



## **Open Meeting - 11<sup>th</sup> October 2017 - Meeting Notes**

### **Willesborough Baptist Church – Hythe Road**

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

Councillor George Koowaree (North Willesborough and KCC) was on hand for any questions/problems - no other NWCF area councillors were present.

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

### **Parking and Traffic - Chris Miller of ABC**

Chris Miller (Parking, Highways and Transportation Team Leader) and James Haan (Chris' boss), of ABC, introduced themselves.

Chris Miller then responded to the following issues, using examples in Willesborough:

- Parking on Pavements:
  - A police matter.
  - Parking on the pavement is NOT, in itself, illegal (except in Greater London or where signed as illegal).
  - Driving on the pavement IS illegal, but must be witnessed by police for a charge to be brought.
  - Obstruction IS illegal, but must be witnessed by police for a charge to be brought.
  - The simple fact is that, in many streets (e.g. Romney Road), if vehicles DON'T park with two wheels on the pavement traffic would not be able to pass. The trick is still to leave room on the pavement for, such as, wheelchair users and guide dogs.
  - It was suggested that grass verges could be converted to parking spaces - it was pointed out that this would prohibitively expensive.
  - It was suggested such as below might be used - this was accepted as an idea.



- Obstructed Driveways:
  - A police matter and relates to obstruction of the highway.
  - It IS obstruction if you cannot get OFF your driveway. The rationale here is that the obstructing vehicle is preventing you using the highway.
  - It IS NOT obstruction if you cannot get ON your driveway. The rationale here is that the obstructing vehicle is not preventing you using the highway.

- Wide Vehicle Access:



- A police matter and relates to obstruction of the highway.
- Fire appliances need at least 3.1 metres; the fire brigade will move vehicles that are causing an obstruction.
- It was observed that an individual whose vehicle prevented or delayed a fire appliance getting to a burning neighbour's house would not be very popular.
- Parking on Yellow Lines:
  - ABC issue.
  - To report an offender contact a patrolling Civil Enforcement Officer or ABC.
- Speeding
  - Three ways for dealing with speeding:
    - Enforcement, by the police (e.g. patrols, cameras).
    - Education (e.g. Speedwatch).
    - Engineering (e.g. speed bumps, chicanes etc.)
  - Engineering solutions are implemented by KCC. ABC would be pleased to advise and assist.
- Noise (e.g. modified exhausts, racing, drifting etc.):
  - Police matter.
  - *Section 59 of the Police Reform Act 2002 - vehicles being used in a manner which causes alarm, distress or annoyance. Where a vehicle is being used in this way, or otherwise amounts to careless or inconsiderate driving. Penalty – official 12 month warning. If the offender or vehicle re-offends within this period the vehicle will be seized and you may be fined up to £1000.*

To conclude, James Haan read a list of specific issues raised during the discussion and promised to investigate and revert.

## **Police and Crime**

The NWCF area has a new PCSO - Katherine Richards. Katherine could not be at the meeting but had sent a report, which had been pinned to the display.

Crime statistics by ward are available at [www.police.uk/kent/](http://www.police.uk/kent/).

## **Junction 10a**

Current status:

- PINS Examination process completed 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2017.
- Inspector's report to Sec of State 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2017
- Sec of State decision by 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2017
- Start of works due January 2018.

## **Barrey Road**

Current status:

- Temporary 40 mph Speed Limit in place on A2070'
- Part Signalisation at same time as J10a works (subject to funding).

## **Planning**

The following was reported:

Sevington Development (U19)	Agreed, pending outcome of Junction 10a PINS process.
Blackwall Road South (U5)	Construction proceeding apace.
Rear of Waltham Close	Permitted subject to a Section 106 agreement.
Care Home by WH Hospital.	Agreed, subject to conditions.
Kennington Rd Widening	Complete. Concerns were expressed over speeding.
Highmead House (Part of U14)	Agreed, subject to conditions.
Land at Willesborough Lees (U14)	Agreed, subject to conditions.

## **Speedwatch Update**

- Things were currently on hold due to the requirement by Kent Speedwatch to re-assess all sites.
- The team helped one of the classes at Willesborough Juniors with their road safety project in July.
- The team took the SID to the Windmill's Craft and Heritage Fair in August - children (and some adults) ran at the SID to see how fast they could run - "Speeding Tickets" were issued certifying the speeds attained.
- Concerns were raised about the speed of vehicles using Bentley Road - team to investigate.
- New volunteers always welcome.
- See us on Facebook - [www.facebook.com/NorthWillesSpeedWatch](http://www.facebook.com/NorthWillesSpeedWatch)

## **Councillor Report**

George Koowaree (GK) reported:

- Pedestrian crossing at the bottom of Church Road - Completed!
- Hospital Parking - To be discussed at the Joint Transportation Board meeting following the meeting that was held between Residents, Hospital Admin, ABC and KCC, on the 25<sup>th</sup> July.

## **AOB**

- Work on The Hooden On The Hill has started.
- The petrol station at the top of Church Road would be renovated and reopened as a BP station with a Budgens mini-market.

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The meeting concluded at 9pm. The next Open Meeting will be on the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

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