

Town Centre Neighbourhood Panel
30th September 2010

Present:

Margaret Bannister	EBC Ward Councillor
Brent Dyer	Co-Principal Didac School
Mrs J A Evans	Resident
PC Scott Franklin-Lester	Police
Bob Gough	Crime Reduction Partnership
Ian Grasiner	Student Police Officer
Pam Hagon	Resident
Giles Harcourt	Resident
Marie Hennelly	Resident
Emma Jordan	EBC Community Enforcement Officer
Adrian Ley (Chairman)	Resident
Pauline Lorence	Homestay Organiser Didac School
Jan Lyalls	Resident
David Mitchell	Resident
Netta Nielsen	Resident
Jay Patel	Resident
Kareen Plympton	EBC Licensing Manager
Stephen Priestley	Resident
Eve Sheere	Resident
Barry Taylor	EBC Ward Councillor
V A Thomas	Resident
Georgina Wood	Resident

1 Welcome and Introductions:

The Chairman welcomed new attendees to the meeting and introductions were given around the table.

2 Apologies :

John Bradshaw	Resident
Nigel Goodyear	EBC Ward Councillor
Liz Goude	Resident
Richard Goude	Resident
Beryl Healy	ESCC Ward Councillor
Micheal Marchant	EBC Community Enforcement (
Jan Newens	Neighbourhood Watch
Roy Peacock	Neighbourhood Watch
Pauline Peagam	Salvation Army
Judith Robinson	Resident
Dianne Vernon-Dixon	Resident
Steve Wallis	EBC Ward Councillor

3 Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The Chairman described the procedure in which minutes and the agenda will be emailed to all attendees who provide an email address. They will also continue to be published on the Neighbourhood Panel Web Site. <http://www.eastbournenp.org/>

4 Matters Arising - Update on Priorities

On Going Priority – Anti-Social Behaviour, Late Night Licensing – Police
SFL gave an update covering a number of areas.

Licensing - Twelve license checks are carried out per weekend. Three problem premises are currently being looked at and two off licenses being monitored for sales. A warrant was executed at licensed premise under Misuse of Drugs Act.

Recent Drugs Warrants - Seaside Road above Ali Baba from public concerns. Norfolk Court from public concern. A large amount of class A was seized and two males were charged and remanded in custody.

Railway station operation with British Transport Police and Borders agency - 120 Stop Searches were carried out resulting in five arrests of which three were in relation to immigration.

Joint Working with Driver Licensing agency – An arrest was made for false representation.

Brighton University - PS Evans addressed the Freshers by On Monday 27th Sept. In addition to this extra patrols have been carried out with 56 hours being funded by the University.

Didac School – A talk was given to all new students about neighbourly behaviour, drugs, keeping safe and alcohol.

Evictions – As a result of antisocial behaviour evictions have been carried out at 17 Cavendish Place and Alistair Court.

OPS TEAM - During the last four weeks the team has carried out 225 extra hours of High Visibility Patrols making 20 extra arrests. They carried out 82 stops and stop searches and also issued 12 fixed penalty notices for speed management.

On Going Priority – Anti-Social Behaviour, Late Night Licensing - Council

KP reported on a range of activities including preparations for Freshers' Week, activities to promote responsible marketing of alcohol and test purchases. The action plan for one premises is coming to an end and a review meeting for the Big Apple resulted in a one month suspension. The Statement of Licensing Policy and the Sex Encounter Policy are being consulted on by Eastbourne Borough Council on their web site.

<http://www.eastbourne.gov.uk/council/consultations/2010/licensing-policy/>

<http://www.eastbourne.gov.uk/council/consultations/2010/encounter-venues-policy/>

It was also agreed that details of the Coalition Government revisions to the Licensing Act 2003 should be included in these minutes. These are as follows:

- Making the Licensing Authority itself a Responsible Authority, enabling it to initiate licence reviews in its own right, rather than simply facilitating reviews by other Responsible Authorities.
- Reducing the burden of proof required to justify refusing a licence application, or imposing conditions on a licence;
- Placing greater onus on the applicant to prove that the operation of a licensed premises will not undermine the Licensing Objectives or contribute to problems in the area;
- Increasing the scope for "interested parties" from within the local community to become actively involved in licensing processes;
- Making the health authorities 'Responsible Authorities,' and establishing a new 'prevention of health harm' Licensing Objective, so that the ill-health effects of alcohol consumption can be considered when determining licensing policy and applications in the Borough;
- Transferring appeals to the decision of a Sub Committee from the Magistrates Courts back to the Council;
- Enabling licensing authorities to develop and implement policies which stop certain types of premises in specified areas from opening between the hours of 12 midnight and 6 in the morning;

- Simplifying the process for implementing 'cumulative impact policies' by reducing the burden of proof required to demonstrate that they are necessary in a particular area;
- Enabling licensing authorities to charge a late night levy to help pay for the costs associated with the night time economy such as policing, taxi marshals, and street cleansing;
- Increasing the notification period for a Temporary Event Notice, and allowing more interested parties than just the Police the right to object to such an application; allowing the imposition of conditions and; restricting the number of Notices that a particular Personal Licence holder can apply for each year;
- Strengthening powers and sanctions in relation to underage sales;
- Banning 'below cost' sales of alcohol;
- Enabling licensing authorities to increase their fees to reflect the true full cost recovery for the licensing service;
- Allowing licensing authorities to revoke a licence if the annual fee has not been paid.

Emma Jordan answered questions about the work of Community Enforcement Team.

5 District Panel Update:

Items discussed have been covered by previous Town Panel meetings..

6 Neighbourhood Management Update:

BG reported that launch is being planned for November. A Strategic Group will be set up with a separate Operations Group being charged with developing an Action Plan. BG and AL will be members of this group. It is intended to have everything up and running by next January.

7 Review of Panel Priorities:

Didac School

Residents raised concerns about litter and noise caused by students congregating outside Didac School. Brent Dyer responded by outlining the school's policy in relation to these matters and the steps taken to address resident's concerns. It was reported that a site visit would be made the following morning to look at the issues further.

Vernon House

The resident feel that their concerns about Vernon House have not been addressed satisfactorily so further meetings will be held.

8 Any Other Business:

Eastbourne Borough Council is recruiting people to serve on the Council's Independent Remuneration Panel which is responsible for monitoring the authority's Member Allowance Scheme.

9 Date of Next Meeting:

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 25th November 2010 at 1900hrs at the Town Hall.