

North Yorkshire County Council

County Committee for Hambleton

Minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2016 at 2.00 pm at County Hall, Northallerton.

Present:-

County Councillor David Blades in the Chair.

County Councillors:- Arthur Barker, Caroline Dickinson, Heather Moorhouse, Tim Swales and John Weighell.

Non-Voting Co-opted Members - Lynn Southern (representing Parishes in the Stokesley Area).

Officers:- Chief Inspector Jon Grainge and Chief Inspector Nick Hunter (North Yorkshire Police), Sally Mitchell (Democratic Services), Group Manager David Pitt (North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service), Nigel Smith (Area Highways Manager) and Abigail Barron (CCG's Head of Strategy/Community Services).

Also in attendance:-

County Councillor David Chance.

Two members of the public (Michael Porteous - Carlton Miniott Parish Council and Alison Pollard - Sutton under Whitestonecliffe Parish Council).

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillors Gareth Dadd, Bryn Griffiths, Caroline Patmore and Peter Sowray; Steven Watson (Hambleton District Council), Kevin Hardisty (Romanby Parish Councillor) and Shirley Shepherd (Easingwold Town/Parish Councils).

Chairman's Announcements:

The Chairman welcomed Caroline Dickinson to her first meeting of the Area Committee since her election as County Councillor for Northallerton.

Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

123. Minutes

Resolved -

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 6 June 2016, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

124. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest in relation to items on the agenda at this stage at the meeting.

125. Public Questions or Statements

There were no questions or statements from members of the public.

126. North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service - Community Safety Update - Hambleton

County Councillor David Blades stated that although not a disclosable pecuniary interest he wished it to be known that he was a Member of North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority.

Considered -

The report of Group Manager David Pitt advising Members of the Area Committee of community safety activities involving North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (NYFRS) that had occurred between 1 April to 31 July 2016 and providing an update regarding other issues from within the Hambleton District during that period.

From the report Group Manager David Pitt highlighted the following issues relating to prevention activity:-

- ◆ Prevention work had focused on road safety, fire safety, schools education, supporting vulnerable people with dementia, arson reduction, multi-agency problem solving and vulnerable person's intervention activities.
- ◆ Additional prevention activity had included attendance at various local events and advice had been given to a large number of people on road safety issues.
- ◆ Fire safety instruction remained at the core of the Service's educational programme and educational presentations had been delivered to various groups of young people, including in particular, four students from Stokesley School.
- ◆ Following two separate low impact domestic dwelling fires, the Community Safety Officer had been working closely with Broadacres and NYCC colleagues to support the affected residents, both of whom had been vulnerable adults.
- ◆ Retained recruitment activity had focused on the Bedale Station area as only one application had been received, whereas in the Thirsk Station area, seven applications had been received. Efforts were continuing to engage with local employers and business owners to further the attempt to recruit new candidates. The Service was actively encouraging people to join the Service and was looking to make the role a more beneficial package to go alongside the Duty System Review process.

Group Manager David Pitt highlighted issues on the Fire Cover Implementation:-

- ◆ Referring Members to the photographs of the new tactical response vehicles (TRV) which were attached to his Report, explaining that the TRVs were slightly smaller vehicles than the current fire engines used by the Service, but had much the same functionality in that they carried pumps, hoses and cutting equipment for use at road traffic collisions.

- ◆ The main difference was that they would be crewed with two or three staff, instead of four or five as on the current fire engine and could, therefore, attend smaller incidents such as bin fires on their own, or form part of a response of several fire engines to larger incidents such as house fires and road traffic collisions.
- ◆ The new TRV for Northallerton would be arriving within three to four weeks and would be fully operational for January 2017.
- ◆ There were currently twelve whole-time fire fighters based at Northallerton which would eventually reduce to six, as over the next four years there were expected to be sufficient staff leaving the Service to enable these changes to be implemented without any redundancies and by 2020 it was hoped that everything would be in place.

Group Manager David Pitt welcomed the Chairman's suggestion that all Members of the Committee go and have a look at the new TRVs as it would be very useful to see them.

A Member asked whether there could be a "relaxation" on the location of people from a particular area needed within the retained fire fighter recruitment process ie the requirement to live/work five minutes from the appropriate fire station. Group Manager David Pitt responded that for Bedale, for example, that process had been opened up to extend towards the Leeming area.

