

# MINUTES OF PARISH LIAISON MEETING

Tuesday 6 December, 5pm

Diseworth Village Hall

## Attendance

Melanie Mitchell, Ashby Town Council  
Andrea Robinson, Ashby Woulds Town Council  
Laurence Ordish, Ashby Woulds Town Council  
Cheryl Bowler, Belton Parish Council  
Roy Bates, Breedon Parish Council  
Samantha Lockwood, Breedon Parish Council / Long Whatton & Diseworth Parish Council  
Fiona Palmer, Castle Donington Parish Council / Coleorton Parish Council / Swannington Parish Council  
John Clarke, Heather Parish Council  
Donna Griggs, Kegworth Parish Council  
Ray Sutton, Kegworth Parish Council  
Penny de Kock, Long Whatton & Diseworth Parish Council  
Colin Manifold, Measham Parish Council  
Dawn Roach, Measham Parish Council  
David Eames, Normanton le Heath Parish Meeting  
Chris Jamieson, Normanton le Heath Parish Meeting  
Martin Buczkiewicz, Osgathorpe Parish Council  
Sheila Lunn, Ravenstone with Snibstone Parish Council  
David Lunn, Ravenstone with Snibstone Parish Council  
Angela Bexton, Ravenstone with Snibstone Parish Council  
Chris Jones, Worthington Parish Council

## Presenters

Allison Thomas, Chief Executive, North West Leicestershire District Council (NWLDC)  
Inspector Wayne Nimblette, Leicestershire Police  
Gillian Squires, Community Focus Officer, NWLDC

## Councillors/Officers

Sgt Ryan Ludlum, Leicestershire Police  
Zara Barnes, Community Focus Officer, NWLDC  
Paul Sanders, Head of Community Services, NWLDC

## Apologies sent

Cllr Nicola Burbidge Mullen, Belton Parish Council  
Lindsay Swinfield, Appleby Magna Parish Council  
Jack Fargher, Ashby Town Council  
Ray Morris, Breedon Parish Council  
Lorraine Upton, Charley Parish Council  
Keith Merrie, Ellistown & Battleflat Parish Council  
Karen Hill, Ellistown & Battleflat Parish Council  
Jan Shepherd, Heather Parish Council  
Gill Simkiss, Lockington cum Hemington Parish Council  
Kelly Groves, Oakthorpe, Donisthorpe & Acresford Parish Council  
Sian Sheldon, Osgathorpe Parish Council  
Adrian Gascoyne, Staunton Harold Parish Meeting  
Sarah Tombs, Stretton en le Field Parish Meeting  
Karen Stirk, Swebstone Parish Council  
Cathy Tibbles, Whitwick Parish Council  
Sue College, Whitwick Parish Council  
Jason Knight, Leisure Services Team Manager, NWLDC  
Emma Trahearn, Community Focus Team Leader, NWLDC

