

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

TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS' LIAISON COMMITTEE

27th January 2022

Present: Councillor Hasthorpe (in the Chair)
Councillors Astbury, Dawkins, Hudson and
Shreeve

M Archer	Waltham Parish Council
G W Baker	New Waltham Parish Council
R Breed	New Waltham Parish Council
J Braton	Barnoldby Le Beck Parish Council
T Crofts	Stallingborough Parish Council
J Gail	Immingham Town Council

Also in attendance:

PCC Jonathan Evison	Police and Crime Commissioner
Paul French	Humberside Police – Superintendent
Helen Isaacs	Assistant Chief Executive
Guy Lonsdale	Deputy S151 Officer
Beverly O'Brien	Scrutiny and Committee Advisor

LM.13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies of absence were received from Sharon Greenbeck (Laceby Parish Council) Kathryn Kiddle-Bailey (Waltham Parish Council) Linda Mumby (Waltham Parish Council) David Poucher (New Waltham Parish Council) Val Turner (Bradley Parish Council) and Barry Turner (Bradley Parish Council) .

LM.14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

LM.15 MINUTES

The minutes of the Town and Parish Council Liaison Committee held on 8th July 2021 were approved as a correct record.

LM.16 COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN

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

RESOLVED – That all completed actions be removed from the tracker.

LM.17 POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

The committee were given the opportunity to discuss any concerns they have within their Parishes with the Humberside Police and Crime Commissioner.

PCC Evison gave Committee an update on the uplift of warranted Police Officers that they had had this year and the planned number of new warranted officers for next year. He also explained that 'operation galaxy' had seen several raids to be successful and how Humberside Police were now using drug dogs to locate drugs from quite a distance and unannounced. He stated that this has helped keep peoples heads down and prevent crime. He added that a recent crime survey had indicated that there had been a 6.3% reduction in crime locally and 4% reduction nationally. The 101 system was the best in the country as it took an average of 4 minutes for someone to answer, in other forces it was within 28 minutes.

PCC Evison updated the Liaison Committee of the domestic abuse campaign that had been implemented over the Christmas period, which would continue up until the Valentine's day. He stated that of the 5 million people who had seen the campaign, 1500 people had contacted them, 600 of them being male. PCC Evison explained about the current grants his office were offering that were available to organisations and community groups and included how individuals could access information on them.

Councillor Archer stated that PCC Evison mentioned that we had the highest arrest rate, but not a very good prosecution rate, he wondered whether this indicated a waste of police resource. PCC Evison stated that it wasn't a poor rate, a number of problems had occurred in the last two years where the courts had a significant backlog of incidences that were not able to be dealt with due to Covid 19. He added that there had been pressure on courts to get caught up, but it was not within the police's remit to say what went to court. The crime and prosecution service decided this. He stated that once caught up the service should be a lot better.

Councillor Archer asked where more information was available on the grants PCC Evison had mentioned. PCC Evison explained that they were on the Humberside Police and Crime Commissioner's website.

Councillor Dawkins shared an experience he had had with 999 emergency service where it had involved a knife. He added that it had taken the police 12 minutes to arrive. PCC Evison stated that the response time can vary depending on what was happening at the time of the call. There were now a lot more police stations open because of new deployments. Chief Inspector French added that a lot of local police stations had now been re-manned so that the response to calls can be a lot quicker.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

LM.18 POLICING PLANS

The committee received an update from Humberside Police on policing plans.

Chief Inspector French updated the committee on seasonal operations, particularly around mischievous and bonfire night, which historically normally had high antisocial behaviour occurrences. He stated that antisocial behaviour on these nights were lower than anticipated. Humberside Police had the best crime outcome rate in the country alongside the highest arrest rate. Officers had been working on Cleethorpes high street to help tackle crime and how there had been an increase in community officers on the South Bank of which five had been ring fenced to local neighbourhoods. They had received positive feedback from community surveys. There had been a rise in off road motorcycles, so they were currently training officers on motor bikes as this was a rising issue for many communities. Chief Inspector French stated that in the week ahead residents would see an increase in visible policing. GPS tracking of frontline officers was about to begin to allow them to become more aware of where officers had been and how long they were spending in each community. He stated that he would bring back results to a future liaison committee meeting.

Councillor Hudson asked whether Humberside Police employed ex-servicemen. Chief Inspector French stated that they were very proactive with ex-service colleagues and veterans. It was part of operation nova. Councillor Hudson also wondered about the 260 motorbikes stolen or seized. He wondered what happened to them. Chief Inspector French stated that people had a certain number of days to collect any bikes retrieved, but if they did not, they would be disposed of in the most cost effective way. Councillor Hudson wondered whether they worked with neighbouring authorities in relation to motorbike thefts as individuals tend to joy ride them on farmers open fields. Chief Inspector French stated that they had a very strong connections with neighbouring forces where they had combined task forces.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

LM.19 BUDGET AND MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2022-2025

The Liaison Committee received a report from the Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets outlining how the Council plans to deliver its agreed financial strategy over the coming three-year period.

Councillor Baker asked about the increase in Council Tax and how they were planning on looking at it in 5 years. Councillor Shreeve stated that it was a big struggle for them to have to do this, but he explained how Council Tax made a big contribution to the Council's finances.

Councillor Gail was disappointed that services were being removed from people with learning disabilities, it seemed that they were just taking funding from the most vulnerable. She wondered whether Councillor Shreeve thought the £7 million deficit gap indicated that the Council may be in crisis. Councillor Shreeve stated that the Council was not in crisis.

Councillor Breed asked about the rise in business rates. He wondered whether this was contributing to the amount of business's shutting down in the town centre. Councillor Shreeve stated that business rates came from a wider range of businesses than retail.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

LM.20 PLATINUM JUBILEE

The committee discussed the Town and Parishes plans for the celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in North East Lincolnshire.

Ms Isaacs informed the Committee that a Government announcement and guidance had been issued about the Jubilee, including a £22million pot available for communities to bid into. She asked town and parish members to start thinking about activities they wish to plan for the celebration weekend (2nd- 5th June). Members were asked to look at information on the Council's event page so that they could hold events safely. If aware of any events, members were asked to confirm details with the authority. Ms Isaacs also confirmed that the Council was able to provide advice and support if needed.

<https://www.nelincs.gov.uk/licencing/event-safety-advisory-group/>

RESOLVED – That the platinum jubilee discussion be noted.

LM.21 HIGHWAYS/TRAFFIC UPDATE

The committee received an update on highways/traffic matters.

RESOLVED – That the updated be noted.

LM.22 MEMBER DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The committee considered any development issues.

Mrs O'Brien updated the Liaison Committee on training that had recently taken place for Parish Members. She also commented on training events that were coming up for members to take part in. She confirmed that she would send out details of training events already scheduled.

RESOLVED – That an email be sent to all Parish clerks of upcoming training events available to Parish Councillors.

LM.23 REFERRALS TO SCRUTINY

There were no matters referred to scrutiny.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.05 p.m.