

ACTION NOTES

MEETING:	Burnham, Dorney and Taplow Local Community Area
DATE:	18 February 2009 7pm to 9:46pm
LOCATION	Burnham Football Club

Present:	Dev Dhillon, Trevor Egleton, Elizabeth Jarvis, Marie Hammon, Lin Hazell, Jean Horwood, David Merrick, Kathie Webber
In Attendance:	Chris Furness, Jim Stevens, Alison Derrick, Helen Wailling, Chris Schwier, Zoe Ford
Apologies:	Karen Adamson, Shorne Tilbey (SBDC), Maureen Royston (SBDC), Peter Cathcart (Farnham Royal PC); Martin Kenealy (BCC)

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3	Action Notes/Matters arising
	<p>The Action Notes of the meeting held on 26 June 2008 were agreed as a correct record.</p> <p>P.2, Item 4 - Maintenance funding – a member said that the local community was not getting its fair share and that the action from the last meeting had been to circulate a paper. Jim Stevens said that this was accurate, and said that he recommended using the outturns for the current financial year. Some work would be carried out on this and brought to the next meeting. ACTION: JS</p> <p>Jim Stevens said that in a couple of days they would also be in a position to base the work on the next year's budget. ACTION: JS</p> <p>A member said that it would be useful to see how the budget was split on roads. Jim Stevens said that this would be included.</p> <p>P.3 – Alison Derrick reported that Karen Adamson had arranged an Adult Social Care drop-in on 28 May 2009 in Summers Road Car Park, and would be grateful if members could advertise this. Action – KA to supply flyers</p>
4	Local Area Technician – round up of current issues
	<p>Chris Schwier introduced his colleague Zoe Ford, who covered Stoke Poges, Farnham Common, Farnham Royal, Iver, Wexham and George Green. Martin Kenealy, who covered the other half of the area sent his apologies. Chris told members the following:</p> <p>Technicians had four main responsibilities: Highway maintenance, Street works, Development Control and Traffic Management. Keeping in touch with local Councils also took up a huge chunk of their time.</p> <p>Vehicle-activated Signs had not yet been installed, due to a supply problem. They would be in place by the end of the financial year.</p> <p>They were also now using TSIDs (Temporary Speed Indicator Devices), which could be used for up to two weeks and could be requested by Parish Councils. Zoe Ford said that these had been used in Iver and were very effective.</p> <p>Footpath – Thames Valley Water had agreed that it was their solicitors who were delaying this. Thames Valley Water had moved the fence.</p> <p>Any funds left over from the current year would be spent there. It had cost BCC c. £100 000 to build the footpath, and the figure derived from the feasibility study had only been an estimate.</p> <p>The footpath would be completed by June 2009 and would allow a crocodile route to be completed all the way to Dorney School.</p> <p>In places the footpath was quite narrow as it had to be fitted into the space available.</p>

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The footpath would be a legacy from the Olympics.

Signs in Burnham – the wrong times were shown on the signs about length of free parking in Summers Road car park. This was being dealt with and would be changed.

Burnham A4 signs – these would also be moved in the following week.

Berry Hill – the footway would remain fenced-off until the next financial year, due to funding prioritisation. A bid for the carriageway to be resurfaced had been submitted.

Community Gang would be in the Beeches Area the following week. However bad weather had been predicted, which could mean that it was used on higher priority work. The gang would deal with minor issues in Parish – cleaning signs etc. The aim was to restore local pride in the area. The gangs would hopefully visit more frequently in the following year.

A member asked about the bollards in Lent Rise outside the Esso garage. Chris Schwier said that bollards had been put outside the Esso garage, although there had been a problem due to residents in Lent Rise not moving their cars, which had delayed the work. The member said that they thought there were two different Esso garages being discussed, and said they would talk to Chris after the meeting.

A member of Farnham Royal Parish Council said that the Council had sent a request for a TSID but had had no response. It was agreed that the request would be resent.

