

 Executive Committee. Wednesday 12th December		Agenda Item No. 8
Title	Petitions re CCTV in St Nicholas Park, Warwick	
For further information about this report please contact	Councillor Michael Coker Portfolio Holder Community Protection	
Wards of the District directly affected	Warwick South	
Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006?	No	
Date and meeting when issue was last considered and relevant minute number	n/a	
Background Papers	Executive Committee June 2009	

Contrary to the policy framework:	No
Contrary to the budgetary framework:	No
Key Decision?	Yes
Included within the Forward Plan? (If yes include reference number)	No
Equality & Sustainability Impact Assessment Undertaken	No
The proposal relates to all users of the park	

Officer/Councillor Approval		
Officer Approval	Date	Name
Chief Executive/Deputy Chief Executive		Chris Elliott
Head of Service	21/11/12	Ian Coker/Roger Jewsbury/Jameel Malik
CMT		Andrew Jones
Section 151 Officer	21/11/12	Mike Snow
Monitoring Officer	21/11/12	Graham Leach
Finance	-	Jenny Clayton
Portfolio Holder(s)		Cllr Coker but cuts across portfolios for Neighbourhood Services (Cllr Shilton) & Housing (Cllr Vincett)
Consultation & Community Engagement		
Council Officers undertook an initial consultation with Ward Members, Friends of the Park and its users as part of the Heritage Lottery Bid. Further consultation with Ward Members and the Friends of the Park in early 2012 about the further provision of CCTV & Lighting. Community Safety Manager, Pete Cutts attended two meetings with residents of Pickard St.		
Final Decision?	No	
Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below)		
An action plan is in place and the proposal is that officers working with residents and Warwickshire Police will continue to monitor the situation.		

1. **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 Two petitions have been received from residents in the area of Pickard Street, Warwick. Residents are concerned about anti-social behaviour, crime and disorder.
- 1.2 The first petition asks for additional CCTV cameras in Myton Fields within St Nicholas Park (19 respondents) and the second asks for cameras to be upgraded on the Community Centre in Pickard Street.(42 Respondents)

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 No additional CCTV cameras are installed in St Nicholas Park or Myton fields at this time over those already planned for installation in the near future, but officers to work with residents and Police to continue to monitor the situation.
- 2.2 An upgrade to the lenses of four fixed CCTV cameras on the Leisure Centre and the lenses of the two fixed CCTV cameras on the Community Centre from an allocation of £11,000 being taken from the St Nicholas Park Project fund.
- 2.3 A review of the effectiveness of the new lighting and CCTV in combating incidents in the park is undertaken in 9 months time to determine if there is justification for further cameras or lighting. If no further cameras or lighting is justified by community safety partners, then Neighbourhood Services should consult with Ward Councillors, the Friends of the Park and its users to allocate the remaining funding of £24,838 to those other desirable projects previously identified by the working party.

3. **REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 Following seven incidents during 23rd to 27th July, 2012 an action plan was put in place with the Police and since that time problems have reduced significantly. Having analysed the recorded incidents from the Police Storm system (See Appendix 1) for which an incident investigation is made were warranted, it is considered from the evidence that the level of crime and disorder does not justify at present any additional CCTV because it is considered that CCTV in this location is unlikely to be a deterrent with the types of incident behaviour experienced. Other low cost mitigation actions have also been undertaken, or are in the process being developed, the details of which are outlined in paragraphs 7.10 – 7.14 of the report.
- 3.2 Existing cameras on the Leisure centre and Housing owned Community Centre are old and ineffective.
- 3.3 Very soon the proposed new lighting and CCTV installation will be installed in the park. There are also unknowns about how the asset in the park of the Sea Cadets are to be developed in the future, however, it would be envisaged that further CCTV surveillance and security measures may well feature in any future development. It is therefore considered that a watch and see strategy should be adopted, with a review of the effectiveness of the new lighting and CCTV and the success of the other proposed low cost community safety actions which are being developed to address the incidents in the park. This review should occur in 9 months time to determine if there is justification for further cameras or

lighting. If no further cameras are justified, then Neighbourhood Services consult with Ward Councillors, the Friends of the Park and its users to allocate the remaining funding on the other desirable projects identified by the working party.

