

**BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**

**COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM**

**4.00pm 2 MARCH 2015**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Councillor ; Simson (Opposition Spokesperson), Daniel (Opposition Spokesperson), Barnett, Carden, Deane, Mac Cafferty, Pidgeon, Robins and Wakefield

**Sussex Police:** Chief Superintendent: Nev Kemps

**Communities of Interest:** Richard Barraball (London Road LAT), Adam Pride & Councillor Gilbey (Portslade LAT), Colin Tribe (Marina LAT), John McPhillips (Tarnar LAT), Christine El-Shabba (Whitehawk Crime Prevention Forum), Derek Peacock (Independent Advisory Group – Sussex Police), Francis Tonks (Older People’s Council) and Dr Yagoub (Racial Harassment Forum).

**Officers:** Linda Beanlands (Head of Community Safety); Ruth Condon (Community Safety Team); Simon Court (Senior Lawyer); and Ross Keatley (Democratic Services Manager).

**PART ONE**

**27 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS**

**27aa Appointment of Chair**

27.1 Councillor Deane was appointed Chair for the meeting.

**27a Declaration of Substitutes**

27.2 Richard Barabell was present in substitution for Phillip Wells on behalf of the London Road LAT.

**27b Declarations of Interest**

27.2 Both Councillors Deane and Carden declared interests as members of the Fire Authority.

**27c Exclusion of the Press and Public**

27.3 In accordance with section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 (‘the Act’), the Community Safety Forum considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during an item of business on the grounds that it was likely, in view of

the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press or public were present during that item, there would be disclosure to them of confidential information (as defined in section 100A(3) of the Act) or exempt information (as defined in section 100I of the Act).

27.4 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public were not excluded from the meeting during.

## **28 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

28.1 Mr Francis Tonks noted his name had been omitted from the list of those present at the meeting.

28.2 **RESOLVED** – That, with the above addition, the minutes of the Community Safety Forum meeting held on 6 October be agreed and signed as a correct record.

## **29 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

29.1 The Chair announced that Item 30 would be taken together with the Performance Report at Item 35. It was also announced that issues around Safety Net and cybercrime would be considered at future meetings of the Forum.

29.2 The Forum also extended its gratitude to Councillors Mac Cafferty and Wakefield who had both served on the Forum for some years.

## **30 'YOU SAID, WE DID'**

30.1 The item was considered at Item 35.

## **31 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

31.1 There were no public items on the agenda.

## **32 MEMBER INVOLVEMENT**

32.1 There were no Member items on the agenda.

## **33 REPORT FROM THE POLICE & CRIME PANEL**

33.1 The Forum considered the report from the Police & Crime Panel. Mr Peacock provided some verbal feedback on the budgetary position for Sussex, and noted there were further meetings to take place on the implications of savings for the city.

33.2 **RESOLVED** – That the contents of the report be noted.

## **34 REPORT FROM EAST SUSSEX FIRE AUTHORITY**

34.1 **RESOLVED** – That the contents of the minutes be noted.

**35 PERFORMANCE REPORT & CRIME TRENDS: APRIL TO DECEMBER 2014**

- 35.1 The Forum considered a report of the Head of Community Safety in relation to Performance Report & Crime Trends: April to December 2014.
- 35.2 In response to queries about small motorbikes on the Downs and the associated nuisance this caused it was explained that due to budget savings much of the anti-social behaviour work had to be focused around housing; the Police needed to be made aware of these issues to work towards solutions. It was also suggested that ward councillors could play a role in assisting this reporting.
- 35.3 In response to Councillor Daniel it was explained that a great deal of scrutiny work already took place, and it was proposed that the areas where detailed scrutiny took place could be reported to the next meeting of the Forum.
- 35.4 **RESOLVED:** That the Forum note the contents of the report.

