

# You said, we did

....your local voice

## Mickle Trafford feedback news

Summer 2009

# Welcome

**Welcome** to the first edition of the Mickle Trafford Community Forum Newsletter.

This newsletter gives you an update on items discussed at the Mickle Trafford community forum meetings held during the summer and other news happening in Mickle Trafford ward.



Residents arrived in force to the first community forum meeting in July to take part in discussions on **Planning Enforcement**, **Waste Collection** and the proposed **Boundary Commission** changes.

## Planning Enforcement

Residents heard about the responsibilities the council has to provide for permanent gypsy and traveller sites and what actions it can take to tackle unauthorised encampments if they arise.

A number of issues were raised by residents including:

- What actions can the Council take to deal with unauthorised encampments
- How can residents report unauthorised encampments outside normal working hours
- Right of the public to attend planning meetings and appeals.
- The role of the Planning Inspectorate.

**Action: You said:** "We want another meeting to discuss unauthorised encampments of Gypsy & Travellers and we would like the local MP present"

We did: A further meeting was held in August with Andrew Miller MP

## Waste Collection Contract

Helen De Lemos, senior manager waste strategy described how the new waste collection contract had impacted on recycling figures for the area. Since the new contract started:

- Twice the volume of recycled material had been collected in the first 4 week period
- There has been a 25% reduction in waste going to landfill.
- There has been an increase in the amount of green waste collected (even allowing for seasonal adjustment).
- There have been 110 thousand collections per week.

## Boundary Commission Proposals

A presentation was given on the electoral arrangements of Cheshire West & Chester currently under review.

Feedback is expected from the Boundary Committee by 10 November with the formal announcement on revised warding proposals in Summer 2010, ready for Elections May 2011.



Policy Manager David Owen advising residents of Mickle Trafford of how the Boundary Review will impact their area.

## Planning Enforcement: A Further Meeting

More than 200 residents attended the meeting on 11th August 2009 to hear from Ellesmere Port and Neston M.P. Andrew Miller, local ward councillors Eleanor Johnson, Andrew Storrar and Brian Crowe. Planning officers also answered questions on the subject of gypsy and traveller sites situated on the outskirts of Chester.

## What has happened since the meeting?

- A 24hr 'hotline' to report unauthorised encampments and developments has been set up,
- A commitment to continued engagement and information sharing with residents, and
- An assurance from the M.P. to lobby government on how best to address the matter at a national level

## Fire Service Update

Martin Dowle, Road Safety Manager, Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service updated residents on recent initiatives and work within the community. These included:

- 20,000 homes have been visited for home safety assessments in the last 12 months
- There have been reductions of 25% and 36% on injuries and housing damage respectively
- Road safety initiatives including driver engagement days



## September Forum Feedback – Dunham on the Hill

### Cheshire West & Chester: Highways

A presentation on the core aims of the Cheshire West and Chester Council's Highways and Transportation Service was made:

Key Aims of the service

- To reduce the number of people killed and seriously injured on Cheshire West's roads.
- To improve the condition of Cheshire West's roads, footways and bridges.
- To manage the impact of traffic and resulting congestion on Cheshire West's communities.
- Improve the quality of and access to transport networks and services in Cheshire West.



### Natural Vision Chester Zoo – Presentation

Mr Simon Mann, Development Director, presented Chester Zoo's plans to transform the existing attraction into an all year round, all weather, short-break resort.

Chester Zoo is already currently the UK's No. 1 wildlife attraction, the second-largest UK paying visitor attraction and is independently rated as one of the top 15 zoos in World (Forbes Magazine).

Mr Mann detailed the opportunities for a transformational project reflecting:

- Chester Zoo as an international destination
- Chester Zoo as true champions and investors in conservation and biodiversity
- Driving long term financial and economic success of Chester Zoo



- Driving improvements to the region's wider product offer and delivering benefits to regional businesses
- Transform Chester Zoo from a seasonal, day visitor, regional zoo to an all year, all weather, short-break resort

A short question and answer session followed, covering topics on the style and size of the proposed hotel, the Africa Dome and Chester Zoo's involvement in the preservation of endangered species

### Police Update

Inspector Phil Hodgson, Cheshire Police spoke about recent police activity

This included:

- Actions taken following the recent 'spike' in burglary and theft crimes in the Mickle Trafford Area, arrests had been made and prosecutions were expected.
- Recovered property has been obtained arising from "Operation Marathon".



### Cheshire West & Chester: Member Budgets

Councillor Eleanor Johnson has awarded £250.00 to the Cheshire Rural Women's Award evening and £1,000 to the Villagers of Hapsford for seating for the village green project

If you have a project that you feel would benefit from a Member Grant, please get in touch with your local Elected Member (details below) who will be pleased to discuss your project with you

## What do I need to do to get involved?

If you would like to participate in a community forum, come along to the next meeting, here you can leave your details so we can contact you to let you know when further meetings are being held. Should you have any requirements, please contact us prior to the meeting so we can make suitable arrangements

## The next meeting

The next meeting for Mickle Trafford will be on:

**6.30 – 9pm on 4th November at Church Hall, Elton**

**6.30 – 9pm on 4th February at Saughall Junior School**

**6.30 – 9pm on 8th April 2010 to be confirmed**

## Your "Community Champions"



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## Contacts

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*(Non urgent calls)*  
**Crimestoppers:** 0800 555 111  
**Drugs Line:** 0800 854181  
**Home Watch:** 01606 49000  
**All Services:** 0800 123 8 123

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