4. **POLICY FRAMEWORK**

- 4.1 Policy Framework -Work in tackling anti-social behavior is a significant part of the council's vision for Safer Communities:



Protecting our communities from harm with an emphasis on the prevention of incidents, whilst focusing on the most vulnerable to make them feel safer

- 4.2 Fit for the Future – Tackling ASB impacts significantly on the quality of life of residents, businesses and visitors. The level of crime and disorder is cited as the top consideration when deciding on where to live.

5. **BUDGETARY FRAMEWORK**

- 5.1 Currently there is a sum of £98,000 left from the original St Nicholas Park restoration fund with a further anticipated £4500 to be provided from STW Ltd for the use of the compound area within the park as part of their recent works. Orders for the provision of the CCTV provision for the 2 cameras and associated recording equipment and BT Fibre optics has been issued to the Councils contractor for the sum of £46,662. The order for the enhanced lighting to the area is going to be £20,000.
- 5.2 After the allocation of £11,000 for the CCTV lenses upgrade to the Leisure and Community Centres fixed cameras, it will leave some £24,838 for the remaining enhancements to the park which is estimated at £63,800. Clearly there is insufficient funding within the remaining budget to provide all those improvements desired, however, it would always be possible to re-appraise priorities and include additional CCTV coverage if there was a business case showing need and value for money. Any proposal for increased expenditure would then be subject to prioritisation against all other demands, and the level of available funding.

6. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 6.1 To provide one or more additional CCTV cameras in St Nicholas Park over and above those CCTV improvements already suggested in paragraph 2.2 and those orders already issued for the two new cameras, recording equipment and fibre link to the main CCTV control room.
- 6.2 Residents see CCTV as the solution but additional cameras are unlikely to be effective in addressing the behaviours experienced in the area and should they be installed will inevitably lead to further frustration as Anti-social behaviour will necessarily be a lower priority than other crimes and disorder where individual's personal safety is threatened. CCTV will not be the panacea to resolving all the problems in the park.

7. BACKGROUND

- 7.1 In June 2009 a report was considered by the Executive which approved £210k funding for three projects at St Nicholas Park following an unsuccessful Heritage Lottery Bid in March 2008.
- 7.2 Work to deliver two of those projects, improved pathways including the Riverside Walk and improved toilet provision and increased capacity, have now been delivered at a cost of £112k.
- 7.3 The third project identified was improved safety through lighting and CCTV which is going to cost £77,662. More could be spent on further CCTV provision, but it was always envisaged that there are other desirable projects identified by the working party following their consultation, namely;
- Wildlife enhancements, especially river corridor – Estimated £28,800
 - Eastern End of park – Estimated £32,000
 - Memorial Avenue - £3000
- 7.4 At preset there is an unallocated sum of £20,338 for this purpose, with the possibility of a further £4,500 from STW Ltd for the use of a compound area in the park as part of the recent public sewer renovation.
- 7.5 Based on the level of ASB and crime in St Nicholas Park and the Council's Community Safety Manager advise that blanket CCTV was not needed, it was concluded that if money was to be spent on CCTV and lighting, then the priority should be the car park, main pedestrian route through the car park. Paths to our leisure facilities down to Coten End would further benefit from enhancement to existing lights. This scheme is now to be shortly provided with some additional lighting columns.
- 7.6 It is acknowledge that in the first week of the summer school holidays there was a wide range of ages which were attracted to this area during this hot summer week. Seven incidents (13.7% of the 9 month total) were reported between 23rd and 27th July.
- 7.7 Groups as large as 50 were reported and this included some older and known criminals who were showing off in front of females and inciting younger individuals.
- 7.8 Incidents reported to Cllr Bromley by residents included red bins being removed, foul language, loud noise, kicking footballs against residents property, urinating and one youth walking naked in the area.
- 7.9 As background, the following table shows a summary of the incidents reported to the Police through 999 or 101 phone numbers for St Nicholas Park and Myton Fields for the first nine months of the year. Each of these incidents had follow up investigation by Police officers, were warranted. Further details of incidents can be found in **Appendix 1** attached.

