

Queens Park Residents Association

Minutes of a Meeting held on 12th November 2008

Present

Marie Barden, Wanda McDonnell, Corine Jones, Dave Entwistle, Marcus Elms (SCT), Emilie Howes (SCT), Pete Middleton (SCT), Michael Venton, Jaque Phipps, Brian Burnett

Apologies

Owen Jones, Mike Davies

Matters Arising

Street Clean - Thanks to Jeanette Pidgeon and the Neighbourhood Wardens who helped out.

PCSO Emily Howes said that there were no ASBOs currently in force on any of the residents of Cecil Road

Community Safety

PCSO Emily Howes said that the current SCT priorities were all vehicle crime related, as follows:

- Parking issue along Eastern Avenue South, West Ridge and Kingsland
- Speeding in particular, Eastern Avenue South, Bective Road and Nursery Lane
- Vehicle crime across the area

We have extra resources in the area and are actively engaged in trying to reduce car crime.

A speeding operation took place in partnership with Kingsthorpe Grove Primary School last Thursday during which speeding vehicles were stopped and a student confronted the offender to remind them of the dangers of speeding in line with the Think! campaign. It was a really positive day and had a great impact on those who were stopped.

The speed gun is being used regularly throughout our SCT. Please inform the Police of any speeding hot spots that you would like us to pay particular attention to.

County Councillor Jane Hollis has used part of her £10,000 a year Empowering Councillors Scheme money to pay for the device, which is being used to tackle the top priority of local residents in St David's and Kingsthorpe and Boughton Green. Tackling speeding motorists in Harborough Road, Welford Road, Eastern Avenue South, Bective Road and Nursery Lane are the top of the SCT's priorities for the next three months.

The issue of speeding motorists was raised to the Neighbourhood Management Board for Kingsthorpe. The device will only be used by the two Safer Community Teams, who will use it as part of their day-to-day activities.

More than 50 warning letters have been sent out to motorists telling them they have been caught speeding and telling them they face being given an endorsable fixed penalty notice which would give them three points on their licence and a £60 fine. So far 20 people have been issued with endorsable fixed penalty notices after being found driving over the speed limit.

The Queens Park Resident's Association is also in support of the device and has been proactive in securing it for the SCTs. Safer Community Team Sergeant Andy Labrum, said: "People living in St David's, Kingsthorpe and Boughton Green have told us they are concerned about the speed some people are driving at in the streets in which they live and we have a responsibility to tackle that. "The device is proving to be a really effective tool, there is no doubt it is making a difference and we are grateful to Councillor Hollis for her generosity. "The feedback we have had from residents so far is all positive and we will continue to use the device as long as people continue to drive over the speed limit in these areas." County Councillor Jane Hollis, who represents St David's in Kingsthorpe said: "As chair of Kingsthorpe Neighbourhood Management Board, we are determined to improve the lives of residents, so we are working with the St David's, Boughton Green and Kingsthorpe Safer Community Team and Queen's Park Residents' Association to reduce danger on the roads of Kingsthorpe with the purchase of a mobile speed measuring device. "One of the biggest concerns of the community here are the unacceptable levels of speeding motorists highlighted by the death of a young student earlier this year, which prompted a petition from the residents to Northamptonshire County Council calling for a speed camera on Boughton Green Road."

(Details of this scheme added after the meeting by PCSO Pete Middleton)

Planning

The Council has approved the amended plans for the Kingsthorpe Grove/Osbourne Road site.

The "no right turn" signs are being ignored.

Publicity

Nothing to report

Service Roads

Clarence Avenue/Queens Park Parade alley gates are installed and ready to put into operation. The gates will open to give access during the day but lock at 7.30 at night until 7.30 a.m, and from 1.30 p.m on Saturdays until 7.30 a.m. on Mondays. When locked access will be by remote control or key pad. The start of the project will be advertised. The SCT will be given the key pad code for access.

Website

The speed cam and photos to be added. Brian to forward to Pete and Emilie.

Friday 14th November is the official opening of Kingsthorpe Children's Centre.

Newsletter

Ref to a Youth Worker wanting to speak to local youths.

Christmas Disco – as the WM's club is having a Christmas Party on Sunday 21st December it was decided not to proceed with a Disco.

Street Scene

Michael reported that all broken trees should be replaced and possibly some more planted in the gaps.

A.O.B

Smartwater kits have been bought for those who ordered in Clarence Avenue and Cecil Road.

Date of next meeting

As the meeting room upstairs is now let on a regular basis to a Chess Club it was proposed to change the meeting night from Wed to Tues or Mon., especially as Owen has difficulties making a Wed. evening. Paul confirmed Tues is available if we wish to change.

It was decided to meet on Wed 10th Dec at 8.00 but Christmas card preparation to be done at 7.00 and to change the meeting night in the New Year.