

# Lavant Valley Partnership Minutes of meeting – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2016 Singleton Village Hall, Singleton

Welcome, minutes and introductions.  The Chairman Cllr. Potter sent his apologies, so Cllr Blades from Lavant Parish Couvolunteered to chair the forum on this occasion. Cllr Blades welcomed members of Lavant Valley Partnership (LVP) to the forum meeting. Cllr Blades thanked Singleto Parish Council for hosting.  Present:  Cllr Adrian Blades – Chair – Lavant Parish Council  Jane Dodsworth – Head of Service - Chichester District Council  Matt Gover – LVP Co-ordinator, Chichester District Council  Emma Pagget – Home Energy Visitor – Arun and Chichester District Councils	
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Kris Ottery – Inspector – Neighbourhood Policing Team, Chichester District	
Sharon Burborough – Westhampnett Parish Council	
John Elliot – Bury ward & Singleton Parish Council	
Kate Beach – Tangmere Parish Council	
Roger Birkett – Tangmere Parish Council	
Pat Dingemans – Eartham Parish Meeting	
Angie Hobson – Eartham Parish Meeting	
David Mather – Singleton, The Valley Diary	
Coral Mather – Singleton Neighbourhood Watch	
Minutes of last meeting:	
The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 09/06/16 were approved.	
Apologies:	
Cllr Jeremy Hunt – West Sussex County Councillor	
Cllr H Potter – Boxgove ward	
Cllr S Oakley – Tangmere ward and County Councillor	
All delegates from Oving Parish Council	

Emma Pagget – Home Energy Visitor (Arun and Chichester District Council) Emma introduced herself to the forum and discussed her role and the home energy service that works across Arun and Chichester District areas. The service sits within the wellbeing team at Arun and Chichester Councils and is mostly aimed at people suffering from fuel poverty.

The service looks at the client's health conditions as well as looking to reduce heating costs. This can include grants for more efficient heating systems; they also promote all relevant government schemes. Fuel poverty is an issue for inefficient homes, which can be found in the private rented sector, owner occupied and social housing tenures. The service can look at energy bills as well as promote the 'warm home discount' for those with income related benefits.

The service also promotes a new grant by Chichester District Council called 'Chichester Warm Homes Initiative' which aims to tackle homes that are hard to heat, especially those with an oil system. Emma mentioned that a charge is put on the property and to qualify the household income must be £20,000 or less, with less than £16,000 in savings. The grant can enable those to apply for new heating system - This costs £5,000 connected to gas and £8,000 if it is off the gas network. Emma mentioned that she wanted to make people aware of service, if delegates were aware of any parishioners that could benefit from the service, to take away flyers and free thermostat cards. **Questions then followed:** 

What is the definition of fuel poverty? Emma mentioned there used to be a Government indicator which stated 'If a household was spending 10% if its income to heat the home' but now it is a more tiered approach with a number of factors. Another question was raised about the vulnerability of those living on a state pension and fuel poverty - to which Emma stated that they are a key group to focus on, but depended on their individual circumstances.

How have you promoted this service? Emma stated they work with community groups, promote themselves on council websites, magazines such as connections and initiatives. She said she wanted people to get the word out from a grassroots level; she has been to other community forums. She said she understood that residents are wary of 'Government schemes' from cold calls, but the 'council' brand gave reassurance. She also drops flyers off to Dr's services with thermometer cards. She asked the forum coordinator to circulate a JPEG for delegates to use for their community magazines.

Emma mentioned that 21oC should be the ideal temperature; if residents are overheating it could be due to long-time health issues. She stated that another part of the service is promoting behaviour change. Can people use the service with a pre-payment device? Emma stated this is not a problem – the service can look at direct debit options and offer information and advice.

Contact information: 01243 521041 or emma.pagget@arun.gov.uk

### Cllr Kate Beach – Tangmere Parish Council 55 Sunday bus service

Cllr Kate Beach from Tangmere Parish Council introduced herself to the forum and discussed the campaign for a Sunday bus service. She gave an update to the last forum in June 2016. She stated that the cancelled service needed a subsidy and she had approached parishes on the route. These included Boxgrove, Westhampnett, Tangmere and Chichester City, who were all willing to put in subsidy.