Month	2012 Incidents
January	3
February	3
March	4

April	3
May	8
June	7
July	12
August	4
September	7
Total	51 (Compared to 48 in 2011)

- 7.10 In response, Warwickshire Police made this a priority area with the Safer Neighbourhood Team carrying out regular patrols and the PCSO's remaining in the area for the majority of their shifts. The area was added to Police Tasking for incident response.
- 7.11 Community Safety met with Police and produced an advisory note to residents (attached as **Appendix 2**) encouraging residents to report and setting out how to report, a summary of actions undertaken and what was planned.
- 7.12 As a result of the actions taken there were significant improvement in the area. The Community Safety Manager attended a meeting with residents but residents were not interested in what had been done or the improvements, they were only interested in securing additional CCTV.
- 7.13 An action plan to reassure residents was produced with the Supporting People Services Manager (attached as **Appendix 3**) to help reduce the fear of crime of the Councils elderly residents within the Pickard Street community area.
- 7.14 In addition to the above actions the Council has further developed with our Partners the following actions to try and reassure residents and prevent any reoccurrence of the July spike of incidents. The actions are as follows;
- a clean-up of three areas identified by one resident in St Nicholas Park has been undertaken.
 - a successful bid to the Warwick Community Forum from the Junior Angling Committee to engage with local youths. This bid was secured and awarded.
 - Community radios have been issued to the Pickard Street to the most vulnerable residents.
 - The Junior Angling Committee (JAC) came up with the idea of 'Fish Watch' because of problems of mainly poaching. Warwick SNT suggested broadening it to 'Park Watch' scheme. This is still a proposal and not fully developed and the JAC and Police are to meet during the later part of the week of November.
 - It might also be possible that the Environment Agency can put in covert cameras but this is not contingent on any other CCTV being present but would require some legal signing. This is something the St Nicholas Park Project could help fund.

**Reported Incidents to the Police at St Nicholas Park & Myton Fields, Warwick
Via 999 and 101
From 1st January 2012 to 31st September 2012**

September 2012

01.25 29/09 Car Park
Nuisance vehicle, doing skids

20.03 19/09 Sewer Works, Coton End
Report of some youths there, although no report of ASB

18.53 19/09 Shelter Banbury Rd
Youths kicking Shelter

14.50 12/09 Near Boat House
Damage to a railway sleeper overnight

19.59 11/09 Leisure Centre
Domestic Incident

15.20 09/09 Car Park
Dispute over parking space

03.40 02/09 Sea Scout Hut
Youths shouting in the park

August 2012

18.08 08/08 Boat House
Nuisance Youths

12.08 19/08 Car Park
Unattended vehicle has rolled backwards into another.

23.02 07/08 Car Park
Occupant of car found with cannabis

12.37 06/08 Car Park
Report of car with no registration plates

July 2012

21.17 31/07 Sea Scout Hut
Theft of handbag

19.38 27/07 Near to Sea Scout Hut
Unattended bag has items stolen from it

00.45 26/07 Near to Sea Scout Hut
Noisy youths

20.53 25/07 Myton Fields
Nuisance Vehicle

12.39 25/07 Sea Scout Hut
Report of youths swimming in the river

22.00 23/07 Near King Fisher Pools (2 calls)
Noisy Youths

20.00 23/07 Sea Scout Hut
Noisy Youths

18.25 23/07 Sea Scout Hut
Noisy youths & drinking

12.45 22/07 Car Park
Minor collision

15.57 21/07 Car Park
Minor Collision

18.11 09/07 Myton Field
Nuisance Vehicle

17.29 01/07 Myton Road side
Youths on scrambler bike

June 2012

16.48 27/06 Leisure Centre
Report of disturbance between two people

03.38 25/06 Car Park
Broken down vehicle

13.18 24/06 Tea Rooms
Theft of mobile phone

13.52 23/06 No specific area
Accidental 999 call

19.10 20/06 Leisure Centre
Theft of bike during the day

13.03 05/06 Car Park
Damage to car

16.40 04/06 Myton Fields
Nuisance Vehicle

May 2012

20.35 30/05 Car Park
Report of car with its door left open

10.13 29/05 Leisure Centre
Overnight burglary

00.36 29/05 Play area
Report of damage being caused to play equipment – no one & no damage found

