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| Committee: Community, Environment & Enforcement Committee | Date: 19 September 2022 |
| Subject: Chairs Update | Wards Affected: All |
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Community

Tree walk and talk events

27 July saw the second tree walk and talk at Warley Country Park with over 40 people attending. The next tree walk will take place on 1 September at Hutton Country Park 6-7.30pm.

Community Events

Family Fun Days

There have been 5 Family Fun Days that have been delivered over the summer holidays at the following locations.

- 29 July 2022 Warley Playing Fields
- 5 August 2022 Seymour Field, Ingatestone
- 12 August 2022 Brentwood Centre
- 19 August 2022 Doddinghurst Playing Fields
- 26 August 2022 Hutton Recreation Area

The Council also works with other support agencies to attend the event that provide support for local families. The Community Connect Trailer also attend all of the events which provides information on what's going on in the community plus advice and support from partner agencies such as Neighbourhood Watch, VitaMinds, United in Kind, Council for Voluntary Services, Mind, Fire Service and Community Agents. Over the course of the summer holidays

Sponsorship income to support the delivery of the event.

Income of over £8000 on wristband sales over the 5 events.

Lighting Up Brentwood

Plans are already in progress for this year's Lighting Up Brentwood which will be on Saturday 26 November.

Shenfield Christmas Fayre

Officers are working with the Shenfield traders to develop the plans for the Christmas Fayre which will be on Sunday 4 December.

Community Connect Trailer dates

Thursday 6 October

Wednesday 21 September - Railway Square, Warley 10am – 1.30pm

Wednesday 28 September – Brentwood High Street 10am – 1.30pm (tbc)

Thursday 6 October – Hutton Community Centre 10am – 1.30pm

Wednesday 12 October – Horsefayre Green, Blackmore 10am – 1.30pm

Thursday 20 October – Beechwood Surgery, Warley 10am – 1.30pm

Wednesday 26 October – Brentwood High Street 10am – 1.30pm (tbc)

Wednesday 2 November - Brentwood Community Hospital 1-4pm

Wednesday 16 November - tbc

Saturday 26 November – as part of Lighting Up Brentwood

Wednesday 30 November - tbc

Sunday 4 December – as part of Shenfield Christmas Fayre

Wednesday 7 December - tbc

Community Hubs update

As part of the Ukraine Independence Day Brentwood Cathedral 'Love in Action' group held a special vesper service on 24 August along with Ukrainian food on offer for the local community and the new Ukrainian community. There was also a special section at the Family Fun Day on Friday 26 August in Hutton to celebrate Independence Day with food, music, crafts and history of Ukraine for everyone to join in with.

The Daily Bread Café hub had a host of activities throughout the summer including Daily Bread on tour with trips out to the beach and local parks.

Doddinghurst Road Church continued with Foodbank, Men Shed projects, café and a summer Tots playgroup every week.

Doddinghurst, Navestock and Bentley held summer activities for families including meads.

The Essex Activate programme had 100's of children take part in activities and have a meal over the summer holidays, including a bonus day at our Family Fun Day which was well received.

The Kelvedon Hatch Hub has been providing activities every Monday morning since March and this has been steadily growing.

Over the summer holidays the Hub held different activities each week for children. In addition, the Hub now have a Healthy Family Practitioner attend every week and this will continue for the foreseeable future, to weigh babies and chat with parents/carers. The Hub also collect the Fair Share food from Gail's Bakery and which is available at The Hub each week and some has been delivered to a variety of people in the community, showing that they have been thought of. Some of the attendees have started knitting baby hats and a huge bag full has been delivered to

Basildon Hospital. The Hub has become very intergenerational with a mix of abilities and disabilities.

The Coffee Club at St Paul's Church Centre, Bentley Common, has been established fortnightly on Wednesdays for anyone who wants a coffee/tea and a chat. We also collect Fair Share food from Gails Bakery for this and have it available during the morning. On the alternate weeks, we advertise the Fair Share Food on the Pilgrims Hatch Chatter page for people to come and collect it. In addition, we deliver it to a variety of people in the community.

Cost of Living support

Brentwood Borough Council and Rochford District Council have developed cost of living webpage which provides support and guidance for residents on reducing their bills during the current crisis. <https://www.brentwood.gov.uk/-/cost-of-living>.

A working group is being established to look at the other methods of support that we can offer our residents, staff and local businesses.