A Member asked how the Service operated when incidents were close to the Hambleton boundaries, for example with Cleveland and was informed by Group Manager David Pitt that there was already cross boundary support in place and explained that the Service would turn out the nearest resource available, for example Richmond works with Darlington.

Resolved -

That the NYFRS activities that had taken place within the area between 1 April to 31 July 2016 be noted together with the issues raised in the meeting.

127. North Yorkshire Police Update

Considered -

The report of Chief Inspector Nick Hunter updating Members on crime and anti-social behaviour, Inspector cover of the area and custody provision for Hambleton and Richmondshire.

Chief Inspector Nick Hunter highlighted the following issues from his report:-

- ◆ Crime continued to remain stable within the Hambleton area, with the downward trend in burglary non dwelling continuing (down 49% = -51 crimes within the same period last year) and advised there were no significant areas for concern at this time.
- ◆ Anti-social behaviour had fallen significantly year on year with figures remaining stable for the first five months of 2016/17 and again there were no areas for concern at this time.
- ◆ There had been a slight change in Inspector cover starting on 1 September 2016. Prior to this, Hambleton had two neighbourhood policing inspectors

who performed their neighbourhood role together with being required to provide the county command (Hambleton, Richmondshire, Harrogate and Craven) with critical incident cover.

- ◆ It had been decided that this function was best provided by a dedicated cadre of inspectors as is done in York, Selby and Scarborough and Ryedale which allowed the neighbourhood policing inspectors to concentrate purely on their neighbourhood role and work a shift pattern that best met local requirements (rather than a 24/7 shift pattern).
- ◆ This would result in there now being five dedicated Inspectors to provide the critical incident cover however this would mean that the neighbourhood role could be performed by a single dedicated inspector.
- ◆ There had been good reductions recently in the number of travelling criminals to the area.
- ◆ The Force was still looking at the best option for custody provision for Hambleton and Richmondshire going forward. Members were advised that a pilot would be running which would involve closing the custody provision at Northallerton from 26 September 2016 for six months, which would result in a “blended” provision of custody options. The main custody provision would be Harrogate for the pilot period with agreement to be able to utilise Darlington and Middlesbrough, if required. The aim was not to have a reduction in custody provision, but to make its operation more centralised. Chief Inspector Hunter gave an assurance to Members that there would be daily reviews of the pilot scheme to monitor it’s the progress.

Chief Inspector Nick Hunter advised the Committee that he was retiring at the end of this year and would hope to bring his replacement along to 12 December meeting to introduce him to Members. He also advised that he would ask the new Neighbourhood Policing Inspector for Hambleton, Inspector Dave Murray, along to introduce him to Members also.

Resolved -

That the contents of the report and issues raised, be noted.

128. Rural Policing

Inspector Jon Grainge gave an oral presentation to Members providing information which had been requested by the Committee at its last meeting regarding rural policing issues.

Inspector Jon Grainge advised the Committee of the aims and objectives of the Rural Taskforce:-

- ◆ **The Rural Taskforce** - it was established in April 2016 and comprised an Inspector and Sargeant, district based PCs and PCSOs, an Intelligence Analyst and a Rural Crime Co-ordinator and had responsibility for delivering the Rural Policing Strategy.
- ◆ **Prevention** - preventative marking events which involved marking leather items and machinery, for example, had been undertaken at local agricultural shows and events.
- ◆ Rural Watch, Horse Watch and Heritage Watch schemes were in place.

- ◆ The team undertook proactive prevention advice by going out and talking to the local community at agricultural shows and events, for example, there was a presence at the North Yorkshire County Show at South Otterington recently; the team also attended at local auction marts and various types of public meetings
- ◆ **Engagement** - the taskforce engaged with colleagues, communities and partners.
- ◆ Provided a presence at county, country shows and agricultural events and was proactively involved in both internal and external communications.
- ◆ **Enforcement** - it was stressed the taskforce needed to actually tackle offenders and not just be involved in communication advice.
- ◆ Numerous arrests had been made, wildlife crime prosecutions and heritage crime prosecutions had been undertaken, farm thefts of various descriptions were being tackled and the team was actively working closely with Durham and Cleveland to address coursing and poaching activities.

