

NOTES OF MEETING**THANET LOCAL BOARD****Date: Tuesday, 19 January 2010****Venue: Minster Village Hall, High Street, Minster, CT2 4BU****Present:**

Local Board Members: Bill Hayton (Chairman), Robert Bayford, Robert Burgess (Vice-Chairman), Charles Hibberd, Michael Jarvis, John Kirby and Chris Wells

Apologies for absence: Elizabeth Green

KCC Officers:

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| A1. | Welcome to the meeting – Mr Bill Hayton, Chairman |
| | Mr Hayton welcomed everyone to the meeting. |
| | All county councillors present introduced themselves. |
| | There were no declarations of interest. |
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| A2. | Notes of Local Board meeting held on 13 October 2009 and progress on any actions agreed |
| | The minutes were agreed as a true record. |
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| A3. | Kent Youth County Council/Thanet Youth Council. Bill Butler, KCC Area Youth & Community Officer for Dover and Thanet |
| | <p>Bill Butler gave apologies for Sadie Williams and the Thanet KYCC/TYC members. Unfortunately this evening's meeting had clashed with a young people's budget consultation group meeting in Ashford.</p> <p>KYCC had a very successful election last November with almost 30,000 young people voting in the 12 different constituencies. There were 106 candidates for 48 seats and 170 polling stations in schools, projects and town centres. Young people in Thanet showed a very active interest with one-third of young people who put themselves forward for election, coming from Thanet.</p> <p>KYCC members work closely with KCC councillors and officers and recently met with KCC Cabinet members to tell them of young people's issues and concerns. TYC members work in a similar way with Thanet District Council.</p> <p>Bill described a number of volunteering projects involving young people around the county. Currently there is a pilot project in Thanet that is trying to encourage 90% of young people to engage in 50 hours of volunteering. The project aims to give young people a positive image and give them the opportunity to experience volunteering and acquire different skills. There is particular focus on intergenerational work to</p> |

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| | <p>encourage greater understanding and better relationships between younger and older people; for example the South East Seniors Forum has asked for help from young people to build its website and Turner Contemporary's <i>Time of our Lives</i> project that joins younger and older people together to reflect on what it's like to be a teenager, now and then.</p> <p>Q. Do young people need CRB checks if they work with other young people?</p> <p>A. There is no need to have a CRB check if the work is short term and there is no regular, unsupervised contact, for example Guides working with Brownies. It is possible to have the under 16s CRB checked, and this is the policy of the Football Association, but currently there is no law that requires them to do this. However the Independent Safeguarding Association (ISA) will be introducing a new registration system from July 2010 onwards with more stringent safeguards.</p> <p>Q. You mentioned that around 30,000 young people voted in the recent KYCC elections. Does every young person have the opportunity to stand for election and vote? Do you undertake any studies or profiling on this?</p> <p>A. All the ballot boxes provide information to young people about the election process and the ballot papers have photographs and information on those standing for election. Young people are given the opportunity to sell themselves to their peers. Every school is invited to take part in the elections but young people's opportunity to get involved is affected by how supportive their head teacher is of the KYCC elections.</p> |
| A4. | <p>Making Kent Safer - Kent Fire & Rescue Service. Nick James, Group Manager Operations East Division</p> <p>Nick James thanked the board for inviting KFRS to present its <i>Making Kent Safer</i> Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) and introduced his colleagues, Chris Colgan, Manager and Richard Baugh, Team Leader, both from the KFRS Risk Management Team.</p> <p>The concept of the IRMP came out as the result of a national dispute in 2003 when it became clear that central government had not given enough guidance on what they expected of the fire service. While a national framework was necessary for national level issues such as terrorism, it became evident that there was a real need for the local fire services to engage with their local communities and shape their responses accordingly, rather than have a national 'one size fits all' approach.</p> <p>The 2010/2013 IRMP sets out what KFRS needs to do for local Thanet residents. It is a rolling review of all emergency response, not just fire cover and includes flooding, road traffic accidents, etc. The plan is supported by extensive research and feedback from consultation (that ended in January '10). Local people were also invited to comment at a feedback event held at the Thanet Gateway in December '09. Previous reviews have looked at the possibility of redeploying some fire engines and special appliances to maximise their efficiency. By involving local staff with local expertise, the Risk Management Team can respond to any changes in local risks and look at how these and any new proposals, would impact on the strategic cover for the whole service.</p> |

A DVD was shown that highlighted the need for KFRS to put itself in the best position to serve Kent residents over the next 5, 10 and 15 years and identify how risk can be reduced. By working with local people in Thanet, risk areas can be identified and assessed, for example, vulnerable people, harbours, airports, chemical plants and comparisons made by analysing the number of incidents and trends over the past five years.

Kent has 86 fire engines and six are in Thanet. Thanet has four fire stations, Margate, Ramsgate, Thanet and Westgate and a key proposal for emergency response provision is the potential to manage these as a single group, including the search for a site to replace Ramsgate fire station. (Ramsgate still needs a fire station, but the existing building is listed and not fit for purpose as it was designed for a horse and cart, not a modern day appliance.)