There is also a working group looking at this year's winter warmth campaign to support the most vulnerable during the winter months.

A survey has gone out to the Community Support Network asking for feedback on their own organisation and the key priority areas of support that they think will be a priority. A separate report went to Policy, Resource and Economic Development Committee on 12 September for member consideration.

King George's Playing Fields new development

The Phase 2 of the development which was the demolition of the old pavilion building and landscaping of the site is in progress. The old pavilion has been demolished, new drainage facilities installed across this site and the landscaping on this area has commenced. Due to the extremely hot and dry conditions that are being experienced the tree, shrub planting and grass seeding has been deferred until conditions are better, so fencing around this area will remain. The new bin store and covered cycle rack are due to be installed by end of September. Reinstatement works to some of the pathways are also being progressed.

Golf booking system

A new golf booking system for Hartswood Golf Course will be launched in September/October tbc.

EV Charging points in King George's Playing Fields

EV charging points are due to be installed in the main car park in King George's Playing Fields in February 2023.

Football Hub development

Next steps – William Wallace milestones etc. to include. KA to add

Brentwood Centre

After the successful Sport for Confidence launch event in June, the scheme will be rolled out in September with a regular weekly programme of activities.

A fitness weekend is planned for 17 September and October will see a number of events including a new Limbless event, Judo, Wedding Fair and the Brentwood Business Showcase on 5 October.

The snooker English Open takes between 12–18 December and will feature over 70 of the game's best players, including Ronnie O'Sullivan, Judd Trump, Mark Selby, and reigning champion Neil Robertson. The winner of the tournament will take home the Davis Trophy (named in honour of English snooker legend Steve Davis) and a share of the £427,000 prize fund.

LCWIP

The Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan for Brentwood. ECC are leading on this with a consultancy company WSP who have extensive experience working on LCWIPs with Essex County Council.

An initial meeting has happened and a working group has been formed. The consultants will now start gathering relevant data to give insight into where route improvement is needed. Timescale wise, we are being told 6 to 7 months for completion.

Homes for Ukraine

The Council continues to support Ukrainians arriving in Brentwood and their sponsors. There are currently 89 number of guests including children and 60 sponsors in the borough are registered on the Homes for the Ukraine scheme to host a family or individual. As well as ensuring sponsors have suitable accommodation, the Council is also working with community organisations to support families with wellbeing, practicalities, such as food and essentials, social and language support and access to digital equipment and employment support. The next stage will be to support families with 'moving on' as the initial 6-month sponsorship period comes to an end.

Dunton Hills Garden Village – Community and Education Programme

In partnership with Essex Cultural Diversity Project, artist Becky Vincer was commissioned to create a 'gift' for Dunton Hills. Artists were invited to propose a 'gift' that could be presented to each new future resident of Dunton Hill, developed in close collaboration with communities and involving local residents in the place-making process. For her project, Becky will work with children, young people and community groups to co-design a picnic blanket that features recipes, stories, quotes and illustrations. Becky attended our Warley Family Fun Day, where residents were able to get creative, and has delivered workshops at Daily Bread Café and the Forget Me Not Activity group for people affected by dementia. Becky's workshops continue into the Autumn with local schools, youth groups, and mother and toddler groups. A final design will be presented in the new year.

Brentwood Community Fund

The first round of Brentwood Community Fund closed on 31 July 2022. The Council received 26 applications requesting £102,505.96 of funding.

As the funding pot is £22,500 for this round, officers are exploring how they may be able to support the applications who were not successful in obtaining a grant from the Community Fund this time. The next round opens on 1 October.

Environment

Environment Strategy

The Environment Strategy is currently out for consultation. An online Q&A session was held on Facebook on Monday 8th August, and saw questions asked around the topics of EV charging, recycling, and financial support to improve the EPC grades of homes which aren't eligible for government grants.

To increase the number of surveys completed, we are investing £200 to promote the surveys on Facebook through targeted advertising. The business survey has been and will continue to be promoted through BEBA and the Business Newsletter produced by the Economic Development Team. The Communications Team is also regularly promoting all the surveys across all social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

The responses to the surveys will be analysed, and results will be brought to the next committee.

BEBA

BEBA have organised a free Carbon Awareness webinar series, produced by two of the board members (David Dahan of Auditel/ Newton Wright Advisors, and Sophie Stephens of Ground Control). The series began on Wednesday 14th September, and will run weekly until 10th November (excluding half term). An exclusive workshop will be held at the Brentwood Business Showcase on Wednesday 5th October.