Inspector Grainge replied to a question from Members about how the Rural Taskforce contacted, or communicated with the 78 Parish Councils within the Hambleton District. Members' were informed that it would be impossible to try and get representatives from all the Parishes altogether in one place and it would also not be a good use of Taskforce resources to get around to 78 parishes. It was agreed, however, that relevant information needed to be got out to the Parish Councils. Inspector Grainge said they did make use of social media by way of Twitter and Facebook and did liaise with the Force Press Office also.

Inspector Grainge advised Members that a new volunteer co-ordinator had been appointed recently and volunteers would be used for the taskforce work on engagement with the local communities.

A Member asked whether the Taskforce officers co-operated with the PCs who already attended Parish Council meetings in order that resources would not be wasted and was informed by Inspector Grainge that all officers engaged internally, as well as externally, in the hope of getting better communications in place.

Nigel Smith (Area Highways Manager) informed Inspector Grainge and Members that there was a Hambleton Parish Liaison Meeting coming up on Thursday 17 November at 7 pm at Hambleton District Council Offices which might be useful for Taskforce representatives to attend as an aid to making contact with representatives of the local Parish Councils. Nigel Smith also gave Inspector Grainge the contact person for Trading Standards which he considered may be useful.

Chief Inspector Nick Hunter informed the Committee that it was the intention to have Inspector Grainge present updates to the Area Committee on the work of the Rural Taskforce, which he said would be a huge bonus for policing in Hambleton and Richmondshire.

Resolved -

That the contents of the oral report by Inspector Jon Grainge on rural policing and the issues raised, be noted.

**129. Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group
“Transforming our Communities” Consultation**

Considered -

The oral report of Abigail Barron the CCG’s Head of Strategy/Community Services informing Members of the current “Transforming our Communities” consultation.

During her presentation Abigail Barron highlighted the following issues:-

- ◆ **Introduction** - Members were informed of the remit of the CCG which was to commission first class health care which improved the health and wellbeing of everyone living in Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby.
- ◆ Members were informed that “home first care” was the most important wish on the direction of travel for the CCG, which had identified a range of overarching objectives which under-pinned a wider range of services that would bring care closer to home
- ◆ **Challenges** - aging population, increased demand on services; rurality; inequity of financial allocation ie there was no “sparsity” extra payments available from the Government and pressures on acute services.
- ◆ **The Vision** - the vision for Hambleton and Richmondshire was first documented in a discussion paper in 2013, since that time the Group had been refining its vision and case for change through extensive public and stakeholder engagement and service prototyping to influence the direction of travel.
- ◆ Outlined the new model of care and what it was envisioned it would look like for the future.
- ◆ Engaging with clinicians and communities.
- ◆ Summary of activity to date.
- ◆ **The direction of travel** - home first care, or as close to home as possible; implement a frailty pathway; increase access to beds in the community enabling care to be stepped up or down locally, undertake a review of community facilities within each locality, a strengthened and sustainable Friarage Hospital, integrated locality teams wrapped around GP practices and to enhance end of life care.
- ◆ **Three options** - identified to achieve the aims which are subject to the current Consultation - **option 1** do nothing, the Lambert Memorial Hospital would remain closed, the Rutson Ward in the Friarage Hospital would continue to be commissioned as it is now; **option 2** re-open the Lambert with a new North Yorkshire based service provider delivering in-patient care, the beds at the Rutson Ward would go back to the original specification and **option 3** to provide a range of step-up/step-down beds in the community supported by integrated locality teams, which was the preferred option so far, based on feedback from the engagement process. (Members viewed a video describing the step-up/step-down option and how it could benefit patients.
- ◆ Summary of the consultation process so far, with the consultation ending on 7th October, 2016, having been extended from 30th September, 2016. Public

and staff engagement events which had been held had proved valuable, with people generally feeling reassured about the future.

