

Minutes of Haselbury, Upper Edmonton, Lower Edmonton and Edmonton Green Forum held on 19th September 2018 at Community House

Present: MP, 12 Councillors, 2 Police Officers and approx 40 members of the public plus speakers

Minutes of the forum held on 13th December 2017 were agreed as a true record

Matters arising -

The Chairman explained that the scheduled February 2018 meeting had been cancelled due to bad weather and a meeting in March was not possible due to the imminent election.

Police update

Burglary and theft from motor vehicles had increased. In Upper Edmonton car crime was particularly prevalent around IKEA and Tesco, where cars were found with windows left open, sat navs, purses and laptops regularly stolen. There has been a spike in burglary in the last 6 weeks. An Officer will visit your home on request to give crime prevention advice.

Fore Street has ongoing problems with gangs, drug dealing and prostitution. Lack of resources makes it appear as if not a lot is being done, but during a recent operation 30 or 40 officers targeted Fore Street over 2 days - 3 ½ hours each day. There were 18 arrests for prostitution and knife offences.

Four youths had recently been stabbed on Fore Street, but the officer assured attendees that it is very rare for a member of the public to be involved in such an incident. There is usually some linkage to drugs and gang activity, even if the person has become involved unwittingly. Random muggings can happen but not stabbings. Attendees all agreed that it would be helpful if facilities were made available to young people such as football or boxing. Workshops would also help them to gain employment.

In reply to a question as to how the closure of Enfield Police Station would affect the police, the Officer explained that the Police will be based within the community, I.e. in libraries etc. There will be special licences for firearms. He also advised that there were no longer any cells at Edmonton Police Station - all offenders were taken to Wood Green.

Last Wednesday 6 vehicles, being used for all sorts, had been moved on from Derby Road. A new one is now back, filled with tyres. Another lorry then comes up and they transfer the tyres to that lorry. The vehicle is taxed and insured, so nothing can be done, but the Police will look into it.

Cycle Enfield

Richard Eason stated that the long term plan was to normalise cycling in order to avoid obesity and gridlock on the roads and that many people could walk or cycle more than they do. He spoke about the help given by Dr Bike and the group rides,

which were proving popular. He mentioned bike hangars and cycle hubs. All information can be found on the Cycle Enfield website. Primary school children are being taught to cycle safely.

An attendee referred to the number of accidents caused by pedestrians falling over the orcas (he knew of 6 in Bush Hill Park) and the problems of the floating car parking bays, where drivers were undertaking and then hitting parked cars in these bays. Mr Eason advised that accidents figures had been obtained from the police and that some orcas had been removed.

In reply to a comment that the number of cyclists using the cycle lanes appeared to be particularly low, even though a high usage had been reported in the press, Mr. Eason stated that counters had been installed on the A105 in Palmers Green, but not yet on the Hertford Road.

Following complaints that cars had to wait behind buses, Mr. Eason stated that it was positive for buses that they did not have to move out and that it was intentional to narrow the carriageways in order to slow traffic. As far as the Hertford Road was concerned it was hoped this would encourage drivers to use the wider A10.

Attendees complained that, although 80% of residents were opposed to the cycle lanes, the scheme still went ahead.

A complaint was made that several bus stops had been moved and some of these no longer had seating. David Taylor will stated that this should not be the case and will be investigated.

Spurs Match Day CPZ and Traffic Issues

The Spurs representatives detailed the measures that Spurs have taken to do all it can to control the situation, including paying for shuttle buses for 1 year from Alexandra Park and Tottenham Hale Stations. 4 stations are within easy reach and use of public transport will be encouraged. There will be parking for 60 coaches, 1 coach park on site and 4 in other locations. There will also be a dedicated black taxi rank. Walking and cycling will also feature and the club is funding cycle racks for local schools.

Spurs are also paying for the Enfield residents' CPZ permits for 3 years from the date of the first game at the new stadium. Haringey has had a match day CPZ in place for a number of years. There will be an automated phone line to find out when events are taking place and details will be on the website, facebook and twitter. There are also signs at zone entry points.

Following complaints from attendees where yellow lines had been placed across their driveways and had requested that the yellow lines be removed, it was explained that either the yellow lines remain or the area had to opt out of the CPZ. There was a further complaint that not only had yellow lines been placed across a resident's driveway but also opposite, thereby losing even more parking space. David Taylor agreed to look at this and would also review the situation once the CPZ was in force to see if any changes needed to be made.

Residents were concerned that they would be forced to find alternative parking a long way from their homes and a resident of Windmill Road was worried that people would take up spaces there.

AOB

Attendees were reminded of the Councillors' surgeries which are held regularly. It would also be good to encourage young people to attend the forums.

MP Kate Osamor will give a presentation at the next forum

Date of next forum - Wed 28th November 2018