We have over 70 businesses signed up to BEBA, many of whom are keen to get involved in environmental initiatives such as tree planting and litter picking.

Trees Update

In response to the significant failure of tree planting schemes across Essex in 2022 due to the severe drought conditions experienced, a review of the tree planting plan is being undertaken. This is to consider the need for further resource to establish tree plantations, through increased or better water management and provision for an increased number of tree replacements.

This may have a significant impact to the finances and grant funding required to deliver the tree planting schemes, particularly given the scale and ambition of the tree planting. A further consideration is to understand the commitment required by tree-planting grant scheme as to the contractual obligation to ensure

the establishment of the trees planted, and the risk of claw-back of funds should trees fail to take.

Priority is to be given to provide replacement trees to existing 2022 projects and providing additional mulching to improve the success rate in establishment.

Community Safety and Enforcement

Community Safety- Engagement/Campaigns/Projects

The Baker Partnership Hub

The Community Policing Team now work out of The Baker Partnership HUB at Brentwood Town Hall which was opened by the Mayor of Brentwood and Chief Constable for Essex in March 2022

The HUB has been named the Baker Partnership HUB in memory of Police Officer Tris Baker who was sadly died last year and was the Children & Young Persons Officer for Brentwood. Funding for the HUB was received from the Community Safety Partnership and Police Fire & Crime Commissioner to see the HUB ambition being realised which means that Essex Police now work alongside Council's Community Safety team and wider community safety partners such as Essex County Fire & Rescue Service, Essex Probation, NHW, Crime Stoppers, SEPP, and Youth Services as well as many more.

This has greatly improved our already healthy partnership with daily communication between the agencies which has already resulted in quicker results such as closure orders and dealing with community safety issues immediately; we recently assisted a rough sleeper who was suffering with serious physical and mental health issues, getting him the support, he needed which has assisted in him rehabilitating into society with a job and accommodation. It has also enabled us to have the following regular meetings between partners:

- Weekly Community Safety Intelligence and Tasking
- Daily Police Briefings
- Biweekly ASB and CCTV project meetings
- Monthly ASB partnership meetings
- Ad Hoc case review meetings
- Partnership engagement and ops planning

These partnership meetings have resulted in better/productive use of available resources, an improved intelligence product identifying hot spots, repeat offenders, times of offences and emerging community safety trends and issues, improved use of CCTV and camera positioning, improved regular community engagement, improved communications on individual cases between agencies, prompter and more accurate responses to victims and more accurate risk assessments.



Community Engagement

The partnership has continued to deliver as many community engagement events across the borough and wider Essex where possible. Since April 2022, 17 events have been delivered. Another area of focus for the partnership is linking in with local, regional, and national campaigns including:

- Ending Violence Against Women
- White Ribbon Day- Engaging with men and boys to end violence against women
- National Road Safety Week
- Project Edward – European Day without a road death



Projects

Through the CSP the Community Safety team remain committed to tackling key issues for Brentwood by focussing on specific projects such as working closely with local schools and facilitate and Chair the Schools Liaison Meeting every month. This

includes representatives from all local secondary schools as well as Essex Police, ECC (Essex County Council) Youth Service, and other community agencies. Through this group excellent relationships have been formed and go from strength to strength improving communication and collaboration.

Projects being delivered include:

- Mentoring Sessions for young people to help with communication, personal development and to work on behaviours, vulnerabilities, consequences and self esteem
- Outreach work in hotspot areas to engage with young people
- N-Act Theatre performances for all schools. 'Friend' is a play about gangs, county lines, knife crime and consequences
- 'Unacceptable' performance on peer-on-peer behaviour and awareness around sexism, sexual harassment and sexual violence isn't acceptable
- Crime awareness sessions delivered in schools around drugs, gangs, and knife crime
- Boxing project established in the Brentwood Centre for young people
- Speedwatch has continued to grow with a dedicated Speedwatch email in place for Speedwatch groups to utilise and a speed gun is available for groups to use which is located at the Town Hall and co-ordinated by the Community Safety team & volunteers. Whilst this scheme is primarily to target speeding drivers it is also a very visible presence in a locality which can only help to assist with discouraging burglars.
- The Essex Restorative and Mediation Service holds offenders to account and helps them take responsibility for the harm they have caused. Victims are given the chance to explain the impact the crime or conflict has had on them, ask questions of the perpetrator, and seek an apology.
- Seasonal Burglary Operation - The partnership has previously been involved in targeting and preventing the seasonal increase in burglaries that occurs across the whole county over the Winter months and will do so again this year.
- Operation Insight consists of a system of analysis and the deployment of resources into 'hot spots' likely to suffer burglaries, reducing the chance of them occurring. Intelligence is shared with partners and the Council's Community Safety team then disseminate to other departments within the Council to make sure staff are aware and can factor this information into their regular patrols, visits, and work schedule etc.