	Detail	Actions
1.	<p><b>OPENING THE MEETING</b> – Paul Sanders, Head of Community Services, NWLDC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PS welcomed all attendees and presenters to the meeting and thanked Diseworth Village Hall for providing an excellent venue.</li> </ul>	
2.	<p><b>LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE UPDATE</b> – Inspector Wayne Nimblette, Leicestershire Police</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WN outlined his role, noted that he had been seconded to Leicester for several weeks but has been working exclusively in North West Leicestershire for the last four to five weeks.</li> <li>WN encouraged everyone to sign up for Neighbourhood Link, if not already done so: <a href="http://www.neighbourhoodlink.co.uk">www.neighbourhoodlink.co.uk</a>. This provides information on beat teams, beat surgeries and crime updates.</li> <li>WN outlined the priorities for different areas across NWL:</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Valley Beat – Castle Donington, Kegworth, Swannington, etc</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase in drug dealing across the entire beat</li> <li>Car cruising – Police taking this very seriously and a number of operations have been completed. Officers continue to liaise with Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Police.</li> <li>Increase in theft from motor vehicles; catalytic converters being targeted</li> <li>Theft from cars – using bait vehicles as a proactive way to police this issue</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Coalville Town Beat</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ASB a priority, particularly at Belvoir Centre, who are keen to make the precinct a hub for families. Police looking to reduce ASB within the night-time economy.</li> <li>ASB/criminal damage at Snibston Discovery Park</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Bardon Hill Beat – Whitwick, Thringstone, Bardon, etc</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ASB with young people a priority – looking at diversionary work as well as enforcement</li> <li>Off road bikes on private land problematic, more during the summer months</li> <li>Drug dealing an issue</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Ashby Beat – Ashby, Packington, etc</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drug dealing a key priority</li> <li>Vehicles speeding – proactive team is working on Fatal Four operations. Mobile speed cameras in use.</li> <li>Night-time economy – Police working in the town centre on a regular basis</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Forest Beat – Measham, Moira, Donisthorpe, etc</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Issues with bikes being ridden on footpaths</li> <li>Speeding</li> <li>Inconsiderate parking outside schools</li> <li>Drugs</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Due to NWL’s location we have County Lines operating in our area, where drugs come from the cities and dealers take over vulnerable people’s homes to deal drugs. The Police have recently dismantled a drug line out of London, with four arrests, three or four people remanded and a significant amount of drugs seized.</li> <li>WN requested that everyone continues to pass intelligence through to local Beat team officers.</li> </ul> <p><b>Q. We would like to organise a speedwatch campaign for our local area, can you support us to make this happen?</b>  A. Voluntary schemes are no longer running post-Covid and there are currently no plans to re-introduce them. Speak to your local beat team to request ad-hoc checks.</p>	<b>ALL</b>

