

Minutes of the 12th Meeting
of the
Seaside Neighbourhood Panel

Date: 10th November 2010
Chair: Jane Dubery (JD)
Location: St. Agnes Hall, Whitley Road
Time: 7.00 p.m.
Minutes taken by: Bill Whaley (BW)

Members present:

Police

PC Lisa Cousins (LC)

PCSO Kathryn Harlow (KH)

Councillors

Steve Wallis (SW)

Neil Stanley (NS)

Beryl Healy (BH) - County

Others

Sue Criddle – Dog Welfare Officer

Claire Banks – (Community

Enforcement Officer EBC)

In addition there were approximately 22 members of the public.

Apologies:

Sgt Gareth Evans, PCSO Steve Parsons - Police

Jan Newens – Neighbourhood Watch

Claire Russell – Housing Officer, Regency Park

Andrew Keefe – Community Liaison, University of Brighton

Pam Barker, Karen Hurst, Sheila Allen – Public Members

Updates on Priorities from 11th Meeting 8th September 2010:

Priority 1 – Antisocial behaviour and criminal damage in Regency Park:

LC reported that this period had been fairly quiet. Residents reported that although there had been some improvement the problem had not gone away. Residents would continue to report any antisocial behaviour.

Priority 2 – Drug dealing in the Burfield Road area:

LC reported that no further complaints had been reported but that the area of Burfield Road and Marine Road were regularly patrolled.

Priority 3 - Inappropriate drinking in Seaside Recreation Ground:

LC reported that there had been no further complaints.

Other actions/Priority Discussion issues:

- 1. Dog Fouling.** Peter Thorley reported that there had been severe fouling in the Christ Church/Hanover Road area, especially outside the Shining Lights Nursery. Children had had to be told not to step in it. Sue Criddle undertook to follow this complaint up. Sue also briefed the panel on the Latimer Road/Channel View area where there had been lots of dog fouling. Her team had conducted a blitz of the area in late October for 6 hours in the evenings and spoke to lots of dog owners. Since then there had been no reports of dog fouling in that area and the team would now move to another area. Residents reported that there were still problems with alleyways and felt that the Enforcement Team were not large enough to deal with the problem and again asked for CCTV to be fitted in the area. It was explained that there might be problems with “invasion of privacy” but the Council again undertook to investigate funding for such a project.
- 2. Fly Tipping.** Justin Taylor representing the business community reported fly tipping to be on the increase in Sea Beach Lane (which runs parallel with Seaside. Claire Banks undertook to follow this up and Justin undertook to try to get more of the business community involved and attend the Neighbourhood Meetings if possible.
- 3. Blitz Team.** It was reported that Operation Blitz was still running and all members had recently been contacted to verify their contact details in order to continue to receive alerts. The Blitz Team deal with under age drinking and antisocial behaviour outside. The same problems inside houses and flats are dealt with generally by the Environmental Health Department and Regency Park residents reported that this had been the case with them.
- 4. On Your Doorstep and Active Student Volunteering.** Beth Thomas-Hancock and Ceri Davies from the University of Brighton explained initiatives whereby student volunteers can work on volunteering projects to improve the community for everyone. If anyone has a project (either new or ongoing) that would improve the community then please contact Active Student on 01273 644145 or by email at volunteering@brighton.ac.uk Check out the website at www.brighton.ac.uk/volunteering
- 5. “Quality Streets” Event.** All residents were invited to this event due to take place at the Seaside Recreation Ground. Officers from the Neighbourhood Policing Team and Roads Policing, EBC’s Community Enforcement, Waste Awareness, Environmental Health and Dog Warden, Eastbourne Homes, East Sussex CC Trading Standards and Youth Development Service, Sussex Police Authority, Neighbourhood Watch, Neighbourhood Panel and the Home Safety Team from the East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service would be in attendance between 3pm and 8pm. Over 200 home surround the Recreation Ground and it was hoped for a good turn out.
- 6. Environmental Visual Audit.** An audit had been conducted around the Seaside Recreation Ground and generally the area seemed to be okay except for one car which had been vandalised.
- 7. Car Vandalism.** Residents reported that there had been a spate of incidents especially in the Seaside Recreation Ground area. 8 cars in one night were vandalised and the total cost of repairs could have been quite high (one repair alone cost in excess of £300). The cause was

thought to be tied into the throwing out time of clubs and happened late night/early morning. The problem seemed to be getting worse with Seaside and Addingham Road also being affected. This is the first time this has been raised with the panel. In addition to this area residents of Regency Park reported that the car park under Batemans House had been the scene of car and bicycle vandalism with cars being broken into and bicycle locks being cut off. Fittings for the bicycles to be locked to had also been damaged.

