

# HADDENHAM AND LONG CRENDON LOCAL COMMUNITY AREA FORUM

## 16 JULY 2008 – BRILL MEMORIAL HALL

### **Update on issues raised at the May Meeting**

At the May meeting it was agreed that the Chairman, Margaret Aston, would write to the Police emphasising the need for them to maintain links with the Local Community Area Forum. After the meeting, Peter Loose, Buckinghamshire County Council's (BCC) Lead Officer for the LCAF, spoke to Chief Superintendent Paul Tinnion, Assistant Superintendent Dick Auger and PC Morley, who were all sympathetic to the concerns raised. Peter Loose was told that it was a requirement from the Home Office that the NAGs should meet more frequently than the LCAF does. However PC Morley has promised that he or a Police Community Support Officer would attend the LCAF meetings to provide a link to the work of the NAGs.

### **Aylesbury Vale District Council Litter Picking Protocol**

Bob Bryant, Operations Manager from Aylesbury Vale District Council (AVDC) attended the meeting to provide an overview of the AVDC Litter Picking protocol and to answer questions. In towns, such as Aylesbury and Buckingham, litter picking teams are working daily. In rural areas litter picking is carried out less frequently - generally on a monthly basis in villages, bi-monthly on 'A' roads and quarterly on 'B' roads. 'C' roads would only be litter picked if they were classified as a 'rat run' by BCC.

A minimum of 900 random inspections are carried out each year and over the past 2 years, NCAMS, the national organisation that replaced Keep Britain Tidy, has inspected every district council and found that AVDC has significantly higher standards than the national average.

AVDC aim to respond to reports of heavy litter within 24 hours and have a target to remove fly tipping within 48 hours, provided that no special equipment is needed to remove the offending article. Abandoned vehicles should be removed within 24 hours, once it has been established that the car has definitely been abandoned.

Useful Numbers –

To report heavy litter - 01296 585 070 or  
[contractservices@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk](mailto:contractservices@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk)

Fly tipping helpline – 0845 330 1856

To request additional plastic baskets for recycling (these are free of charge but £2 for delivery) –  
01296 585 510

John Hooper, Long Crendon Parish Council, asked who would be responsible for maintaining the rear of the village library, as it was in a dreadful state. He was advised that this would be the responsibility of BCC as the owner of the building and the Chairman requested that this concern should be passed back to BCC Libraries.

In response to a question regarding the introduction of green waste collections in Aylesbury Vale, Bob Bryant reported that in order to provide a full composting service, which would include food waste, an in-vessel composting facility was required. BCC were looking to locate such a facility within the district, possibly at Westcott Venture Park, although this was still under discussion. It was hoped that such a facility could be available from September 2009.

AVDC intend to provide green waste collections to half their residents initially and green bins would be emptied fortnightly. Residents would be able to put their kitchen waste in their grey bin if they were concerned about having food in their green bin during the Summer.

### **Highways Matters**

Some residents of Stone attended the meeting to raise concerns about the deterioration of the footpath and road on the Oxford Road between Stone Village Hall and the School. This was made worse after heavy rainfall as the pavements were covered with debris. In addition the residents asked if the speed camera could be reinstated in Stone, as speeding along the Oxford Road, particularly at night, was a concern.

Dave Smith, Local Area Technician advised that he had not been aware of this problem and agreed to inspect the path and road the next day. He reminded Parishes that they still had time to complete their priority lists for the Community Gangs to undertake work in their area. The question regarding the speed camera would be referred back to the BCC Road Safety Team at County Hall.

In response to a question, it was noted that the district council were responsible for the maintenance or replacement of road nameplates.

Useful Numbers –

Dave Smith – Local Area Technician

Email: [dasmith@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:dasmith@buckscc.gov.uk)

Tel: 01296 383916

Highways on Call

0845 230 2882

## **Question from Dinton with Upton and Ford Parish Council**

Diana Coole, presented the following question:

*I have some concerns relating to the way in which it appears to me that the Local Area Forums are proposing to be conducted. May I know who are the stakeholders for the Haddenham & Long Crendon LAF?*

*I do not wish to see the role of Parish Councils undermined or diluted, and if it is intended to discuss any business concerning Dinton with Ford and Upton, or make any decision thereon, may I ask for your assurance that the Parish Council is consulted prior to any decision being made.*

*If an elected member for this parish is not able to be present at a meeting and business concerning this parish is discussed, may I ask that the absence of that elected member is shown in the minutes?*

*I see the very real possibility of confusion arising when a parish council may already have made or is considering arrangements which are then disrupted at LAF level by the request of a group of residents. This is not a desirable democratic outcome.*

*I would appreciate some clear guidelines as to how the LAF ensures that the role of the Parish Council is safeguarded and not undermined in any way.*

Peter Loose advised that Steve Orchard, GC2C Manager would provide a formal answer to this question. However he emphasised that the aim of GC2C was to give more control to local people and the LAFs would provide an opportunity for all tiers of local government to work together to resolve issues which concerned local people. Funding would be devolved to the LAFs. It was not intended to replace the good work already being undertaken by parish councils. GC2C aimed to strengthen their role, not undermine it.