	<p><b>Q. Do you feel you have enough police officers in the area?</b> A. I would love more as demand is up crime-wise following lock-down. We have a finite number of officers, work is prioritised and officers sent to emergencies first.</p> <p><b>Q. What is expected call times for 101? Had a one and a half hour wait last week.</b> A. We are aware that there is an issue around calling 101 as there is a backlog due to demand and emergency calls take priority. There are different routes to report in, including reporting online. Please also note that CCTV can now be uploaded directly to Police.</p> <p><b>Q. Is knife-crime a problem in NWL and is any work being carried out in schools?</b> A. Police have a meeting every two weeks to go through figures; it should be noted that Police record where a knife has been reported by an individual, even if a knife was not physically seen. <a href="#">Lynette Rose</a>, Youth Engagement Officer, goes into schools to deliver work on knife-crime.</p> <p><b>Q. Can we report theft of heating oil?</b> A. Please always report crime so that Police can identify any new trends. There are ways for owners to make it less desirable for thieves to steal their heating oil, through use of locks, CCTV, etc.</p> <p><b>Q. HGVs continue to come through our village despite a 7.5 tonne weight limit. We report it and are given a crime number but nothing gets done.</b> A. It's about balancing priorities across NWL, we are unable to place officers across every village. If we can identify times/locations where there are particular issues, we can look at what action can be taken, it might be possible to work with Leicestershire County Council to consider environmental solutions such as road width restrictions.</p> <p><b>Q. What can be done regarding stolen vehicles and their disposal? A local charity had a minibus stolen in June but the case was closed almost straight away.</b> A. Organised crime groups are targeting vehicles and tend to strip them down to dispose of the parts. Operation Gearstick is currently underway, which targets the people who are receiving the stolen goods in order to reduce demand.</p> <p><b>Q. Cars have been racing in Kegworth along the A453, what can be done?</b> A. There is a PSPO (Public Spaces Protection Order) in place for Castle Donington but we are not allowed to put cameras on the A453 as it is a main arterial route. Therefore operations are run as and when required; please continue to feed in any local intelligence.</p> <p><b>Q. Is there a database available to look at crime in our area?</b> A. From the <a href="#">Leicestershire Police website</a> you can type in your village name to bring up a crime map, as well as information on your local beat team and surgeries.</p>	
3.	<p><b>MEET THE NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE – Allison Thomas, Chief Executive, NWLDC</b></p> <p>AT outlined that she has been in post for four months now, is delighted to be working in NWL and is enjoying getting to know everyone. AT has worked in the public sector for 30 years, five years at Nottinghamshire County Council, 21 years at Derbyshire County Council and most recently four years at South Derbyshire District Council.</p> <p><b>Budget setting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the Government's recent <a href="#">Autumn statement</a> there was some good news in relation to an increase in funding for social services, which has a positive knock-on effect on district council services. Rent rises will be capped to 7% and the Better Care Fund will help get people out of hospital quicker.</li> <li>• NWLDC is working towards the budget for the forthcoming financial year – see slide 3 for key dates in the budget approval cycle. It is difficult to set the budget until the Government settlement is announced, expected on 21 December.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please engage with the budget consultation process, which ends on 27 January. Also, we will need to hear from you regarding precept by 31 January - see slide 4 for key dates. You can contact the Finance team via <a href="mailto:finance@nwleicestershire.gov.uk">finance@nwleicestershire.gov.uk</a>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Accommodation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The new customer Services centre has opened in Coalville town centre this week, offering a more streamlined service. A lot more work is being done around telephone handling and digital.</li> <li>Stenson House will see some renovation in the New Year.</li> <li>Back offices will be moving to Whitwick Business Centre in due course following some internal works.</li> <li>Please note NWLDC's new PO box number: PO Box 11051, Coalville, LE67 0FW.</li> </ul> <p><b>Elections</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Democratic Services' Melanie Long and Louise Scott have retired, with Clare Hammond and Chris Colvin now heading up the team.</li> <li>Nominations for parish and district elections are invited from 20 March – see slide 6.</li> <li>Nominations will need to be hand delivered to the 'original' Council offices on Whitwick Road. Clare and Chris will provide full details at the next parish liaison meeting on 22 March.</li> <li>Please ensure that all forms are signed and we must receive all nominations by 4pm on 4 April 2023.</li> <li>All existing parish councillors must submit a nomination paper.</li> <li>Any queries should be directed to Clare and Chris via <a href="#">Member Services</a>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Local Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are currently working through the process of developing the new Local Plan.</li> <li>Planning Policy is looking at potential sites across the district, with full consultation to take place in May/June 2023. More information to follow at the March parish liaison meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Q. Parliament has just announced that house building targets are to be reduced; what will this mean for NWL?</b></p> <p>A. We are still getting our heads around what this will mean for NWL and will report back in due course.</p> <p><b>Q. What impact will HS2 have in this area? Is it true that 7000 migrant workers will be coming in?</b></p> <p>A. NWLDC is engaged in early planning for HS2, which is now due to go via East Midlands Parkway as opposed to Toton. No further details have been received from HS2 yet but LCC's HS2 team will continue to keep parish councils informed as and when information is received. The December parish drop-in meeting has been cancelled due to nothing to update, hopefully there will be more information by the January meeting. In the meantime please contact <a href="#">LCC's HS2 team</a> if you have any queries or concerns.</p>	
4.	<p><b>KING'S CORONATION CELEBRATIONS</b> – Gillian Squires, Community Focus Officer, NWLDC</p> <p>GS sent Emma Trahearn's apologies due to illness.</p> <p>GS outlined the King's Coronation Grant, which will open on Monday 23 January 2023 and close on Thursday 6 April. Funding up to £250 is available and no match funding is required. Further details on slide 9.</p>	
5.	<p><b>UPDATE ON NWLDC FOOD POVERTY ACTION PLAN</b> – Gillian Squires, Community Focus, NWLDC</p>	

	<p>GS outlined the Food Poverty Action Plan that has been drawn up and is now being implemented by Helen Crouch, Food Poverty Officer. This is a temporary two year post so sustainability is a key part of this action plan, with the aim to deliver long-lasting solutions. See slides 10-16 for further details.</p> <p><b>Q. MRC is receiving more referrals from NWLDC than it can deal with.</b> A. Helen Crouch to liaise with MRC and NWLDC to resolve any issues.</p> <p><b>Q. How can parish councils input into the plan?</b> A. By feeding in any local intelligence and issues to help close gaps in knowledge.</p> <p><b>Q. MRC is seeing an increase for requests for particular dietary requirements, such as gluten-free food, which is a new trend that will need to be monitored.</b> A. Helen Crouch to liaise with MRC and other food banks to monitor and address this.</p>	<p><b>HC</b></p> <p><b>HC</b></p>
	<p><b>CLOSE</b></p>	
	<p><b>NEXT MEETING – 22 March 2023</b></p>	