

North Willesborough Community Forum



Open Meeting – 10th August 2016 - Meeting Notes

Willesborough Baptist Church – Hythe Road

The doors opened at 6.30 with a display of various items of local interest plus a display of Care UK's planned new care home close to the William Harvey Hospital.

Councillor George Koowaree (North Willesborough and KCC) was on hand for any questions/problems. No other councillors attended.

The meeting was opened at 7.30 pm by Chairman, Ian Stevenson (ICS).

Law and Order

North Willesborough has another new PCSO: Samantha Hunt. Samantha could not attend and was unable to send a report. However, 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/>

More information can be obtained from the police and via:

PCSO Samantha Hunt: Samantha.Hunt@kent.pnn.police.uk, or call 101.

Care UK - Presentation by David Madden

Mr Madden made a presentation concerning Care UK and its proposed care home beside William Harvey Hospital.

The home is to be three stories with two wings, giving six areas, each of which could be tailored to different types of care, depending on need. Part of the objective is to work with the WH Hospital to share resources and help free hospital beds.

The plans include 29 car parking spaces, including 2 disabled, but there were concerns from the floor that this would not be enough, given that a typical shift would require 25 staff and also given the historic problems in the neighbourhood. Care UK said their detailed plans would address this.

The planning application (ref 16/01136/AS) had been received by ABC on 27th July and can be viewed at <http://planning.ashford.gov.uk/Planning/details.aspx?systemkey=104235>. Comments by 27th August.

Local News and Updates

Hythe Road Pedestrian Crossing - George Koowaree advised that the KCC initial survey found that, due to cables beneath the surface and the width of the pavement, the preferred location may not be suitable. KCC will go ahead with the traffic survey after the school summer holidays. John Goodman advised (by email) that Damien Green was supportive.

Junction 10a - Highways England's submission to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) for the Development Consent Order was made in July. PINS will confirm on 16 August if the application has been accepted. The (212) submitted documents can be viewed on the PINS website at <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/m20-junction-10a/?ipcsection=docs>

Barrey Road Junction - At the Junction 10a Community Group meeting on the 29th June Highways England's Area 4 representative explained that they would review and add to the signage but that, despite the many petitions and the difficulty exiting Barrey Road, there would be no traffic lights.

Planning - The following was reported:

Sevington Development (U19)	The Outline Planning application had been accepted by ABC Planning Committee on the 18 th May, with conditions.
Blackwall Road South (U5)	The Planning application had been accepted by ABC Planning Committee on the 16 th March, with conditions.
Rear of Waltham Close	The Planning application had been accepted by ABC Planning Committee on the 18 th May, with conditions.
Highmead House (Part of U14)	Nothing new.
Land in Willesborough (U14)	A Planning submission had been made for an opinion whether an Environmental Impact Assessment would be required. There were questions regarding the routing of the new road to the rear of William Harvey Hospital and on the advisability of closing access to Hinxhill Road from The Street - It was agreed that these points could be taken up if/when there was a formal planning application.
Care Home by WH Hospital.	Application submitted - comments by 27 th August.

Obstructed Footways

- Parked Cars - Whilst not yet illegal it can often be inconsiderate if not dangerous. NWCF were initiating a scheme for placing advisory notices on vehicles parked on pavements.
- Overgrown bushes and trees - A problem especially for those with mobility issues and a safety issue when road signs are obscured. Bushes should be cut back to the boundary line and trees must be above head height. The KCC web page <http://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem> can be used to report problems. (Contact the Forum if you need help.)

Speedwatch Update

- Statistics were displayed on the board - hotspots were Hunter Road, and Kennington Road in the evenings.
- There are new sites on Hythe Road, Kennington Road, Lees Road and The Street (See website for map of locations).
- We are always looking for new volunteers.
- See us on Facebook - www.facebook.com/NorthWillesSpeedWatch

Councillor Report

George Koowaree reported:

- Drovers Roundabout has been adopted by KCC - maintenance work has been scheduled.
- Yellow line painting on Lees Road under the M20 is "in the queue".

AGM Matters

- Motions:
 - Change the name of the Forum to "North Willesborough Community Forum"
 - Adopt the revised Constitution.

Both were proposed by Michael Boulding, seconded by Myra Wilson and agreed unanimously.
- The Treasurer's Report was presented - it showed the Forum to have a credit balance of £ 1,544.73.
- The existing Steering Committee was accepted without objection.
- It was agreed that Ian Stevenson should continue as Chair (there were no volunteers for Secretary nor Treasurer).

AOB

- It is understood that many people had neither the time nor inclination to sit on committees - the Forum is therefore looking for “skill-based” volunteers to help out with specific tasks as and when required (e.g. Fundraising, Publicity etc.). Anyone interested should contact the Forum.
- The Forum would be at the Craft and Heritage Fair on the 14th August at the Windmill - drop in for a chat.
- The Local Government Boundary Commission is conducting a Boundary Review in Ashford Borough. So far they have concluded that the borough needs 47 councillors (from 43). They are now consulting on warding arrangements (i.e. ward boundaries) - comments may be submitted until 5th September via <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/add/informed-representation/8512?bbox=570225,125644,623225,155644> or email reviews@lgbce.org.uk or contact the Forum

The meeting concluded at 9.10pm. The next Open Meeting will be on the 9th November 2016.