A member asked if the speed checks carried out by NAGs were connected to use of TSIDs. Chris Schwier said that these were separate, and that the NAGs used speedwatch (there were some issues with this). However there was no duplication of work. Alison Derrick said that she received the NAG meeting notes and picked up any duplication that way. Chris Schwier said that BCC had worked with the Police in Iver to install hard-standings so that the Police could carry out enforcement there. BCC regularly supported NAGs on these sorts of issues.

Zoe Ford told members that flooding had been the biggest local issue. There had been an improvement on Templewood Lane. In Stoke Poges work had been carried out on footpath 24. There had also been some work with the owners of Hamilton Way. Black Pond Lane was still of concern and there was an ongoing water leak which the water company could not locate. Ditch cleaning would be carried out to remove water from the road. This had been delayed due to the bad weather. A member said that there was an 'accident waiting to happen' on Black Pond Lane.

Zoe Ford also reported that work would be carried out on One Pin Lane soon.

A member said that on the Templewood Lane Junction with A416 there was a very big issue with flooding and that the road had been a sheet of ice during the cold weather. Chris Schwier said that the Common was now maintained by the City of London and that BCC would be speaking to them. A member said that the owners of Pickeridge had diverted a water course which they should not have done.

Chris asked members to be patient when there was heavy rain. The highest priorities were properties under threat from flooding. However warning signs would be put on the road.

A member said that in the previous year's delegated budget there had been £5000 for an island in Wymers Wood, and asked if the money had been lost. **Action: CS to find out.** The member also asked about the pinch point at Ship Hill, Burnham Road. **Action: CS to find out.**

Jim Stevens stressed that it was the detailed local intelligence that BCC gained from these

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meetings that made it so important that they continued to be well-attended by all Parishes.

5 Preparations for the 2012 Games in South Bucks

Padraig Herlihy, South East Co-ordinator for SEEDA, was welcomed to the meeting. Padraig told members that the Games should either be referred to as the *2012 Games* or the *2012 Olympics and Paralympics*.

Padraig gave members a detailed update on the preparations being made for the 2012 Games and how the local area could contribute to and benefit from these.

A member asked about active lifestyles and asked if PCTs were being engaged.

Padraig said that the NHS had become involved late in the process.

There would be a big conference held in the Spring for NHS partners, who would then produce their 2012 Plans.

A member said that the Buckinghamshire LAA had childhood obesity as one of the target areas.

Regarding volunteering, a member said that they were meeting with Bucks Voluntary Action and asked if there was any information to be passed on.

Padraig said that this was a very broad area. Consultants were currently doing some scoping work. There would be a clearer agenda by the end of the next year.

The member asked about using volunteers in peripheral areas, and suggested seeking permission to produce a badge/branding to allow volunteers to say that they were involved in the 2012 Games.

Padraig said that Kent had a greeters programme in place, and that the greeters in Sydney had continued to work in that capacity after the Games had finished.

A member asked about the 'personal best' programme. Padraig said he would send details.

A member also asked about younger people, specifically looked-after children. The member asked if all the opportunities would be in London or if they would be equally spread.

Padraig said that it had been established that volunteers were needed from all over the world, in all walks of life, of all ages etc. The process so far had been 'free-market' – prospective volunteers should just sign up.

Over half of the 70,000 volunteers needed would be required to have a qualification (paramedics, referees etc).

LOCOG (The London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games) would not pay travel/accommodation expenses for volunteers, and this would need to be taken into account.

Jim Stevens said that Buckinghamshire was effective in encouraging bike use and that it would be great to have the Tour de France back in Buckinghamshire.

Padraig said that there was a practical issue in that there had to be a maximum of a two hour transfer from France for competitors (so Kent or Essex would be better locations). However for the last three years SEEDA (South East England Development Agency) had supported the Tour of Britain, which went through Buckinghamshire.

Chris Schwier said that there was also a major cycle race every year in the Chiltern District, which had brought forth some Olympic champions in the past.