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

We continue to receive a large number of Anti-Social Behaviour reports, but this has been made easier to address now that the ASB officer works from the Baker Partnership HUB with police CPT; greater sharing of intelligence, risk assessments and dedicated action plans between police and Community Safety have enabled us to improve our response to reports of anti-social behaviour. This has included recently obtaining a partial closure order to protect a vulnerable resident and their neighbours

from an aggressive Class A drug user and making 71 home visits including joint visits with police. We are also organising a monthly partnership meeting to be held in the Baker Partnership HUB to address our highest risk ASB cases with agreed dedicated action plans.

Objectives

- Introduce a new Case Management System to improve reporting and response for residents.
- Purchase and implement 'ASB App' to assist ASB case worker and offer a better service to Brentwood residents which includes improving communications between complainants of ASB and our ASB Case worker and police.
- Work with partners to reduce overall ASB in Brentwood through the HUB and connections with local schools.
- Continue out of hours patrols of the ASB Hotspot areas.

Environmental/Patrols

Daily patrols undertaken across the borough dealing with fly tipping, littering, abandoned vehicles, early presentation of waste and supporting the wider team where possible. This includes other teams across the Council such as Environmental Health, Planning Enforcement and Licensing. We recently captured a fly tipper on Brentwood Road via CCTV and prosecuted him for £400 and we are currently installing a solar powered camera in Navestock to address fly tipping.

Objectives

- To maintain a visible presence with Corporate Enforcement, NES, SEPP and Essex Police (including OOHs)
- To proactively use CCTV footage to continue to tackle ASB, nuisance and littering in the Town Centre
- Maintain the patrol schedule and feedback to relevant agencies
- Continue to develop promotional material to bring back better engagement with residents and visitors (ASB & Fly tipping)
- Identify further hotspots

CCTV

The CCTV control room continues to provide 24/7 monitoring, incident identification and assistance with criminal investigations.

The control room also continues to offer the evening and weekend emergency telephone reporting service. The community safety team are conducting an audit and review of the CCTV service including connectivity, cameras, camera positioning, software and protocols and policies to ensure that Brentwood CCTV is both legislatively compliant with the new legislation for surveillance for local authorities and is an effective surveillance system/service to better serve and protect our community. As part of this review/audit we will also be consulting with our partners Essex Police and Housing as well as other agencies to make the CCTV service an effective tool for

the whole partnership. Data is also shared with partners in relation to the use of CCTV in the interest of Community Safety.

Objectives

- Maintain increased vigilance of areas of high ASB
- Increased use of CCTV for fly tipping and littering
- Work with Essex Police and enforcement team to proactively reduce hotspots
- Continue to deliver and expand surveillance solutions to new and previously unmonitored areas affected by crime / ASB
- Undertaking a full review of the service, including policies, procedures, and reporting

Community Safety Key Performance Indicator's 2022/23

| Month (for year 2022/23) | Joint Patrols (including with SEP and NES) | FPN's (Litter and Fly Tipping-NES) | PCN's (Parking - issued by or with Community Safety) | Incidents captured by CCTV | CPW/CPN's/Injunctions | ASB Cases | ASB Home Visits | Closure Orders / Notice Seeking Possession (for ASB) | Community Engagement Days |
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| April | 12 | 118 | 69 | 30 | 1 | 13 | 13 | 0 | 4 |
| May | 8 | 124 | 98 | 35 | 0 | 12 | 22 | 0 | 5 |
| June | 11 | 126 | 48 | 21 | 1 | 14 | 8 | 1 | 4 |
| July | 9 | 146 | 74 | 21 | 3 | 15 | 28 | 2 | 7 |
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| Total | 40 | 269 | 289 | 107 | 5 | 54 | 71 | 3 | 17 |