**36 PROTECTING CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE****A CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**

- 36.1 The Forum considered a report from Deb Austin, Head of Safeguarding, in relation to Child Sexual Exploitation. By way of introduced information was provided on recent work; local multi-agency working and raising public awareness.
- 36.2 Councillor Daniel asked a series of questions and the following responses were provided:
- In relation to emotional support there had been a meeting with key partners; whilst there was good provision available further work was needed around the pathways to join this up.
  - Engagement with communities took place through third sector partners.
  - There was a pan-Sussex approach in relation to CSE; whilst the authority did place young people out of area there were specialist social workers and information sharing was key.
  - Nev Kemp explained that work had progressed very quickly, and the Police were much better equipped to deal with this as it had now become one of their main priorities.
- 36.3 In response to Councillor Mac Cafferty it was explained that the authority had a robust whistleblowing policy already established, and incidents were taken very seriously. In response to further queries it was explained that work had taken place in schools to raise awareness through a play named 'Chelsea's Choice' for year 8 pupils – the play had been taken up nearly all secondary schools in the city. There was also teaching through PHSE lessons; literature distributed in schools and contacts in the MASH.
- 36.4 In response to queries from reps on the Forum the following responses were given:
- There had been positive feedback from the play in other authorities and this had helped to lead to a number of young people making disclosures.

- There were a number of young people identified as 'high-risk', the majority were girls and young women.

36.5 In response to Councillor Simson it was explained that in terms of identifying those potentially at risk the authority was considered to be ahead of others; there were currently 14 young people, but this number could fluctuate and there was evidence that the majority of those at risk engaged with services. Some of the challenges related to self-perception as many young people did not see themselves as victims of abuse. It was clarified that those at risk were more commonly around the 15-16 age group; work would be undertaken with the whole family and there were measures in place to monitor if they were missing from education.

36.7 In response to Councillor Wakefield it was acknowledged that there was a potential gap in reaching children of junior school age, and Officers could give this area further consideration.

36.8 **RESOLVED:** That the Forum note the report.

## **B THE WORK OF SAFETY NET**

36.9 This item would be considered at a future meeting of the Forum.

## **37 'ONE VOICE' COMMUNITIES COMING TOGETHER TO HELP KEEP PEOPLE SAFE**

37.1 Mr Fiyaz Mughal: Director of Faith Matters gave presentation in relation to 'One Voice' Communities Coming Together to Help Keep People Safe.

37.2 In response to Dr Yagoub it was explain that influencing the press was difficult as they often sought negative stories to report, it was important that work continue in relation to positive role models in Islamic communities. There was work already underway to report on good news stories, and it was hoped the group 'One Voice' could continue to work with the press.

37.3 In response to Councillor Daniel it was explained 'One Voice' was a local organisation, as it was new its position in relation to the other BME groups in the city was currently being worked through. There was an opportunity to build a sustainable organisation that was led by the service users and create a proper platform to engage with communities. The Head of Community Safety explained that the group had originated from conversations with communities and grown, it now included the Racial Harassment Forum.

37.4 The Forum discussed the far-right marches that had taken place in the city in recent years, it was noted that there was no event planned this spring; however, in the past the law had not allowed the event to be banned, nor would this prevent people from coming to the city.

37.5 Councillor Mac Cafferty thanked all those that had been involved in the project, and stated it was vital communities and LATs work together to show that Islamophobia was not acceptable. In response Mr Mughal stated that local councillors could help put this

message out in their wards through social media and press work and this could help shape how young people saw their own future.

37.6 Councillor Simson noted the role that positive press could make, and that this had been considered as part of the work of the Traveller Scrutiny Panel the previous year, it was also important that work be undertaken locally to try and engage with young people.

37.7 The Chair thanked Mr Mughal for this presentation and facilitating the discussion with the Forum.

37.8 **RESOLVED:** That the Forum noted the presentation.

**38 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

38.1 The following agreed dates for the 2015/16 were noted:

- 8 June 2015
- 5 October 2015
- 29 February 2015

The meeting concluded at 6.25pm

Signed

Chairman

Dated this

day of