

Bramcote CAT Meeting 2 December 2013 – The Official Unofficial Minutes

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Ian Tyler.

Action Points From Previous Meeting

Only one item was discussed in detail:

Councillor Stan Heptinstall said he had taken up the issue of the Town Street/Derby Road Junction being overgrown with trees to the detriment of road users with AONE+ who are responsible for this on behalf of the Highways Agency. They had viewed the site and said there was no obstruction. The policy was to ensure that roads were safe rather than to look after the appearance. Peter Hillier commented that he felt this was total rubbish! Stan Heptinstall has arranged a meeting with AONE+ so he can further understand the policy.

Residents queried the owners of the land. Both Broxtowe Borough Council and Nottinghamshire County Council have said the A52 is the responsibility of the Highways Agency. Ian Tyler said he would raise the issue again with Paul Summers, Director of Environment at Broxtowe Borough Council having heard that Broxtowe Borough Council had tended the land and had planted bulbs. He would also raise it with Anna Soubry MP so she could take it up the Highways Agency.

Ian Tyler commented on the related verge mowing issue saying that Broxtowe Borough Council had proposed to Nottinghamshire County Council that Broxtowe take over verge maintenance on a 5 year contract. It looked likely that the County Council would accept the proposal.

Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

Mr Radcliffe objected that there was no mechanism for the meeting to approve the minutes. He said there was a serious omission regarding how to contact the police. What was said at the meeting was missing.

He was particularly annoyed as he had used the method outlined in September by PC Karl Barlow and had met with an unacceptable response. The advice in September was to use the 101 number. Mr Radcliffe had seen some man on Moor Lane who appeared to be surveying properties as potentials for a break in. He telephoned 101 but received a very poor/unacceptable response from the police officer handling the call. He then telephoned PC Barlow and left a voice message. There was no subsequent response.

PC Barlow apologised. He went on to advise that it was more effective as a means of communication to send him an email rather than telephone. He did suggest that a 999 call might have been appropriate in the instance above to gain an immediate response.

At the end of the meeting Ian Tyler undertook to include Approval of the Minutes in the next agenda.

Police Report

PC Barlow gave some statistics on crimes since the last meeting:

8 dwelling burglaries (Entry either through the front door or patio doors.)
No shed break ins
3 pedal cycle thefts (Police are targeting the Leisure Centre)
3 thefts of number plates (The police do still have some sets of plates available with security screws)
2 thefts – locked motor vehicles
4 thefts – unlocked motor vehicles
1 motor cycle theft
(The police are using a capture car to try to apprehend the thieves)
2 miscellaneous thefts

Overall crimes year on year are holding steady (125 to 127)
Burglaries are up 18 to 25
Vehicle crime is up (The message is lock your car)

Shed break ins are down 23 to 7
Violent crime (usually domestic) is down

PC Barlow reported there is a new Inspector in charge and he is targeting thefts and burglaries.

Numerous warrants have been executed

On the roads a Total Four campaign is being run against drink driving, speeding, use of mobile phones, not using seat belts.

PC Barlow has issued 30 tickets on the A52 for bus lane and speeding offences.

An unmarked police car has been replaced with a marked car as residents thought the unmarked car was suspicious and kept reporting it.

A parking outside schools campaign is being run.

Residents' Issues

Roger Jones asked if there was any truth that houses would be built on land by the A52 between Bardills and Bramcote by Bloor Homes. Ian Tyler said that this would not be allowed.

Ian Tyler went on to comment on the Core Strategy where he observed there was much misinformation:

1. The Inspector reviewing the Core Strategy proposal agreed that the total number of homes in the plan was correct. However the time frames covering when land would become available meant that the Toton site was back on the agenda but not as a replacement for another site.
2. The Inspector said that the Field Farm development was legitimate as had been observed in a previous Inspector's report but the infrastructure to go with 450 houses was insufficient. The Inspector said that the development was a long way from the shopping centre of Stapleford and would need its own facilities. There were implications for road links. Paul Nathaniel observed that Ilkeston Road needed improving and that the junction by The Jaguar was already over capacity and, as far as he could see, it was not possible to improve the situation. He felt a planning application would finally fail on this hurdle.
3. Why is development on the green belt being proposed? There is enough brown field land for 3800 houses. The plan requires 6300-6400 houses. The timescales of land availability and numbers required mean that houses have to be built on green belt.

A resident observed that an opportunity had been missed in the redevelopment of The Square where flats could have been built over the shops. Ian Tyler said this was a commercial issue with the developer. In general developers believe that flats above shops are not a workable proposal.

Other Items.

1. There is a charity food bank collection at Bramcote Farm Shop on 7/8 December. Please support it. The Mayor of the Borough of Broxtowe, Councillor Iris White will be attending.
2. The volume of music noise from the Sherwin Arms was raised at a previous meeting. Nothing has been done about this.
3. The possible takeover of part of Beeston by Nottingham City was raised. Stan Heptinstall set the scene. Nottingham County Council has a £156 million deficit and is proposing to reduce this to £80 million with severe cuts which are likely to be very unpopular. Stan believes the only way this can be properly addressed is by partnerships between authorities over services and in the final analysis by local government reorganisation with Nottingham being split into 2 or 3 unitary authorities. Nottingham City would of course want to have a say in this particularly as it is severely hindered by its own boundaries. There are no firm plans and Stan's view was this would have to be driven by Central Government. A resident wondered how 'localism' will affect this. There was no answer to this.
4. Bramcote Hills Golf Course. Officially there is no change to the situation here but a grapevine message indicates a planning application will be submitted for a care home in the near future. This site is a Protected Open Space!