

North Willesborough Community Forum



Open Meeting – 11th May 2016 - Meeting Notes

Willesborough Baptist Church – Hythe Road

The doors opened at 6.30 with a display of various items of local interest.

No councillors attended - George Koowaree sent apologies.

NWCF Chair, Ian Stevenson, sent his apologies.

The meeting was opened at 7.30 pm by Alan Dinnie.

Law and Order

PCSO Daniel Brown attended and gave the following report:

- He covers wards North Willesborough, Highfield, Kennington and Little Burton Farm, all of which are low crime areas.
- Crime information is available online:
 - North Willesborough: <https://www.police.uk/kent/90/crime/>
 - Highfield: <https://www.police.uk/kent/85/crime/>
 - Aylesford Green: <https://www.police.uk/kent/74/crime/>
- Main issues are:
 - Thefts from cars
 - Bicycle theft
 - Theft from sheds
- Preventative measures:
 - Do not leave valuables on display in cars
 - Marking of bicycles
 - Shed alarms
 - CCTV (BUT be careful about overlooking neighbours' property)

More information can be obtained from the police and via:

PCSO Daniel Brown: Daniel.Brown@kent.pnn.police.uk, or call 101.

One Ashford Hospital - Presentation by Michael Chalk

Ashford is One Hospital's first hospital. It has been built on land purchased from Houchin's estate next to William Harvey Hospital and is for private patients and those covered by private healthcare plans. One Hospital is planning to build 3 hospitals per year over the next ten years with the next being in Hatfield.

One Ashford Hospital can accommodate 20 patients. It will use William Harvey's pathology and high dependency (intensive care) services when required. A concern from the floor was that this would be a drain on WHH resources - it was explained that with only 20 patients this would be minimal, plus WHH would be charging for these services.

Tours of the hospital can be arranged - for this and any other information contact the hospital on 01233 423000 or via <http://www.onehealthcare.co.uk/one-ashford-hospital>

Local News and Updates

Hythe Road Pedestrian Crossing - George Koowaree has advised that he will be restarting the process to reinstate the pedestrian crossing near The Windmill Inn.

Junction 10a - Two major changes:

- The scheme will now include the Stour Park (U19 warehouse estate) junction
- The scheme will exclude the Barrey Road junction which will now be dealt with by the regional Highways England division - this will mean it will not be dependent on J10a going ahead and may be implemented sooner than the new J10a scheme. ABC is aware of this and will be following up.

Highways England will be applying for a Consent Order for the J10a scheme in June 2016.

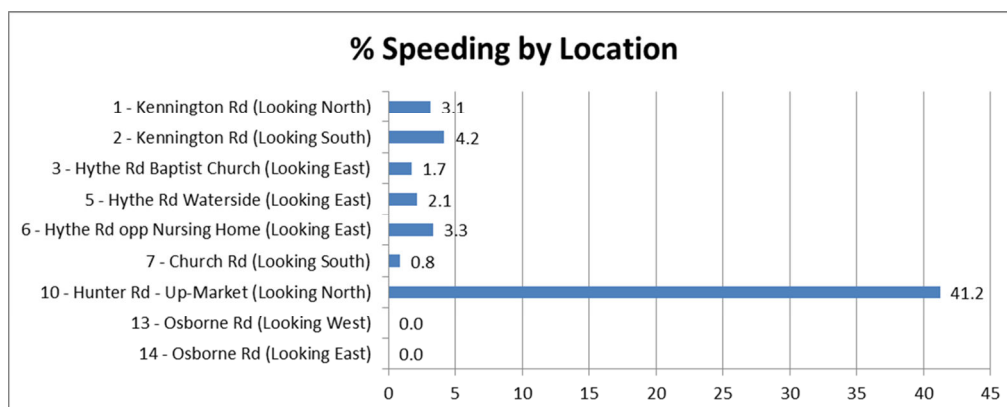
Planning - The following was reported:

Sevington Development (U19)	An Outline Planning application had been submitted and the comments period was over.
Blackwall Road South (U5)	Permitted by committee, with conditions.
White Horse pub	Work ongoing.
Rear of Waltham Close	No progress.
Highmead House (Part of U14)	Nothing new.

Parking on Pavements - following many complaints NWCF has been looking at methods of providing advice to offenders; to this end NWCF had been in contact with both the Police and ABC. Currently, it is only illegal to park on a pavement or grass verge in the Greater London area. It is, however, illegal to drive on a pavement or to obstruct a pavement, but very difficult to prove such an offence. NWCF will be following up on this so watch this space.

Speedwatch Update - Daniel Dryden gave the following report:

- Speeding statistics (Feb to Apr 2016) were presented which showed Hunter Road (20 mph) to be the speeding hotspot - it was accepted that this was largely due to drivers trying to be courteous to traffic waiting to pass parked cars - NWCF will be lobbying ABC and KCC for further methods to reduce speed in this road.



- The Speedwatch team will be establishing new sites - if residents have any suggestions please contact the team.
- We are always looking for new volunteers.
- See us on Facebook - www.facebook.com/NorthWillesSpeedWatch

AOB

Steerco Vacancies -There are vacancies for a Treasurer and Secretary.

The meeting concluded at 9.10pm. The next Open Meeting (and AGM) will be on the 10th August 2016.
