

Cheshire West & Chester Council

You said, we did

....your local voice

Upton, Hoole and Newton Community Forum Feedback News

Edition 1

Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of the Upton, Hoole and Newton Community Forum newsletter.

This newsletter gives you an update on items discussed at the Community Forums held in June and September 2009.

It's good to talk...

The Community Forum is a place for you to have your say, find out what's happening in your local area and meet and talk to your local Councillors, Council Officers, other organisations and residents.

The meetings are supported by Cheshire West and Chester Council and are open to all local residents living within the Hoole, Upton and Newton area. By listening and responding to your views, needs and aspirations, the Council and its partners wish to provide better services, facilities and activities – making Upton, Hoole and Newton an even better place to live in, work in and enjoy.

Other public organisations and local community and voluntary sector groups are encouraged to come to the meetings

and to consult you about their plans and seek your views and involvement in work affecting local residents.

Before each meeting there is a Community Forum Drop-in session, where you can come along and talk to local Councillors, Community Safety Wardens, Council officers and other local organisations, including Cheshire Police and Cheshire Fire & Rescue. The Drop-In session runs from 6.30 – 7.00pm and is an important part of the Community Forum as it gives residents a chance to discuss matters of importance to the relevant agencies

Your Councillors

Your six Local Ward Councillors will attend each meeting to hear your views and discuss local issues with you. Being a community leader is a key role and responsibility for all Local Councillors and the Community Forum will enable them to be more fully informed about your community's needs and priorities when taking part in the Council's decision-making about your local services and facilities

Your Six "Community Champions"



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First for Upton, Hoole and Newton

Two Community Forum meetings have now taken place on 15th June and 14th September 2009.

Before the start of the each meeting, there was an opportunity for residents to speak with the local Police Officers and the Council's Community Safety Wardens who responded to concerns about a range of issues including crime, littering, graffiti and anti-social behaviour.

A number of community issues were discussed during the meeting including; the University proposal to develop a student village at Parkgate Road, Future use of Woodfield School site, Residents' Parking Permits, Highways Maintenance, Parking in Hoole shopping area and Chester Zoo proposed development.

You said.... Residents reported drug paraphernalia littering the bushes and around the rocks at The Narrows

We did.... Community Safety Wardens are patrolling the area and are working with Aqua House to keep the area tidy

You said.... Residents reported on street drinking and littering problems in Faulkner Street

We did.... Community Safety Wardens undertaking patrols and are looking at carrying out a litter initiative in the area

You said.... Could the Council provide or fund insurance for small community events?

We did.... If the event is not Council led then it cannot provide insurance. However the Council can help you to find funding and other forms of support for community activities through our external funding service and by working with our partners

You said.... There were parking problems in Faulkner Street, including vehicles parking on the footway.

We did.... Parking enforcement transferred to the Council in January 2009, officers regularly patrol the area responding to complaints received and the Police still have powers to deal with vehicles causing an obstruction

Members' Budget

Councillors have a budget of £5,000 to spend on projects making a positive change in the Upton, Hoole and Newton area. So far Councillors have supported 3 local projects, including supporting Kingsway Summer Activities by securing the services of a Pro BMX rider Owain Clegg to help host activities in the Kingsway and Newton area over the school holiday period, culminating in a BMX demonstration from Owain and; the provision of new fencing and ancillary works to be carried out to improve the surface condition of the footway on the Northern footway of Newton Lane bridge, a key, safe and accessible pedestrian route for the community of Newton and to/from Newton Primary School & University of Chester Campus.

If you have an idea for a community project or need funds to help extend your current work and/or involve more residents, please contact one of your ward Councillors

Date for your Diary

The next meeting will be on Thursday 19th November at Upton High School in the library/ learning facility starting at 6.30pm

Want to know more?

If you would like a local community matter to be considered at a future Community Forum, or would like to be added to the Community Forum mailing list or simply want more information regarding Community Forums please contact **Sonja Booth, Democratic Services Support Officer** or **Michelle Talgam, Chester Area Manager**

Officer Contact

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Accessing Cheshire West and Chester Council information and services

Council information is also available in Audio, Braille and Large Print formats. If you would like a copy in any of these formats or in another language, please email us at **equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk**
We are also able to provide a British Sign Language (BSL) interpreter to support customers with accessing Council services.

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