Manston has its own fire station and there is good partnership working and some cross-over but only inside the airport boundary. To deal with large fires like the one at Kingsnorth Power Station in January, the government brings in assistance from other local authorities, in this instance Essex.

The Risk Management Team use computer generated models to gain accurate information on journey times that include traffic congestion likely at certain times of the day, so that appliances can get to incidents quickly. The team also has information on population density as there is a higher incidence of domestic fires in areas that are highly populated, particularly in parts of Ramsgate and Margate. These areas can also be targeted by community information programmes to raise awareness on fire prevention by using smoke alarms and sprinklers.

If you would like a copy of Nick James' presentation which gives further information on fire service provision in Thanet, please contact anne.charman@kent.gov.uk.

Q. When considering fire service provision, do financial constraints come into consideration?

A. Although there is pressure to reduce costs, the key driver is to reduce risk and save lives, not save money.

Q. How do you deal with tower blocks?

A. High rise building incidents do need greater resources and local areas work as national groups, looking at different planning scenarios to ensure there is enough specialist equipment available.

Q. Do you use dry risers in high buildings and undertake regular safety checks as this would save putting hoses up the side?

A. Yes and they are checked regularly.

Mr Hayton thanked Nick for his presentation and invited Nick and his team to come back to update the board at a future meeting. Although the consultation had closed in January, Mr Hayton also invited the audience to send any comments to the Board, as three of the Thanet county councillors were also Kent & Medway Fire Rescue Authority members.

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| A5. | Second Homes 2005/06. Paul Verrall, Parks & Open Spaces Development Manager, Thanet District Council |
| | <p>Mr Hayton welcomed Paul Verrall to the meeting and explained that Second Homes' allocation was £224,000 of funding that had been given by KCC to Thanet District Council (TDC) in 2005/06 for projects Thanet-wide.</p> <p>Paul Verrell outlined the current status of Second Homes 2005/06 funded projects that had previously been agreed by the Thanet Local Board and referred to the detailed report he had provided for circulation at the meeting. (If you would like a copy of this report please email anne.charman@kent.gov.uk.) He explained that some projects have been completed, some are still to be completed and some have now been completed without the need for Second Homes funding, leaving money unspent. TDC were now requesting approval for the unspent money to be used for new projects, all of which are still part of TDC's Environmental Action Programme which targets town centres, sea fronts and entrances to districts.</p> <p>Three new projects in Ramsgate, Broadstairs and Margate were described and approval requested.</p> <p>Mr Hayton told the meeting that these proposed adjustments had been discussed and agreed by the Thanet Local Board members prior to the meeting. However, as the money was allocated in 2005/06 the Board would like to set a timeframe of one year from the date of this meeting for the completion of all these projects. After this time the board will consider re-directing any outstanding money to other Thanet projects.</p> <p>Mr Hayton thanked Paul for attending and commented that the projects put forward were worthy of support and looked forward to seeing them when completed.</p> |
| A6. | Grant recommendation - Local Schemes Grant 2009/10 |
| | The recommendations of the Thanet Local Board for Local Scheme Grant for 2009/10 totalling were as follows: |

| | Organisation | Project | Amount |
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| | Acol Village Hall Management Committee | Acol Village Hall upgrade | £1,000 |
| | All Saints Birchington Parochial Church Council | Kearns Memorial Hall – Kitchen upgrade and refurbishment | £5,000 |
| | Create (Arts) Ltd | Stepping out | £10,000 |
| | Garlinge Primary School and Nursery | Community Pavilion | £23,185 |
| | Minster Day Nursery | Sloped deck with landing area | £2,000 |
| | Ramsgate and District Leisure Gardener's Society | Chilton Lane Allotment East Site – upgrade of main access path and provide a turning area | £9,560 |
| | St Nicholas-at-Wade & Sarre Parish Council | Communication and Community Engagement – Village Street Scene | £1,290 |
| | The Children's Society | The Inclusive Children's Garden | £11,040 |
| | The Den Youth Club | Keeping the Den Alive | £2,000 |
| | The Ramsgate Society | Ramsgate's Town Trail and Blue Plaque Scheme | £9,225 |
| | Mr Hayton then asked Anne Charman to provide a quick overview on how to apply for funding still available to organisations in Thanet from the Member Community Grant. | | |
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| A7. | Opportunity to ask questions about local public services | | |
| | There were no questions raised. | | |
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| A8. | Any Other Business notified to the Chairman prior to the meeting. | | |
| | None. | | |
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| A9. | Close | | |
| | Mr Hayton thanked all the speakers for their interesting and informative presentations. | | |
| | The next Thanet Local Board will be held on Wednesday, 31 March 2010 at the Margate Media Centre, Margate. | | |
| | Mr Hayton thanked the public for attending and closed the meeting. | | |
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