She mentioned that Compass had approached Stagecoach to use bus station for this service; however, stagecoach had rejected this request and decided to reinstate the previous service with an improved hourly service, which will run commercially. This will be for Sunday and Bank Holiday's and starts at 09.10am for every hour until 6.10pm with a return of every hour coming back from 9.40pm – 5.40pm.

Cllr Beach stated that the service would benefit many people in the community, including those who work in the City. She stated she needs parishes, particular on the route to promote the service, so they don't cancel the service again. She said the service is set to start on Sunday as half-term 23<sup>rd</sup> of October 2016. She stated that there was a petition and survey which demonstrated the need of local people. The delegates from the forum congratulated Cllr Beach for her work, but expressed concern that public transport Infrastructure needs to be looked at more extensively, with the development of Chichester district.

### Kris Ottery – inspector – neighbourhood policing team

Kris Ottery introduced himself to the meeting and welcomed the opportunity to talk to delegates from the forum. He stated that Justin Burtonshaw (speaker on agenda) is on a temporary promotion, so Kris has been allocated to the meeting. He begun by saying the neighbourhood policing has come about due to cuts in the police service, which equates to £35 million year-on-year.

He talked about the general challenges that police are facing IE Terrorism, cybercrime, scam fraud and organised immigration crime. He stated that crime types have changed significantly and therefore policing has had to adapt, this has meant that Chichester has seen a reduction in officers; in particular PCSO's in a named area. This will leave 27 PCSO's across Arun and Chichester. He mentioned that the police are breaking down 'silos' and geographical boundaries by having a more reactive force. He used an example of a spate of burglaries on the Surrey boarder as a way that several officers tackled an issue. As well as targeting Class A drugs by pooling resources in Arun and disrupting networks. **Questions then followed:** 

How do we contact you? You can search online by postcode to show your local team. This will show the team members and office contact details, which works best for reporting community based incidents: http://www.sussex.police.uk/chichester/

Kris was asked about the fall in PCSO numbers which will go down to 27 from 36. He stated the role has changed and there have been redundancies.

Delegates from Eartham mentioned problems with raves in Eartham woods, but she did praise police for damage limitation, she asked if there anything the village can do? Kris did mention that they monitor social media and rave lines. He mentioned that early detection was vital and residents should report anything suspicious immediately.

Questions were raised about whether the police expect the local community to do more and delegates were concerned by becoming more 'divorced' to the police force. A discussion then ensued about the 101 service; many delegates expressed their frustration at being on hold as well as no reporting function for travellers on the website. Kris welcomed the feedback and will pass this on.

A further discussion continued with a number of issues including Goodwood traffic and school crossings, cruising, the transit site and ant-social driving. Which seemed to common issues for delegates from the forum and a common concern was the lack of training and guidance for parish councils. Kris answered that this depends on each scenario and there was no bespoke training offered. He referred to safety advice on certain issues for community volunteers for speed watch, risk assessments etc. Kris mentioned that only a degree of training needed for certain things, other than reasonable public order common sense.

He did however reiterate working together and flagging things up with neighbourhood policing, it was important keep links and despite removal geographical areas and team. He mentioned how vital partnership working was with community knowledge and intelligence. The forum discussed an idea for possible sponsorship of training events for parishes, especially for Goodwood events. Kris said he would explore these issue further, delegates referred to the National Park as a good model to give the community training and tools to deal with issues that affect them.

Contact information: 101 EXT: 580299

or email <u>arunandchichester.localteam@sussex.pnn.police.uk</u> - Operation crackdown (anti-social driving): <u>www.operationcrackdown.org</u>

## Items for future meetings

The following items were raised for future meetings:

- Transit Site
- WSCC highway rangers
- Footpaths + verges
- South Downs National Park
- '20 is plenty' speeding scheme
- Southern Water

#### **AOB**

The LVP co-ordinator advised the Chair and Head of Service that this is his last meeting, due to a new role at West Sussex County Council. He advised the partnership that his role will be advertised shortly and he will hand over to a new co-ordinator.

### Venue for next meeting

Lavant Parish Council said they hope to host the next meeting. But will confirm this nearer the time.

Meeting ends.