

**Notes of the Bassingbourn/Melbourn Neighbourhood Panel
Held at Foxton Village Hall on 20th April 2010**

1	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>The following villages were represented:</p> <p>Abington Pigotts Bassingbourn Cum Kneesworth Fowlmere Foxton Great Chishill Guilden Heydon Litlington Melbourn Meldreth Morden Shrepreth Steeple Morden Whaddon</p> <p>Also present : Insp Chris Savage – Cambridgeshire Police Sgt Rebecca Williams – Cambridgeshire Police Anna O’Leary – Cambridgeshire County Council Wendy Lansdowne – Cambridgeshire County Council Paul Howes - South Cambridgeshire District Council</p> <p>Apologies : Cllr Roberts, Cllr Stone, V Nixon</p>
2	<p>Notes of previous meeting</p> <p>Agreed as accurate record. All actions completed.</p>
3	<p>Updates on previous priorities and community feedback – details given in profile update</p> <p>Tackle anti - social behaviour affecting the Burtons, Meldreth.</p> <p>Neighbourhood watch co-ordinator has not heard of any further incidents, although this will continue to be monitored as we get into the better weather.</p> <p>Improve community contact with Guilden Morden, Abington Piggots and Bassingbourn parishes.</p> <p>PCSO’s have been out and about on foot and by bicycle, providing a more accessible service. Guilden Morden – annual parish meeting attended by police. Police are also available in Bassingbourn/Melbourn on Friday afternoons.</p> <p>Tackle road safety issues to include speeding issues in Fowlmere Road, Heydon, Tadlow B1042, Ashwell Road, Guilden Morden, The Causeway and North End, Bassingbourn and in Steeple Morden. Parking obstructions outside the Fish and Chip Shop, High Street,</p>

	<p>Melbourn.</p> <p>Checks carried out in these areas. Details are given in the profile update document. It was highlighted that Ashwell Road in Guilden Morden had not been done. The police would investigate and report back.</p>
4	<p>Current issues as identified in profile update</p> <p>Insp Savage summarised the recent police activity – more details can be found on pages 7-10 of the Profile Update document.</p>
5	<p>Conditional Cautions</p> <p>Paul Heath (Criminal Justice Unit Manager) outlined the work of the Criminal Justice Unit. He highlighted that conditional cautions are available to low level offenders (not repeat or serious offenders). They are designed to put the victim at the centre of the process and get offenders to take ownership of what they have done and put it right. He highlighted that they had recovered £60,000 so far through the process.</p> <p>An example by way of illustration was given of how conditional cautions work. A young man, who had no previous convictions, with a steady job etc, got drunk and ‘keyed’ a number of cars causing damage. He was subject to a conditional caution and paid nearly £3,000 to put the damage right. As a consequence no-one had to claim on their insurance and lose no claims bonuses etc. If it had gone to the Magistrates Court it is likely that he would have received a small community penalty and/or fine.</p> <p>The process is now available to 16/17 year olds and Cambridgeshire is being used as a pilot. Another example was given of a youth who was caught, within 24 hours, for spray painting private property. He cleaned this off (10 hours labour) and paid £50 for materials, as well as spending time at a session for the victims to find out how they felt.</p> <p>In response to a question, the youth are supervised by the Youth Offending Team and adults are supervised by the Criminal Justice Unit. Evidence needs to be provided that the work has been done. The unit is looking at ways of publicising the scheme and results i.e. the graffiti case above had a half page story in the Cambridge News.</p>
6	<p>Community feedback on current and future issues</p>
	<p>Abington Pigotts – very quiet</p> <p>Bassingbourn Cum Kneesworth – number of burglaries is at a high level. It was asked that the statistics in the table in the profile update be separated out to identify incidents at the hospital. Insp Savage would look into this to see if it was possible.</p> <p>Fowlmere – speeding is an issue on the main road (High St through to the A505)</p> <p>Foxton – major problem with parking on Station Road (document circulated to meeting outlining problem). A detailed discussion was held into the issues.</p>

Meldreth and Shepreth stations are now charging for parking which has made situation much worse. Residents can't get out of drives or have deliveries. Cars can be parked for 2-3 days, not just at peak times. Cars have even parked in resident's driveways. At peak times there is no free access from the A10. This situation has been going on for years, as Foxton is the only station between Cambridge and Kings Cross to not have a car park. It not only affects Station Road but also extends to the whole village e.g. Hall Close. The railway company have been contacted on a number of occasions but taken no action. The car parks at other villages are empty as no one wants to pay.

There is the potential to introduce a Civil Parking Enforcement policy, which the County Council are currently looking at. First Capital Connect have indicated that they would be willing to provide the resources to enforce this. Insp Savage indicated that the way forward could be to pull together a meeting of the relevant public agencies (police and county council), as well as local councillors to discuss an action plan. A Rail Users Group has been introduced for Foxton, Meldreth and Shepreth and it was felt that this could be an ideal forum to take this forward. The next meeting of this group is 16 June 2010.

Additional issues were highlighted with parking along the High Street as builders are leaving skips in the roadway and parking near the junction, causing problems for buses getting through. There is also a speeding issue on the A10 and concerns of congestion over the junctions and level crossing when the barriers are down. It was agreed to roll these issues up with the general parking issue on Station Road.

Great Chishill – restarting speedwatch

Guilden – no report

Heydon – proposed wind farm is causing possible graffiti

Litlington – problems with dogs being gradually addressed by other means, specifically in the Chapel Close area (loose dogs with 2 people having been bitten)

Little Chishill – no report

Melbourn – telephone box smashed and ASB incident related to vehicles. It is anticipated that there will be more activity with the onset of the better weather.

Meldreth – ASB on land as before continuing, although neighbours are not reporting. Another storage container has been placed on the land. Police to follow up with owner. Also incidents of inconsiderate parking outside a driveway. Oil has been poured on 'Keep Clear' markings.

	<p>Shingay Cum Wendy – no report</p> <p>Shrepreth – ASB reported last year, called police 2 nights in a row. Police attended to observe but in marked car therefore not likely to catch anyone. A question was used as to whether unmarked cars can be used. It was responded that these are used on occasions but it leaves officers unable to respond to emergencies.</p> <p>Steeple Morden – metal theft</p> <p>Tadlow – no report</p> <p>Whaddon – quiet period of time. Break in at nursery (camera stolen), one violent crime (domestic)</p>
7	<p>Trading Standards Update</p> <p>Anna O’Leary (County Council) gave a verbal update on the work of trading standards in the area. Last year 111 test purchases for alcohol were carried out across the county area of which 15 resulted in sales. Of these 22 test purchases were made in the neighbourhood panel area resulting in 1 sale in Melbourn.</p>
7	<p>Priorities Agreed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackle anti-social use of vehicles in Melbourn. • Tackle road safety issues across the panel area. • Tackle problems relating to dangerous and obstructive parking around Foxton, Shepreth and Meldreth railway stations, particularly Station Rd, Foxton. This will be through increased enforcement activity, and working with residents and partners to identify longer term solutions.
8	<p><u>Dates of Future Meetings:</u></p> <p>Tuesday 20th July Bassingbourn Village College Tuesday 19th October Melbourn Village College</p>