

**NOTE THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION AT THE
NEXT MEETING OF THIS COMMITTEE**

TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS LIAISON COMMITTEE

29th October 2020

Present: Councillor Hasthorpe (in the Chair)
Councillors Fenty, Pettigrew, Shreeve

T Crofts	Stallingborough Parish Council
L Conolly	Waltham Parish Council
K Kiddle Bailey	Waltham Parish Council
A Moss	Waltham Parish Council
L Mumby	Waltham Parish Council

Also in attendance:

Councillor S Swinburn	Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport
Helen Isaacs	Director for Communities
Katrina Goodhand	Engagement Officer – Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Detective Sergeant Ben Robinson	Humberside Police
Superintendent Craig Scaife	Humberside Police
Deb Swatman	Traffic Team Manager - Engie
Paul Windley	Democratic and Scrutiny Team Manager

LM.1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED – That Councillor Hasthorpe be appointed as Chairman of this Committee for the 2020/21 Municipal Year.

LM.2 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

In the absence of any nominations for the position of Deputy Chairman of this Committee, it as agreed to defer this matter for consideration at a future meeting.

LM.3 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from this meeting were received from Councillor Bailey (Humberston Parish Council).

LM.4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest by any Committee Member in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.

LM.5 MINUTES

The minutes of the Town and Parish Council Liaison Committee held on 23rd January 2020 were approved as a correct record.

LM.6 COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN

The committee received an update on the action plan for the Town and Parish Council Liaison Committee.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

LM.7 POLICING MATTERS

The committee received an update on policing matters within the Borough from Supt Craig Scaife of Humberside Police.

Supt Scaife reported that the Humberside policing area had seen the fourth largest reduction nationally in terms of overall crime numbers. There had been a 13% reduction from April to September 2020. However, the force was not being complacent and continued to maintain focus on hot-spotting. Anti-social behaviour had gone up slightly but this was linked to Covid-related calls for service. In terms of activity for officers, training was being maintained and the force was keen to continue to involve the community in key operations and feedback the outcome of investigations. Supt Scaife then updated on the force's Covid plans which focused on the 4Es – engage, explain, encourage and, as a last resort, enforce. He detailed plans for Operation Topaz (Bonfire Night and Halloween) and Operation Yuletide (tackling crime during December and identifying vulnerabilities).

The Chair raised a concern about lack of compliance with social distancing in bars and restaurants, seemingly encouraged by local media taking and publishing group photographs.

Supt Scaife responded that officers did visit high footfall areas and urged reporting of any suspected breaches of the Covid restrictions, noting that further action could potentially be taken via licensing powers.

Mr Pintus, Director of Health and Wellbeing, added that this had been raised with the local newspaper and greater care was being taken over

the photographs taken. He noted that night marshalls were in place to support the police in encouraging compliance with the restrictions.

The Chair noted the success of Operation Yellowfin in tackling crime associated with motorbikes and off-road bikes but sought clarification that it was a force-wide operation as he had heard that it just covered the north bank.

Supt Scaife confirmed that it was a force-wide operation and referred to successes earlier in the day in Scunthorpe. There were days of activity and he also welcomed the support received from partners in designing out crime.

The Chair thanked Supt Scaife for his update.

The committee received a presentation from Det Sgt Robinson on how people can prevent themselves from becoming victims of fraud. He presented a case study explaining how someone had become the victim of fraud and he reported that there were 7,471 reported victims of fraud in the Humberside policing area in the period April 2019-March 2020 (an increase of 9%). This amounted to a loss of £13.7 million. He added that only around one in seven fraud incidents were actually reported to the police and people were more likely to be a victim of fraud than any other offence. There was a 30% chance of being a victim of fraud again within 12 months. Furthermore, 81% of incidents reported last year were cyber-enabled. Unfortunately, the majority of offenders lived outside the country. There is a national reporting centre for fraud called Action Fraud but in this area, a three tier system has been introduced to ensure a police visit and to try to protect residents. Det Sgt Robinson provided an example of email fraud and gave advice on how to prevent it, focusing on a 'take five' campaign explaining how to stop, challenge and protect yourself. He encouraged everyone to spread the message.

The Chair thanked Det Sgt Robinson for the presentation and asked that slides be circulated to the town and parish councils for information.

RESOLVED – That the slides and further information on fraud prevention be circulated to the town and parish councils.

LM.8 COVID-19 UPDATE

The committee received an update from the Director of Health and Wellbeing on the current situation with the Covid-19 pandemic.

Mr Pintus provided a summary of the current Covid-19 impact both nationally and in North East Lincolnshire. There had been a dramatic increase in cases in North East Lincolnshire, particularly amongst the over-60s. He highlighted the picture in individual wards and the position with hospital admissions. North East Lincolnshire had now met the

criteria to move from the medium to high tier and he explained the new restrictions. Unfortunately, there was still a level of complacency in the area. There was an Outbreak Control Plan in place and the focus now was on slowing its progression and protecting the most vulnerable. A local contact tracing service was being developed across Northern Lincolnshire and communications were being looked at to try to simplify the guidance issued.

Councillor Swinburn enquired about the uptake since the full time testing facility had been opened in Duchess Street, Grimsby.

Mr Pintus noted that it was under-utilised at the moment but the main issue was the turn around time for test results. He added that the facility was only for people who had symptoms and booking was required.

Councillor Conolly enquired whether there would be a review of the restrictions to take into account the Christmas period.

Mr Pintus responded that this was yet to be determined but was being discussed at national government level. However, much was dependent on how seriously people took the issue and adhered to the guidance.

The Chair enquired how a total lockdown could be avoided.

Mr Pintus noted that other areas in the higher tier had achieved a slowing down of the rate. He felt that everyone needed to be encouraged to follow the guidance.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

LM.9 PARKING ENFORCEMENT

Due to not having an appropriate officer present to respond to any issues raised, this item was deferred to the next meeting of this committee but the Chair expressed his disappointment at the non-attendance and noted that he would be seeking an explanation.

LM.10 HIGHWAYS/TRAFFIC UPDATE

The committee received an update on highways and traffic matters.

Ms Swatman updated on highways works with the Humber Bank Link Road due for completion in early 2021, the A1173 Kiln Lane junction works due to be completed in December, Littlecoates Road/Cambridge Road junction due to be completed in December and Toll Bar Roundabout due to be completed in early January. Slurry sealing was due to take place in the coming weeks. There would also be a dry run

for Winter gritting next week. Ms Swatman noted that she continued to keep in touch with parish councils via Teams but welcomed continued contact.

Councillor Swinburn in his role as Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport noted that he had received a lot of contact from parish councils on speed data. This was currently being collated and will be forwarded to parish councils as soon as possible.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

LM.11 MEMBER DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

There were no member development matters for consideration at this meeting.

LM.12 REFERRALS TO SCRUTINY

There were no matters referred to scrutiny.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.04 p.m.