8. **Alleyways.** A resident reported that an alleyway behind Latimer Road (between Seaford Road and Channel View Road) had had a drain cleared at one end but not at the other. Council action required to clear other end.
9. **Car Wash in Latimer Road.** This car wash was apparently obstructing the pavement in Latimer Road and the Community Enforcement Team undertook to deal with it.
10. **Drug Dealing in Treasure Island Car Park.** Residents reported that they had seen drug dealing taking place in the Treasure Island Car Park. LC invited anyone noticing this to report the date, time and place of the incident to the police and they would deal with it.
11. **Police and Problem Issues along the sea front.** One resident recommended that the Police should have their own column in the local papers to promote the problem issues along the sea front. The main problems were the cyclists, roller bladers and 3 wheelers. Councillors pointed out that problems on the highways can be dealt with by the police as they come under East Sussex County Council. Eastbourne Seafront comes under the Borough Council and therefore the Enforcement Team deal with problems here. Safety is the main issue and the whole Cycle Strategy for Eastbourne is being discussed. Some areas are difficult to resolve (such as the Pier to Redoubt) and any change is subject to funding. The Council undertook to provide regular updates.

Councillor Briefings:

Neil Stanley (NS), Borough Councillor, reported the following:

1. **Signage.** 16 signs were expected to be erected along the seafront during the winter months and new signage from the town centre to popular places of interest (theatres etc) was being looked into.
2. **Magnificent Motors Event.** This event for 2011 was likely to take place in Princes Park or Five Acre Field to enable visitors to see the motors actually in use as opposed to a static display.
3. **Hot Air Balloon.** A Hot Air Balloon was likely to be on Five Acre Field during the summer months to enable those who wanted a chance to have the experience.
4. **Beach Volleyball.** A Splash Point Area by the Redoubt has been identified as an area where Beach Volleyball could take place. Still under discussion.
5. **Redoubt Victorian Christmas Market.** This was no longer feasible for 2010 but was on the agenda for 2011.
6. **Christmas Lights.** The budget for Christmas Lights for 2010 has been increased from £7K to £57K.

7. **Eastbourne Christmas Carnival.** This event depends upon approval for road closures but it is intended to run from The Grand to Princes Park.
8. **Spending Review (Eastbourne Borough Council).** The Council are aiming for 30% cuts after 4 years. Regarding buildings and senior Council staff, the move from 68 Grove Road to 1 Grove Road will save £300K per year in rent. 1 Grove Road is owned by the Council.
9. **Loyalty Card** – Local businesses are being approached in regard to the possibility of bringing in a Loyalty Card for regular customers.

Beryl Healy (BH), County Councillor, reported the following:

1. **Parking Charges.** This is an ongoing battle with the County Council and the decision by Matthew Lock to reduce the seafront parking charges from 1st December 2010 to 31st March 2011 has been reported in the local papers since this meeting took place. BH reported that there is likely to be a flat rate charge of 40p for up to 4 hours parking with up to 6 hours being under or around £1.
2. **Street Lights.** If anyone is having problems with street lights they should let BH know.
3. **Snow Clearance.** Following reports last year that clearing snow from outside your own home could cause legal problems if someone slipped over BH clarified the situation. There is no legal issue and in the event of snow downfalls residents are encouraged to clear away any snow in the area of their own house. Salt may be made available locally.

Steve Wallis (SW), Borough Councillor, reported the following:

1. **Alleyway Clearance.** The alleyway between Beach Road and Seaford Road was the next on the list to be cleared. He also reported that he has asked for Alleyways to be included in the tender for the next contract for cleaning services in the Borough. Community Payback has been used in some areas in the past.
2. **Seaside Recreation Ground.** On a recent inspection of the Recreation Ground he has noticed that a tree was missing from one area. This tree will be replaced.
3. **Redoubt Litter Bins.** The litter bins recently set on fire near the Redoubt will be replaced.
4. **Royal Sussex Regiment Association.** The Council have been approached regarding a memorial to “Those Lost in Burma” to be placed in The Pavilion Gardens near the Redoubt.
5. **Hot Air Balloon.** SW felt that the Security staff that will look after this balloon may well help in reducing vandalism issues in the area.

Street Meetings and the work of the Neighbourhood PCSO's:

PC Lisa Cousins and Sue Criddle had been working together on antisocial behaviour especially concerning noisy students.

District Panel:

At a meeting held on 3rd November 2010 to which all panel Chairs attended. the Council gave a presentation on Initiatives for Eastbourne – further information if required is available from Jane Dubery. Also discussed was the need to encourage “high-tech” businesses into Eastbourne as we were a low wage town. The Neighbourhood management was also discussed and one interesting point that

was raised was that Seaside Panel was one of the largest and there may be a need in the future to split the area

Priorities:

It was agreed that the priorities for this period would be:-

1. Dog fouling in Hanover Road area (especially outside Christ Church).
2. Vehicle crime in Winchelsea Road, Wartling Road, Princes Park and Regency Park
3. Vehicle crime especially on Saturday evening/Sunday morning in Seaside, Royal Parade, Beamsley Road, Latimer Road and Addingham Road.

Date of Next Meetings:

12th January 2011, 9th March 2011, 11th May 2011, 13th July 2011, 14th September 2011 and 9th November 2011 at St Agnes Hall, Whitley Road (it is hoped that one of these meetings, possibly May or July, will be held at the Regency Park Community Centre).