During discussion at the meeting, Members of the Committee raised the following queries and made the following comments –

- ◆ There was no extra care housing available in Great Ayton and people had currently to go to Middlesborough, which would make the implementation of Option 3 in that area extremely difficult to implement.
- ◆ Following an expression of concern about the future of the Rutson Ward, a reassurance was given that the 9 community beds for rehabilitation following strokes/neurological issues would remain as they were not included as part of the consultation. South Tees would decide how many beds were needed.
- ◆ Whether there were any proposals to extend provision in Stokesley – the CCG was looking at that provision currently, working closely with Broadacres to see if they had any space.
- ◆ Option 3 sounded appropriate, in principle, but key was getting it all up and running and would not want to see the Rutson beds disappear until alternatives were put in place. Extra care housing was already over-subscribed and there was none, for example, in Bedale. Would existing provision be reduced, if people had gone to extra care beds, as it was hoped it would be in addition – the CCG would not be taking away any provision for the public and would be looking at conversions to provide extra space and where there wasn't any, for example, in Bedale, discussions would take place with Benhill Lodge. An assurance was given that no beds would be taken away before robust alternative facilities were in place.
- ◆ Six weeks intensive care was provided by the NHS in any event, within peoples' homes – would that still happen. The CCG responded that a full care package would be provided, but it was the environment that might change, also it could be six weeks, twelve weeks, or even 12 months care, dependent on an individual's needs.

The Chairman thanked Abigail Barron, on behalf of the Committee, for her attendance at the meeting and her presentation on behalf of the CCG and it was agreed that she would take Members' questions and comments back with her, as part of the consultation process.

It was suggested that it would be helpful and informative if the CCG could report back to the Committee with up-dates on an annual basis and Abigail Barron agreed that would be possible.

Resolved -

That the contents of the CCG's presentation be noted, together with the deadline of 7th October, 2016, for responses to the consultation process "Transforming Our Communities".

130. Charity Bike Rides

Considered -

Oral report of Nigel Smith (Area Highways Manager) providing information requested by Members at the last meeting regarding the issue of charity bike rides.

Nigel Smith highlighted the following issues in relation to the organisation and undertaking of charity bike rides:-

- ◆ this issue covered a very wide ranging area of information and the issues involved with the cycle Time Trials frequently held along the A19 were very different to the group cycle charity bike rides which were held. The County Council did actively encourage and help to facilitate cycle events, but traffic disruption must be carefully managed and it also had a duty of care to all concerned. The County Council did its best to facilitate such events, but had to ensure that they were conducted in a safe manner.
- ◆ The County Council could not prevent people using the public highway, only the Police have the power to do that, under significant safety concerns
- ◆ Not being aware at all of an event taking place, or being given very short notice of an event was not ideal and was an issue of concern; the ideal timescale would be 6-9 months for notification, for the following reasons - possible Road Traffic Orders, or Road closures may have to be made; co-ordination of works on the highways maybe needed; only the Police had the authority to stop traffic; ensuring events comply with Highways law; 'stop' signs etc., so safety is not compromised
- ◆ There was a Safety Advisory Group (SAG) which had been set up with various partner bodies, to liaise with organisers of such events and there was an "Event Planning Protocol" on the NYCC website for organisers' information and advice. The organiser of an event can see the full extent of the issues to be considered and implemented as they were listed in that document, which was intended to provide a coherent approach.

It was agreed that Nigel Smith would provide Members with the Hyperlink to the NYCC Website to access the Event Planning Protocol document, for their information.

In response to a Member's question Nigel Smith said that Public Liability Insurance was an essential requirement, as without it an event would not receive approval to go ahead.

Members commented about it being sensible for cyclists to have personal accident insurance and on safer riding methods, for example, not riding more than two abreast. Nigel Smith agreed he would discuss means of getting safety messages delivered to cyclists with the Communications office.

Resolved -

That the contents of the report be noted.

131. Work Programme

Considered -

The report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) presenting the programme of work scheduled for future meetings and inviting members to comment, amend and/or suggest additional items to be included.

A Member requested an up-date on the operation of the Household Waste Re-cycling Centre at Stokesley and it was agreed that a report be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

Resolved –

That the business currently scheduled for consideration at future meetings be approved, subject to the addition of the item highlighted regarding Stokesley Household Waste Re-Cycling Centre; updates from Inspector Jon Grainge on the work of the Rural Policing Taskforce; and a representative of the Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group be invited to attend the Committee, on an annual basis, to give up-dates on the work of the CCG within the area.

132. Date, Time and Venue of Next meeting

Resolved –

That the next meeting take place on Monday, 12th December, 2016 starting at 2.00 pm at County Hall, Northallerton.

133. Other Business

There were no items of other business to be considered as a matter of urgency because of special circumstances.

The meeting concluded at 3.35 pm

SAM