Margaret Aston acknowledged that other parishes had expressed similar doubts but BCC wished to work more closely with parish and district partners. Michael Edmonds, Vice-Chairman stated that there was no hidden agenda to remove powers from parish councils and he viewed the LAFs as mini local committees, which would benefit the local community.

A member of the public in attendance at the meeting commented that he found the meetings useful in demystifying the workings of the different councils.

## **Library Service – New Ways of Working**

Peter Loose addressed concerns that were raised at the May meeting, regarding the introduction of a new library system which means that books are no longer stamped with a return date. He advised that the new system would be reviewed in September and library staff had been told to use their discretion to waive fines if people seemed genuinely muddled.

It had been suggested that the receipt given to borrowers when taking books out could be printed on coloured paper so that it stands out. Borrowers can find out when books are due back by going online, asking in any library or by calling the BCC Call Centre who can access this information for you.

## **Cross Border Issues with Thame Town Council**

As Thame could be considered to be the natural centre of the Haddenham and Long Crendon Community, Peter Loose and Madeleine Howe have arranged to attend a meeting of Thame Town Council to discuss cross border issues. Plans for a cycleway between Haddenham and Thame and Long Crendon and Thame and education provision in the town were suggested as possible topics for discussion.

## **NAG Update**

Sue Jones, Police Community Support Officer, reported back on the latest NAG meeting. Telephone research undertaken locally had highlighted criminal damage/vandalism and graffiti as the chief concern of residents. The NAG was tackling this issue using an approach known as SARA – Scan, Analysis, Response and Assessment.

The first stage, Scan, was to get a true picture of the situation. PC Morley had reviewed reports of criminal damage over the past 12 months in the villages of Haddenham, Long Crendon and Oakley and Sue Jones was undertaking an environmental visual audit of the 3 villages. Sue Jones reminded parishes to report any incidents to the Police to ensure that they had as much information as possible. The NAG will then analyse the data to identify an appropriate response.

Sue Jones agreed to look into the issue of stopping traffic for wreath laying ceremonies in November as the Police could not be in attendance. In addition it was suggested that Sara Thornton, Chief Constable should be invited to a future meeting.

**6.30-8.30pm**

## Dates of future meetings

8 October 2008 at Haddenham Village Hall

3 November 2008 at Long Crendon Church Hall

10 December 2008 at Ickford Village Hall

Those attending this meeting were:

<b>Aston Sandford Parish Council</b>	Nick Sandford
<b>Boarstall Parish Council</b>	
<b>Brill Parish Council</b>	Peter Jones Sue Cook Christine Bailey Brenda Dormer
<b>Chearsley Parish Council</b>	
<b>Chilton Parish Council</b>	
<b>Cuddington Parish Council</b>	Michael Pegge
<b>Dinton with Ford &amp; Upton Parish Council</b>	Diana Coole Lorraine Gooch Keith Gray Chris Young
<b>Haddenham Parish Council</b>	
<b>Ickford Parish Council</b>	
<b>Kingsey Parish Council</b>	
<b>Long Crendon Parish Council</b>	John Hooper Candy Cozens
<b>Oakley Parish Council</b>	<i>Apologies from John Mole</i>
<b>Shabbington Parish Council</b>	<i>Apologies from Roger Norgate-Barnes</i>
<b>Stone with Bishopstone &amp; Hartwell Parish</b>	George Lamb
<b>Worminghall Parish Council</b>	Penelope Rowe
<b>Aylesbury Vale District Council</b>	
<b>Buckinghamshire County Council</b>	Margaret Aston Michael Edmonds Nicholas Cahill Colin Minton
<b>Ford Society</b>	Sue Jones
<b>Thames Valley Police</b>	Fiona Rysdale
<b>Members of the Public</b>	Heather Reid
<b>Officers attending were:</b>	
<b>Bob Bryant</b>	Aylesbury Vale District Council
<b>Peter Loose</b>	Buckinghamshire County Council
<b>Madeline Howe</b>	Buckinghamshire County Council
<b>Kelly Sutherland</b>	Buckinghamshire County Council
<b>Anne-Marie Davies</b>	Buckinghamshire County Council
<b>Dave Smith</b>	Buckinghamshire County Council
<b>Apologies were received from:</b>	
<b>Haddenham Neighbourhood Watch</b>	Jacky Stevens
<b>Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust</b>	Sett Sibanda

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE HADDENHAM AND LONG CRENDON LOCAL  
COMMUNITY AREA FORUM  
WILL TAKE PLACE ON 8 OCTOBER 2008**