

Belmont PACT meeting 8 June 2010

Version 3 (updated 05 July 2010)



Wendy Coombey – Independent Chair

Sue Doheny Joint Management Team Representative
 PC Fiona Farrington – WMP
 Bethan Fortey, Community Protection Team
 Steve Thompson, AMEY
 Laurette Ratcliffe, Hfds. Housing

Cllr Heather Davies
 Cllr Phil Edwards
 Cllr Glenda Powell

Mark Schoffer – Parish Cllr
 Sue Black – Hereford City Plan Development Worker
 Chris Bucknell – Herefordshire Partnership

Chris Allen – Local Improvement Adviser undertaking review of PACT meetings

Apologies: Sgt Chris Payne, WMP

5 members of the public

Issues from January Meeting	Response
<p>Item 1 (Item 4 on previous sheet): Rubbish is still being put out either days early or after the collection had been made, meaning it is outside for some time. This is causing a problem.</p>	<p>Response at the PACT: The Community Protection Team can deal with this issue. Letters will be sent out asking people not to put rubbish out before the night before the collection. If they do this it will be classed as fly tipping. The CPT cannot target individual households and will send letters to the whole street. Cllr Powell to provide the CPT Team with details. Additional Information: The CPT has monitored Charlton Avenue and found no visible trace of early presenting in the area. Sherborne Close has also been</p>

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	monitored; there have been no incidents of early presenting, although fly-tipping has been collected from the area. Work in Eastholme Court is ongoing; residents need educating that their refuse should be put into the refuse bin provided and not on the street. Letters are deemed not necessary at this stage.
Item 2 (Item 8 on the previous sheet): People are still parking on the recently restored verges, particularly in Shellingham Way.	Response at the PACT: The Community Protection Team will look into this. Additional Information: The CPT has been out to Shellingham Way on many occasions and there has been no sign of verge parking adjacent to the property in question.
Item 3: (item 11 on previous sheet): Update on the broken fence behind McDonalds at Glastonbury Close?	Response at the PACT: A meeting was held and although McDonalds did not attend the fence has now been mended.
Item 4: (item 15 on previous sheet): Update on the proposed closing of the police station.	Response at the PACT: Cllr Edwards had written to the Chief Constable, and was referred to the then Divisional Commander. The outcome is considered to be reasonable result given the issues. Cllr Powell had carried out a petition but this has not yet been submitted.
Item 5: (item 18 on previous sheet): Cllr Davies wished to record her thanks to Amey who had filled the grit bins within 24 hours of the PACT meeting.	Response at the PACT: This was noted and will be passed on.
Item 6: (item 20 on previous sheet): Thanks to Amey for the work done on the roads so far. There is	Response at the PACT: This would be noted and passed on.

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<p>still a lot of work to do but what has been completed has been excellent.</p> <p>There is a stretch from Belmont Road to Ross Road (by Belmont Ponds/Haywood lane) which is badly affected by potholes.</p>	<p>Additional resources have been made available by Herefordshire Council. Amey are currently working weekends and extra hours in order to complete outstanding work. The area mentioned needs total resurfacing and the Programme Team are considering it.</p>

New Issues from June Meeting	Response
<p>Item 7: There are a number of issues regarding bushes, trees and grass cutting in the Westholme Road area.</p> <p>On Westholme Road (next to last house on the side of Belmont Ponds) there is a square planter with a bush which is now leaning into the road. This needs pruning back.</p> <p>Above it (and about 20 yards west) there are overhanging trees which need cutting back.</p> <p>Grass cutting in Westholme Avenue and the surrounding roads has not been done frequently enough. Dandelions have been allowed to seed and weeds are now spreading.</p>	<p>Response at the PACT: At the moment subcontractors do the work in the South Wye area but Amey is hoping to bring it back in house so it can be controlled better. An order has been put in and this work will be completed.</p>
<p>Item 8: Thanks must go to Amey who have been proactive in addressing early weed growth in the concrete curbs. These were sprayed</p>	<p>Response at the PACT: This is noted and will be passed on.</p>

