

SOHAM AND EAST NEIGHBOURHOOD PANEL

**Tuesday, 18th June 2013, Soham Village College, 7:00pm.
(Performing Arts Centre)**

PRESENT

Cllr Derrick Beckett (Chairman) – East Cambridgeshire District Council
Cllr Tony Cornell – East Cambridgeshire District Council
Cllr Tony Parramint – East Cambridgeshire District Council
Rev. Mike Banyard – Rector of 3 Rivers Parishes
Cllr Jennifer Wilson – Chippenham Parish Council
Cllr Malcolm Roper – Fordham Parish Council
Cllr Pauline Wilkes – Isleham Parish Council
Cllr George Ginn – Soham Town Council

OFFICERS

Shirley Blake – East Cambridgeshire District Council
Giles Hughes – Head of Planning & Sustainable Development Services
East Cambridgeshire District Council
Alistair McKie – East Cambridgeshire District Council
Insp. Paul Ormerod – Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Simon Rudkin – Sanctuary Housing
Adrian Scaites-Stokes – East Cambridgeshire District Council
Dave White – East Cambridgeshire District Council

IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr Jeanette Malkin – Isleham Parish Council
9 members of the public

S&ENP 13/1 Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Panel meeting.

S&ENP 13/2 Introductions and Apologies

The Chairman introduced the officers present from agencies.

No apologies for absence were received.

S&ENP 13/3 Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

District Councillor Derrick Beckett was nominated and seconded for the position of Chairman for the municipal year. There being no other nominations, Councillor Beckett was duly elected.

District Councillor Tony Cornell was nominated and seconded for the position of Vice-Chairman for the municipal year. There being no other nominations, Councillor Cornell was duly elected.

S&ENP 13/4 Chairman's Announcements and Consultation Items

The Chairman asked Members and Officers to sign the attendance sheet, and members of the public to include their email address and postcode. He also asked that everyone complete the questionnaire, as the feedback was very helpful.

The Chairman highlighted the information on people becoming involved with the Consultee Register and encouraged people to get involved.

The Chairman read out the fire instructions.

S&ENP 13/5 Neighbourhood Update

Giles Hughes, East Cambridgeshire District Council noted that three issues relating to the District Council had previously been raised and made the following comments:

- Veolia had put on more staff to deal with the littering problem and had changed its procedures to ensure this would not become a future problem.
- The Council had taken enforcement action on fly-tipping, as shown by the statistics report, and reports of dog fouling were highlighted.

In the absence of a County Council representative, Mr Hughes presented the section relating to Cambridgeshire County Council and commented on the following issues:

- The Future Transport Project, reviewing public transport services, was underway with public consultation expected later this year.
- The sign that was down on the A142 had been reported to the Highways department.
- Mud on the road causing a potential danger, was an offence and would be enforced by the Police.

Simon Rudkin, Sanctuary Housing representative, noted that there were no issues relating and had nothing to report.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Inspector Paul Ormerod gave an update on the actions taken by the Neighbourhood Policing Team to address the two priorities set by the Panel at its last meeting.

Dwelling Burglaries

This was not only a local priority but for the Force as a whole, which meant that good support for this had been provided. Patrols had been directed at villages with a major focus on the routes in this area. Other support given had included road policing, with number plate recognition capability and intercept vehicles. Intelligence had been shared with neighbouring forces including from Norfolk and Suffolk. As a result the number of cases of dwelling burglaries had decreased and there had been none since mid-May. Two local offenders had been arrested after a burglary in Burwell.

Anti-Social Behaviour in Soham

Regular patrols had been held in Soham. Four youths had been arrested, who had been responsible for seventeen offences, and one youth had received a Youth Referral Order. Since 1st June there had been ten reported incidents, which was still high.

Crime Figures

All crime figures in every area and crime type had seen reductions, except for victim-based crime, which was a puzzle. This would be analysed. Anti-Social Behaviour figures were not looking good, as all areas have seen increases.

Emerging Issues

Anti-Social Behaviour was an ongoing issue. Youth workers had been met and there would be some 'detached youth' work coming, with events and activities. The Soham Partnership Group had started meeting again and would look at local issues.

In answer to public questions, the Panel was informed that a lot garden ornaments had been stolen and there had been an incident linked to poaching. Most youths understood what they were doing when acting anti-socially but some youths were 'challenging'. The Police were aware of people driving inappropriately in car parks, as this had been reported by Police Community Support Officers. Residents were encouraged to report such incidents. The Police van that had parked up in villages was there only as a deterrent which had a positive effect, though some people had complained that it had heightened the fear of crime.

S&ENP 13/6 Waste Collection and Management

At the invitation of the Chairman, Dave White, Waste Strategy Team Leader, gave a short presentation about the new waste collection service. The way the waste service would be delivered was changing. Originally East Cambridgeshire District Council was one of the best at recycling but had now fallen behind others who had updated their recycling service. This meant the recycling performance had gone

backwards. The Department for Communities and Local Government had announced that it would provide funds to Councils to encourage weekly waste collections. As the District Council had maintained weekly collections it could bid for funds targeted at improving its recycling. A successful bid was made, which had achieved just under £5million funding, which would be used to change the recycling service. This would mean a change to using wheeled bins for recycling. Black sacks for residual waste would continue, though there would be one annual provision of the sacks rather than the weekly provision. There would be no change to the collection days.