15.58 26/05 Tea Rooms
Dispute over payment

10.13 21/05 No Specific Area
Disagreement over dog on lead

18.05 05/05 No Specific Area
Two dogs being walked had a go at each other

15.19 12/05 Play Area
Male with two snakes

13.44 04/05 No Specific Area
Accidental 999 call

April 2012

00.26 28/04 No Specific Area
Report of rowdy youths

19.37 13/04 No Specific Area
3 males urinating

00.52 03/04 Car Park
Two males smoking cannabis

March 2012

17.33 31/03 Banbury Rd
Team Rooms sign stolen

17.30 11/05 No Specific Area
Domestic Incident resulting in damaged mobile phone

00.42 10/03 Car Park
Damage to vehicle

17.42 02/03 Mini Golf Course
Youths riding bikes on course

February 2012

22.43 24/02 Boat House
Theft of bike

17.20 12/02 Car Park
Theft of bike several day earlier

18.16 05/02 River
Report of suicidal female

January 2012

09.45 29/01 General Park Area
Male being abusive to children

05.04 22/01 General Park Area
Male with head injury, confirmed he had tripped over in Leamington & hit head

23.12 12/01 General Park Area
Report there may be a vehicle driving in the park

Summary

(2011 figures for the same period in brackets)

Total number of Incidents = 51 (48)

Incidents St Nicholas Park = 48 (46)

Incidents Myton Fields = 3 (2)

ADVICE NOTE TO RESIDENTS OF AVON ST & ST NICHOLAS PARK



Working
Together



**Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour – Avon Street and
St Nicholas Park**

Following a meeting at the Community Centre with residents on Thursday 2 August 2012 Warwick District Council and Warwickshire Police want to work with residents to tackle anti-social behaviour.

1. **What residents should do -report every incident** - if it's an emergency or ongoing crime phone 999, if it's anything else phone 101. This would not be an immediate response. Volunteers working in the area have been advised of the problems and encouraged to report also.
2. **What we have done** - We know there has been a problem. Police have been attending. It is on Police Tasking and a Community Forum priority. 6 older individuals at the centre of problems have been identified and dispersed utilising Section 27 powers. The parents of younger individuals involved in anti-social behaviour have been spoken to and advised of the likely consequences of any repeat. Alcohol has been disposed of or confiscated; no one has refused to surrender alcohol when challenged under our Designated Public Places Powers.
3. **What we will do** – Police patrols will continue. Joint patrols with Fire & Rescue Officers and PCSO's commenced Saturday 11 August for two weeks. Anyone found littering will be issued with a fixed penalty notice. The names of any youths in the vicinity of any anti-social behaviour will be shared with the ASB Officer and Advisory Letters will be sent to parents. Anyone involved in anti-social behaviour will be sent a warning letter and visited by Police and the ASB Officer.

Monitoring Plan for Pickard Street

Actions	How will we achieve it:	What will this involve	What outcomes can we expect?
Education and Awareness	Planned Meetings with tenants at Pickard Street and owner occupiers who wish to attend.	Housing Officers and PCSO's Deliver 'Tackling Anti Social Behaviour' Notices to Pickard Street Owner Occupiers and Avon Street advising residents on how to report Anti social behaviour to the Police.	Increase intelligence about Anti Social Behaviour occurring in the area. Help to identify if there are any other issues. Facilitate the full community consultation and involvement.
Other Organisations involved: Voluntary, Statutory, and Commercial organisations.	By involving volunteer Bailiffs, Contractors and Severn Trent who work in and around St. Nicholas Park.	Effective reporting of ASB incidents. Sharing intelligence.	Assist in quantifying the problems that are occurring in the part of the Park next to Pickard Street Sheltered Scheme.
Diversions Activities and Programmes	Involving Youths and others who use St. Nicholas Park.	Bid for resources for activities for children and others	Keep children and youths positively occupied. Develop respect for the other users in the Park.
Enforcement	Leaflet properties encouraging residents to report incidents if appropriate. Using dispersal powers under Section 27. Disposal and confiscation of alcohol.	Police, Fire and Rescue and PCSO patrols while problems continue. Advisory letters being sent to parents . Warning letter sent to perpetrators of Anti-social behaviour. Visits by Police and ASB Officer to perpetrators identified.	Increase in ASB being reported. Reduction in ASB being reported.
Other deterrents:	Better communications of problems	Issuing of community radios to assist the most vulnerable residents	Direct notification to the Police via CCTV control

Costs:	Funds are already identified if evidence is provided to add Wi-Fi CCTV cameras to the two being introduced	Review of evidence to establish if cameras are required.	Decision making based on evidence and dialogue between partners.
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