred to new independent nursery provision being made in Albert Village, would now be forwarded to the Nursery Group for any further comments and the Group would be invited to report any further views back to the Forum if they wished.

AGREED:

- (i) to note that the response of the Director of Children and Young People's Service to the Nursery Group would be forwarded to the Group for its consideration and the Group be asked if it wished to make any further representations at the next meeting of the Forum; and
- (ii) that the Forum's concerns be expressed to the Director regarding the late receipt of his response which had not given the Nursery Group the opportunity to make any further representations at this meeting.

26. Name of the Forum

The Chairman reminded the Forum that, at its previous meeting, members had decided that a more appropriate name for the Forum would be the 'Forest Community Forum' and officers would make arrangements for this change of name to be considered by the District and County Councils.

Alan Davies reported that the proposed name change had been considered by the District Council which considered that it should now be reported to the District Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) for agreement. Derk Van Der Wardt added that it had been the practice in respect of proposed changes to the names of any Forums for these to be considered by the appropriate LSP.

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AGREED:

that the North West Leicestershire LSP be recommended formally to agree that the name of the Ashby Area Community Forum be changed to the 'Forest Community Forum' in order to reflect better the whole of the area of the county which it covers.

27. (i) PCT Consultation on the Community Health Services Review; and
(ii) NHS Dentistry Services in the Forum Area

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting Cheryl Davenport, Director of Strategy at the Leicestershire County and Rutland PCT, who had been invited to discuss the above two issues with members of the Forum.

(a) Cheryl Davenport gave a presentation on the Community Health Services Review consultation proposals. Copies of the presentation slides and the full and summary consultation booklets were circulated at the meeting and are filed with these minutes. The following main points were made in the presentation:-

- The public consultation process runs from 16 June to 5 October 2008. Copies of the consultation questionnaire were included in the booklet and it was also available on the PCT website. Public consultation events were listed in the consultation document.
- Proposals for Ashby and Lutterworth were not included in the first phase of the public consultation. Copies of a leaflet providing an update on work to date in these areas was circulated at the meeting and is filed with these minutes. Public consultation on the developed proposals would take place in 2009.
- The four options for development at Ashby and District Hospital were set out in the leaflet. Cheryl Davenport undertook to check to ensure that these corresponded exactly with those listed on the PCT website.
- Involvement in an advisory group on the proposals was open to Forum members and those interested were asked to contact Jo Cooper, PCT Engagement Lead (Tel. 0116 295 7626 / jcooper@lcrpct.nhs.uk);

(b) Cheryl Davenport then responded to concerns that had been expressed about access to NHS Dentistry Services in Ashby, Measham and Ibstock in particular. She undertook to provide the Community Engagement Manager at the County Council

5.

with an e-mailed list of the names of dental practitioners in the Forum area and whether or not they took NHS patients. This list would then be circulated to Forum members. There were ten practices on this list, five of which currently took NHS patients and four of the practices (all in Ashby) currently did not do so.

It was explained that dental health needs assessments were regularly carried out to enable proper service planning to be undertaken. This assessment was currently being updated. Feedback would be provided to the Forum on the oral health needs assessment timetable.

Cheryl Davenport said arrangements could be made for the PCT Dental Lead to speak at a further meeting of the Forum if required.

- (c) The following main points arose in questions and comments:-
- The PCT was investigating with the Strategic Health Authority the accessing of funding for community hospitals' development. No plans to apply capital funding to a project would be agreed until the site plans have been agreed.
 - The Local Development Framework and the District Plan envisaged up to 15% population growth in Coalville and Ashby. It was explained that the PCT's plans took into account such population requirements through the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment which was reviewed annually.
 - There were no proposals for 'polyclinics' included in the consultation document.
 - In response to a query on whether Ibstock residents would be referred to Coalville or Ashby Hospitals, it was explained that this was based on post codes, the details of which would be supplied to Forum members.
 - The site group for Ashby Hospital comprised representatives of the patients' forums, GPs, PCTs and local authorities. The complete list would be e-mailed to the Community Engagement Manager for forwarding to Forum Members.
 - There would be no constraints on Ashby residents using Burton upon Trent Hospital after the Review is implemented – the emphasis would be on patient choice.

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AGREED:

that the Leicestershire County and Rutland PCT be informed that the Ashby Area Community Forum:-

- (a) would resist any moves to close Ashby Community Hospital; and
- (b) considers there should be a NHS dental service provided in the Measham area and in Ibstock and access to a NHS dentist in Ashby.

28. Priorities for the Forum

Forum members split into two workshop groups to discuss ideas for priorities for the Forum. The following ideas were then put forward by the groups to the full meeting:-

- (i) Evening/school holiday transport for young people.
- (ii) Ideas to tackle the causes of anti-social behaviour in the area, including considering alcohol and drug abuse issues.
- (iii) Progressing the extension of the Ashby Canal to Measham and the opening of the Forest Railway Line projects;
- (iv) Public Transport for Older People.

The possibility of using some of the funding to be allocated to the Forum in the future to address these issues was raised.

AGREED:

That reports be presented to the next meeting of the Forum addressing how the priority issues identified above could be progressed.

29. Question Time

The Chairman invited all those present to submit any questions they wished to raise about the local area on which officers would then endeavour to provide an oral response at the meeting, otherwise, a written response would be sent within the next 20 days.

A total of two questions were received and these are detailed overleaf:-

7.

| <u>Question</u> | <u>Submitted by</u> | <u>Question to</u> |
|--|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. There has been a noticeable reduction in grass cutting throughout the area. What is planned to address the issue? | No name supplied. (Paul Hyde) | Leicestershire County Council |
| 2. Will the Forum review the LDF consultation to be issued in Autumn 2008? | Chris Tandy | North West Leicestershire District Council |

The Chairman thanked everyone who had submitted questions.

30. Items for the Next Meeting of the Forum

The following issues were agreed for consideration at the next meeting:-

- (a) 'Community Kitty' - Participating Budgeting.
- (b) Ashby Police Station opening hours.
- (c) Local Development Framework.
- (d) Report back on Priorities.

31. Date, Time and Venue for Next Meeting

AGREED:

that the next meeting be held at 6.00pm on Thursday 27 November 2008 at a venue in Moira to be arranged.

6.00pm – 7.50pm
8.7.08