

Neighbourhood Action Group

## **Birch Hill and Hanworth**

24 April 2008

### **Priority**

- 1 – **Speeding (BFBC Medium Term Objective Priorities 3 & 4)**
- 2 – **Parking (BFBC Medium Term Objective Priorities 3 & 4)**
- 3 – **Litter (BFBC Medium Term Objective Priority 2)**

### **Attendance:**

Cllr Chas Baily (BFBC), Cllr Alan Brown (BFBC), NSO Michael Foot, Peter Worsnip, Jo Legg (Chair), Liam Wagstaff (McColls Newsagent)

### **Apologies**

Clare Humphrey, Pat Kennewell, Sue Sarginson, PSCO Michelle Noone, Jason Weekes, Heather Woods

### **Dates of Future NAG**

24<sup>th</sup> July 2008, 9am, Brackenhale Open Learning Centre  
4 December 2008, 9am, Room 6, Easthampstead Baptist Church

### **Dates of Future Neighbourhood Forums**

Wednesday 22 October 2008, 7.30pm, Birch Hill Primary School

### **Local Publications**

Name:	Next publication deadline:	Contact:
Town and Country	July edition – Story ideas deadline 25 <sup>th</sup> April October edition – Story ideas deadline 18 <sup>th</sup> July December edition – Story ideas deadline 26 September  Copy deadline 2 weeks after idea deadline	Ben Funning – Communications Officer ben.funning@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

## **1. NAG Constitution**

The NAG constitution was agreed and signed.

## **2. Notes of Previous Meeting**

The notes of the previous meeting were agreed as being a correct record.

## **3. Priority Issues**

### Speeding

The Roads Policing Department had been operating on Ringmead in the vicinity of Juniper on 14 April. PC Michael Foot will be looking at enforcement by Evedon whilst the Roads Policing Department will continue to do enforcement by the hockey club.

A significant number of complaints had been received about vehicles speeding in the evenings and in the area around Birch Hill Primary School. Concerns were raised about vehicles speeding on Nine Mile ride from the Look Out towards Wokingham and the Group were informed that the 30mph signs were advisory only and were designed to slow vehicles as they approach the bends in the road in addition the last fatal accident had been caused by a defective vehicle rather than speed.

The Borough Council's Transport Section had been approached over installing Archers Strips to monitor traffic speeds on Ringmead and it had been agreed that speed enforcement activities and speedwatch would continue for another three months and the results would be used to inform a decision as to whether Archers Strips and speed reduction measures were appropriate.

### Parking

The Police had been patrolling the area around Birch Hill Primary School reminding parents of the need to park considerately and ticketing where necessary and would continue with the education then enforcement approach over the coming months. Council parking attendants had also visited the area although they had visited when the roads had been quiet and the police had forwarded the parking attendants details of more appropriate times to visit. It was stressed that if a vehicle was complying with any parking restrictions and was not parked obstructively then there was no reason for the vehicle to be prevented from parking in a road.

As part of the School's Travel Plan there was a regular Walk on Wednesday scheme in place to encourage children to walk to school on one day a week and the Director of South Hill Park would be approached for permission to allow parents to park at the Arts Centre.

Residential parking continued to be a problem across Birch Hill and Hanworth and the police had recently issued eight tickets to vehicles parked obstructively in Oakengates. Since this exercise had taken place people were now parking elsewhere and the situation had improved.

It was stressed that in the event that nothing could be done to alleviate the parking situation in an area then it would be essential that appropriate feedback was given to local residents.

### Litter

NSO Michael Foot had carried out a visual audit of South Hill Park with a local scout troop and photographs taken had been used to prove to the management that a problem existed. A second scout group were keen to carry out further visual audits and it was hoped that this would be used to develop an educational approach to addressing litter problems.

Littering in the immediate vicinity of Sainsbury's was a concern and the manager would be approached by the Borough Council's Environmental Team and members of the NAG to discuss a way forward. **Action: Jo Legg/Pat Kennewell**

Birch Hill Primary School had received a supply (on loan from the Council) of litter pickers that the children could help keep the school grounds tidy. The Council may have sticks to loan to other schools.

## **4. Updates on other neighbourhood Issues**

### Waitrose Site

It had been confirmed that the old Waitrose site in Liscombe was now owned by Aldi and refurbishment would start over the summer for a planned opening in the New Year.

Aldi's Property Director had informed the police that no additional boarding up would take place however a the situation would be monitored by the Police and a series of photographs had been taken of the building and these would be used as a reference to compare any additional vandalism too.

### McColls Newsagent's

McColls' application for a an alcohol licence had been approved and alcohol was now being sold. McColl's had implemented staff training and there would always be a minimum of two members of staff present when the shop was open. There were security cameras both inside and outside the store and the control panel had been installed so that the cameras could be monitored by staff without them having to leave the cash register. Staff at McColl's had been advised that if problems occurred then they were to do what they could without putting themselves in

jeopardy. NSO Michael Foot ran safety and awareness training sessions for the staff at the Co-op and would be willing to run these for McColls' if requested. **Action: Liam Wagstaff/Michael Foot**

#### **5. Any Other Business**

The Group expressed concern over the level of apologies received and it was agreed that the possibility of moving the next meeting to a late afternoon or early evening time slot would be explored. **Action: Jo Legg**