Jim Stevens said that BCC was currently developing a £25m coach way project for Handy Cross. However this was entirely dependent on Government funding, and a business case was being developed.

More confidence was needed in the scheme, and support from ODA (Olympic Delivery Authority) would be very helpful.

Padraig said that the Olympic Route Network Consultation was out at the moment.

However the Olympic Plan was wider and included the public.

SEEDA was supporting the Handy Cross project and pushing the ODA very hard.

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6	Youth Issues – Update
	<p>Lin Hazell reported on the sterling work that Sam Dilks, Burnham Youth Worker, was doing across the area. The work carried out had turned round the non-attendance and anti-social behaviour, and things were really improving. Lin also thanked Chris Furness for allowing Carol Bennett to sit on the Youth Club Committee and for the excellent work she did locally.</p> <p>A member from Farnham Royal Parish Council said that Sam Dilks was very good at going out and recruiting young people for the Farnhams Youth Club.</p> <p>The Youth Club now had two hours in the Church Hall on a Friday, which 16 younger children attended. The Club had been very generously supported by local councillors and organisations. The biggest problems were finding volunteers, and delayed CRB checks. Jean Horwood suggested writing to the Chief Constable.</p> <p>Alison Derrick said she would take this issue back – ACTION: AD</p> <p>Lin Hazell also highlighted Dorney and said that Alan Russell was doing great work.</p> <p>Alison Derrick referred to a Stoke Poges youth event work on 28th March 2pm, and an event on 'de-mystifying' youth work on 10th March.</p>
7	Overview of Budget 2009/10
	<p>Lin Hazell told members that there was a County Council meeting the following day when the budget would be confirmed. BCC would again be hard-pushed financially.</p> <p>Members had looked at the budgets, and there would be back office cuts.</p> <p>It was estimated that there would be a £22/23m shortfall in years 2 and 3 if nothing was done. Further details of the budget would be given at the next meeting.</p> <p>The Chairman added that there had been a Member challenge and also OSC scrutiny of the budget.</p>
8	Environmental and Highways Issues
	<p>Jim Stevens updated members on Environmental and Highways Issues and said that any of the issues could be looked at in more detail at the next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current contracts with Fitzpatrick and Jacobs would finish at the end of March 2009. Ringway Jacobs would take over the contract from 1 April 2009. Ringway Jacobs was a major national organisation. • Winter Maintenance – there had been media coverage re: shortage of salt. In the face of the shortages deliveries were co-ordinated by Government. However Buckinghamshire had planned very well and still had 1400 tonnes, which was enough for 17 days of normal gritting. Without heavy snowfall, 1400 tonnes was sufficient for the season. However 750 tonnes could be used in one day with the very heavy snow. • Pot-holes – this was a national problem due to snow and frost. BCC was putting more resources into pot-hole filling and it was a priority for the Service. Pro-active pot-hole filling was being carried out, following the salting routes. • 'We're working on it' project – the work of the patching gang would be extended in 09/10. Decisions for work were made by the local Members whose views were informed by local people. The cluster group could have a huge role in this. • Delegated Budget – Chris Schwier had written to all Parish Councils with a schemes list. The delegated budget would be determined and approved through local area forums from 2010/11 onwards. • Impact of lorries on A355 – the strategy was to encourage all Slough trading lorries to use another route. A meeting was imminent with the Chief Executive for Slough Trading Estate, which would be attended by Trevor Egleton, Val Letheren, the Head of Transportation at Slough Borough Council and representatives from the A355 Action Group. The Parish Council had been invited too and dates would

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- be supplied. **ACTION: JS**
 - On 4 March 10am – 2pm, Beeches National Nature Reserve was holding an event to celebrate partnership work so far and consider the future of Burnham Beeches. Jim Stevens suggested that a representative from the Corporation of London, who managed Burnham Beeches, be invited to a meeting in the future.

