

## **HYDE TOWN COUNCIL**

**Monday, 5 March 2018**

**Present:** Cllr Andy Kinsey (Chair), Cllr Betty Affleck, Cllr Helen Bowden, Cllr Jim Fitzpatrick, Cllr Philip Fitzpatrick, Cllr Joe Kitchen, Cllr Peter Robinson, Cllr Ruth Welsh

**In Attendance:** PC Ian Thompson, GMP  
Inspector Terry Finn, GMP  
Emma Varnam, TMBC  
Kevin Garside, TMBC

### **Events**

Cllr Kinsey began by giving an overview of events the town council had been involved with in the previous year and a calendar of events the town council was directly involved in the forthcoming year.

### **Hyde Community Events (a new volunteer organisation)**

They will be organising events in the future eg. Scarecrow Festival, Xmas Lights etc.

Volunteers are needed to help with organising and running events.

Cllr Kinsey outlined events that have been held over the last year, hosted or partially funded by the council and events planned for the coming months. This included the large scale projects such as Scarecrow Festival which saw 5000 people in Hyde Park and a full day event for Hyde Xmas Lights last year and was the first event ran by Hyde Community Events. HCE as an organisation will be the vehicle to run events as whilst led by the town council, it is independent with many volunteers, works with businesses and can approach organisations for funding.

### **Centenary Project - 2018 The Centenary of the end of WWI**

Cllr. Jim Fitzpatrick outlined a project for local Primary Schools, supported by the Hyde Memorial Trust to commemorate the 710 Hyde men that lost their lives. Cllr Fitzpatrick is meeting with the Headteachers on 28 March to discuss the proposal.

If anyone has ideas for community events please contact Cllr. Andy Kinsey.

### **Hyde Memorial Trust**

Interested in setting up events but raised the issue of communication and events needing to be in the calendar to avoid clashes.

### **Town Council Update**

Cllr. Kinsey outlined work being carried out by the council – inc. bin collection, road sweeping / cleaning, changing street lighting to LED in the thousands across Hyde.

Conservation days over 300 in Tameside approx. 50 of these in Hyde per annum.

Costs of maintenance and renewals etc.

### **Anti-Social Behaviour**

A Statement was read by A Richardson, regarding ASB following a recent public meeting. In summary; there has been an ongoing issue with a small group of young people and children in Hyde Town Centre. This has led to the increased anger and frustration of the community, who feel they are not been listened to and that appropriate action is not being taken by the authorities.

PC Ian Thompson (GMP) responded.

There is a group of approximately 22 children and young people responsible for the ASB. All have been identified and the “Ring leaders” noted. As the older ones move on, younger ones step up.

Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) are reluctant to put these children through the court system as it doesn't want to criminalise them and pass them to the Youth Offending Team (YOT)

## **Strategies tried to date**

Positive approach with the young people – looking at ways to support them.

Rounding them up on the ASB bus and taking them home, handing them over to their parents / carers.

PCSOs out on the street are gathering intelligence and information.

Joint working with Housing / Education / Local Authority / Children's Services etc – Issuing Parenting Orders, evicting tenants from social housing.

“Top 5” offenders targeted – trying to get them through the court system.

Whatsapp closed group set up by traders to warn each other when these young people are in the town centre.

## **Issues raised**

- Management of The Mall push the young people out onto the market square, leaving the traders vulnerable to their behaviour with no support.
- 101 service is inadequate – takes too long to get through.
- Young people think they are “Untouchable” there doesn't seem to be any consequences for their behaviour. Tolerance allows them to think their behaviour is acceptable.
- Parents / carers of these children should be dealt with through the Criminal Justice System and be made to take responsibility for their children.
- ASB Bus taking them home – Suggestion that parents should collect from the Police station would mean officers being delayed and not on the streets.
- YOT not being present at the meeting to answer questions.
- Safety and security - People feeling vulnerable and unsafe – some not going out at night - Gee Cross given as an example.
- Police cuts – Not sufficient numbers to meet the needs of the population.
- Lack of police presence on the streets – 10-12 officers on a shift but covering Hyde, Hattersley, Parts of Audenshaw, Droylsden and Denton.
- People concerned about tackling the youths for fear of being arrested.
- CCTV – Concerns about whether it's working and can be used as evidence. Meeting assured it is working and can be used by the police as evidence. They have a direct link to the police. 8 staff 24 hrs cover. Video evidence stored for 31 days.
- Local Council and the MP not taking action – They can only act within the law. Reassurance given that all partners have been working on this issue for some time.
- PCSOs not having the powers of detention. - GMP stated there is a power nationally but this is not a power opted for within GMP currently.

## **A Way forward**

If you witness a crime call 999 – report all incidents.

If you report a crime be prepared to make a statement to support the police in gathering info to take to the CPS.

New online reporting system is being set up.

Join the Specials – (url currently -

<http://www.gmp.police.uk/live/nhoodv3.nsf/section.html?readform&s=1C1EBF84>

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YOT looking at each of the 22 identified to a part of this core group.= families being profiled.

Educating the parents of these children – parenting courses.

“Ring Leaders” currently going through the Criminal Justice System – hopefully leading to a custodial sentence.

PC Thompson – has managed to access Police force money to have extra staff on for the rest of the month to tackle this issue.

The shift pattern is changing may free up more staff.

Issuing “Dispersal Orders” – move them on from an area for 48hrs, if they return they can be arrested.

Providing opportunities for young people to engage them in activities.

Lobby the MP Jonathan Reynolds – he is lobbying the government.

**Suggestions**

Request more money from Andy Burnham GM Mayor for extra police.

Community Safety Funding – activities.

Security Officers on the Market Square.

Radio Watch scheme - To monitor and inform. EV will look into this.

Corporation Pop – Have funding to put on events for young people.

To pass on to YOT the unhappiness of the meeting that they were not present.

Police thanked for their support.

Next Meeting - 2 July