The new recycling service would work by using two wheeled bins (one with a blue lid, one with a green) which would be collected alternately. All streets in the district had been checked, as some properties would not be able to accommodate the new bins. In these cases clear sacks would be used for recycling, instead of the current black boxes and brown sacks would be retained for food and garden waste collections.

In answer to public questions, the Panel was advised that although the bins were slightly smaller in capacity, than four brown sacks, they would hold as much waste, particularly as cardboard would now go into the recycling bin. All recycling materials would now be included in the one bin, and mechanically separated at the Waterbeach recycling facility. There were no plans initially to provide extra bins, but this would be reviewed after a year. Splitting the collections between the blue-lidded bin one week and the green-lidded bin the next would reduce the number of bins out for collection and number of collections vehicles in an area at any time. There were no plans to increase the green waste collections to weekly, as this would require additional collection crews and expense. Some places would be provided with communal facilities and assisted collections would still take place where needed. The current recycling banks in the district would remain in place but were expected to be used less. Household waste collections would continue on a weekly basis. The Council would not issue additional black sacks, after the annual provision had been made, unless they were reported undelivered before a deadline date. In the future the Council could recycle a wider range of materials, dependent on suitable recycling facilities and funding being available. Information on the new service would be distributed shortly.

S&ENP 13/7 Community Infrastructure Levy

At the invitation of the Chairman, Shirley Blake, Principal Sustainable Officer, gave a presentation on how the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) would be used. CIL made a charge on new developments and the proceeds were to be used on strategic infrastructure across the district. The District Council had to produce a list on what it wished to use CIL for and it had identified three priorities: (i) Ely Leisure Centre, (ii) Littleport Secondary School, (iii) Soham Railway Station.

In April the Government announced that 15% of the CIL proceeds were to be given to the town/parish councils. Once the town/parish council had received its allocation it had full discretion to spend it how it liked, provided that it was within the CIL regulations. This meant it had to be spent on infrastructure or the demands as a result from the relevant development. The town/parish councils had to produce an annual report to the District Council on what their CIL had been spent on. There was a 'clawback' provision where the District Council could reclaim the money if it had not been spent properly or within the time limits.

In answer to public questions, the Panel was informed that the CIL for Soham was lower than others due to viability. The Littleport school had been identified as a priority, as it was a major project to encourage the growth of Littleport, and as the District Council would receive CIL but the County Council would not. If there was a demand for transport from the villages to the new Soham station then the parish councils could use their CIL for its provision.

S&ENP 13/8 Neighbourhood Issues

The following issues were raised by Parish representatives/public:

PARISH	ISSUE	
Chippenham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HGV's and Tractors speeding through the village • No public transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police / Speed Watch • CCC
Fordham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog fouling on the recreation ground – intimidation reporting to ECDC • Car and motorbikes on the recreation ground in the evening 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECDC • Police
Isleham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog fouling on Malting Lane • Parking around Mill Street • No public transport • Size of properties and council tax • New sites for building could accommodate more housing than planned • Rubbish left on the Priory Green • Cannabis smoking on the Green 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECDC • Police • CCC • ECDC/ARP • ECDC • ECDC • Police
Kennett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Public transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCC
Snailwell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EMR sound barrier still no in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECDC
Soham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking into Weatheralls School, car travelling over the pavement and double yellow lines • Parking on the main road on corners • Flashing lights on Weatheralls crossing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police • Police • CCC/Police

	<p>not working for three to four weeks - cars speeding up to the crossing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fly tipping into Causeway waterway into Soham Lode rubbish and hedge cutting • Fires of Heron Croft sheds • Heron Croft parking and taking children to school, Route 14. Should there be parking. • Brewhouse Lane next to the health centre, parking on corners • Health centre car parking space – increase the amount of parking • Potholes in the road contact details – freephone number best method of reporting potholes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCC/ECDC/EA • Police/Fire Service • ECDC Planning • Police • Noted/ Health Centre • CCC
Wicken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speeding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raised by non resident who had not been delegated by the Parish Council or resident to raise this issue.
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	

S&ENP 13/9 Panel Prioritisation

The Panel agreed that the policing priorities should be:

- Parking issues near local schools.
- Shed/garage burglaries across the Panel area.
- Anti-Social Behaviour in Soham.

S&ENP 13/10 Foodbank

The Chairman permitted Mr Alan Williams to address the Panel about a new foodbank. Following the success of the Ely Foodbank, which had help a thousand families some of which had come from Soham, plans were being prepared to open a new one in Soham. A public meeting had been arranged for 26th June in St Andrews church with a view to opening the new foodbank in July. The aim of the foodbanks was to help people in crisis within a fifteen mile radius, so local parishes were also encouraged to attend.

S&ENP 13/11 Forward Agenda

Forward Agenda Plan for 2013 received. The Chairman noted that the next meeting had a lot of items that had to be whittled down and asked the Panel for its priorities.

The only one mentioned was the foodbank, so the Chairman stated that a further discussion would be held over the other items.

The meeting closed at 9:05pm.