A member said that the A4 notice routed HGVs onto the A355 and asked if this had been followed up. Chris Schwier said that he would look into this. A member also referred to the signage from the motorway service area, and said that lorries could join the A355 that way. The Chairman said that the directional signage would need to be monitored, and joint working with the Police was necessary. Chris Schwier said that the Motorway Service Area Working Group would continue as a monitoring group.

9 Proposed Introduction of a Local Area Forum

Alison Derrick said that the South Bucks Joint Local Committee and the Local Strategic Partnership had now merged to form the South Bucks Partnership. BCC wanted to move forward with Local Area Forums and a proposal for the local area was attached to the papers. Members were asked to take this back to their Parishes. The main addition was some outline proposed funding which would be devolved to local area forums in South Bucks.

A member of South Bucks District Council noted that the Minutes of the meeting of the South Bucks Association of Local Councils meeting had not yet been published. The member said that they hugely regretted that some members had decided to boycott the meeting rather than attending to put their views forward. The member said that the local area forum would be adding another layer in the current structure, and that the South Bucks Partnership was a hugely inclusive meeting. The member asked why there could not be a South Bucks LAF joined to the SB Partnership. Alison Derrick said that the LSP had to cover the whole District and was much more strategic than a local area forum. Joining the two could result in very long meetings. BCC was aiming for a way of giving local people a much greater voice. If there was another way of doing this, Alison said she would be very happy to take it back. The member said that BCC said that there was no 'one size fits all,' but that they were 'shoe-horning' Parish Councils into the BCC model.

The Chairman said that BCC had agreed on 19 local areas as this number was the number that balanced local groupings with economy in terms of officer resource. Local area forums were working well in the Aylesbury Vale and Wycombe districts. There would be funds devolved down to the Forums – this would be approx £49,000 in 2009/10 (£31,000 for highways) for each Forum. The Chairman said that there were issues which needed to be discussed at each Parish Council meeting, and asked members to take the paper on delegated budgets back with them. The Chairman also said that they would need to look at how the South Bucks Partnership was working and developing after the next meeting. BCC was committed to more local decision making and to rolling out services more locally.

Chris Furness said that SBDC had slightly reluctantly agreed to support the local area forums. Chris said that his view was that the forums were a way for BCC to prioritise highways expenditure locally and to obtain feedback. However the forums had been 'sold' as more than that, and this had worked against them. The Chairman said that the intention was to add more services (e.g. Adult Social Care).

Lin Hazell said that at a local area forum members could speak on very very local issues. This would not be possible at a Local Strategic Partnership (South Bucks Partnership) which had to concentrate on a strategic view on District wide priorities.

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Lin also said that no decision could be made at this meeting but asked all Parish Councils to put the issue on their agendas and to look at what benefits could be gained from local area forums.

A member said that sovereignty issues were a major worry and would need to be dealt with.

Jim Stevens said that BCC was structuring its services around the local area forum groupings, and that the money on the list would need to be spent. However a local area forum would be needed to facilitate that.

Highways would always be of local topical interest, but BCC was also trying to broaden the agenda.

The Chairman suggested that Parish Councils be given contacts for areas where local area forums were working. Alison Derrick said that the representatives from Chiltern Parish Councils were planning to visit some Aylesbury local area forums and suggested that this could be extended to Parish Councils in South Bucks. Members agreed this would be helpful
– **ACTION: AD**

A member said that they would be happier if another level of meetings could be lost if the local area forum was adopted.

A member asked how often the local area forums would meet. Alison Derrick said that the local area forum template allowed significant flexibility in many areas and it would be up to the local area forum how often it met. Existing local area forums met every two to three months, or quarterly.

Alison Derrick also said that the whole locality strategy was much broader than just the local area forums, and also included proper consultation, devolving services to quality parishes, more locally focused staff etc.

The Chairman thanked members for attending the meeting. It was agreed that the next meeting would be arranged after all the parish councils had met (perhaps in May?)