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New Issues from June Meeting	Response
early on which has greatly improved the situation.	
<p>Item 9: There needs to be a dog fouling notice south of Silver Fir Close on the footpath. There is a bin at the end of the footpath which is used by responsible people but a notice would be particularly visible.</p>	<p>Response at the PACT: This will be a joint responsibility between Herefordshire Council and the Community Protection Team, and will be looked into. Additional Information This will have to be addressed when the dog control orders come in. There will be considerable press coverage when the control orders come in and the Community Protection Team will then be able to prosecute as and when required.</p>
<p>Item 10: There has been an increase in anti social behaviour in Ludlow Place. There has been a lot of noise from the gardens, often going on until 1.00 am. There is also damage to trees in the area. The incident was reported to the WMP switchboard but they were unable to send anyone out. The local policing team got involved at a later date. The Housing Association is also involved.</p>	<p>Response at the PACT: WMP did respond that evening and the local policing team tried to speak to the people living in those properties. The Local Police are liaising with the Housing Association. The community is encouraged to keep reporting any incidents like this. Even if WMP are unable to come out straight away the incident is logged and will be picked up by the local policing team.</p>
<p>Item 11: When any earth works take place in the area e.g. the Playbuilder Scheme, please can everyone involved consider that if loose stones are left in the earth mounds this can cause a hazard for those using the area. Any loose stones can also be used as ammunition to be thrown at people and properties. There has already been one reported incident of personal injury.</p>	<p>Response at the PACT: Amey will clear the stones away. There has been a strong debate between the Construction Team and the Parks Manager about how this particular area was left and lessons will be learnt from this.</p>

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<p>Item 12: The new paving in Widemarsh Street is very dangerous as there is a small curb which, as people are not expecting it, is causing accidents. There have been a lot of complaints and several falls.</p>	<p>Response at the PACT Amey had received a high number of complaints about this, on average 7/8 per week.</p> <p>This has been brought up other PACT meetings. The response had been that as the area will not be completely pedestrianised there was a need to have a very small curb to delineate pavement from street. All disability groups were consulted when planning the work. The Royal National College and the Herefordshire Association for the Blind, together with a number of blind service users were also consulted. The issue will be referred back to them for comment.</p> <p>Additional Information Herefordshire Council has commissioned a design review of the new road surface after a number of people tripped or fell. The council is asking everyone to take extra care while shopping in Widemarsh Street, and if they have any difficulties to please phone 01432 261800 – or email streets@herefordshire.gov.uk.</p>
<p>Item 13: There is no doubt that multi-agency working has brought great benefits in the area. What is needed is agreement on a single access point where partners can ascertain whether a particular property is social housing or owner occupied. There are parts of the area where elected members do not know which agency is responsible for a particular issue. There is concern that if something is not being addressed may be because agencies do not know whose responsibility it is.</p>	<p>Response at the PACT In terms of stock transfer Herefordshire Housing can always tell which land is theirs and which belongs to Herefordshire Council. There are many areas where this becomes complicated, for example, in Marcle Walk, two thirds belongs to Herefordshire Council and one third to Herefordshire Housing.</p>

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<p>Item 14: The community is appalled by the amount of traffic congestion on the A465. The timing of the lights on the ASDA roundabout needs to be reviewed. These lights also cause a problem on the Ross Road.</p> <p>The merging of the two lanes as they come off the ASDA roundabout should not be allowed. The right hand lane by the lights should only be for people going into ASDA and should not be used to go straight on to the A465.</p> <p>People are unsure how to read the different lanes and it must be particularly confusing for tourists and people who are not local.</p>	<p>Response at the PACT There is a need for a right hand lane for people going into Belmont Avenue and Springfield Avenue.</p> <p>The configuration of the lights on the A465 would be referred to Clive Hall, Network Manager.</p> <p>Additional Information Amey Herefordshire are working with their colleagues who manage the Trunk Road network in Herefordshire for the Highways Agency to see what can be done to refine the balance between the A465 Belmont Road and the A49 Ross Road. This is a difficult balance to strike as clearly demand changes and the A465 by comparison with the A49 has a greater number of signal controlled crossing points, and the like, that also influences the flows on that route.</p>
<p>Item 15: Who deals with speed of vehicles on Belmont road? There was an accident the other week. People don't feel safe when walking, both from speed and amount of traffic.</p>	<p>Response at the PACT: West Mercia Police have targeted Belmont Road a couple of times in the past 6 months and have issued tickets to speeding motorists. It is Herefordshire Council's responsibility to introduce speed limits and the responsibility of West Mercia Police to enforce those limits.</p>
<p>Item 16: Cllr Edwards wished to thank all the agencies who have worked together with the community to make Belmont ward a better place to live. He felt there had been a huge turnaround in the last 2 years with the past 12 months showing particular improvements. There was still a lot more to do but what had been done so far was a credit to the agencies involved.</p>	<p>Response at the PACT: This would be passed on.</p>

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<p>Item 17: There was a need to encourage more local people to come to the PACT meetings. Cllr Powell suggested a leaflet drop saying which officers would be attending the meetings may encourage people to attend.</p>	<p>Response at the PACT: The PACT review would bring forward recommendations for how the meetings can be improved and how the community can be encouraged to attend. The Partnership team would then work with local members to help to put these recommendations in place. There was a need to make local people feel their views were valued and would be acted on.</p>