**Notes taken for the TRDC Croxley Green Local Area Forum Tuesday 21st November held at Harvey Road School**

(Please note that these notes are not official minutes for the forum and they have not been endorsed or approved by TRDC)

**Community Safety**

Croxley Green PCSO Stephen Jacobs gave a report on policing and crime levels for Croxley. Overall reported crime has reduced slightly and remains at generally at a low level with reported anti-social behaviour being on the decrease.

There have been some reports of nuance behaviour with moped riders and the police have responded by giving riders verbal warnings.

There have been reports of drug dealing in public places around the village. Police have responded by having targeted patrols both visible and undercover. A number of arrests have been made and at present those arrested are being dealt with by the justice system.

PCSO Jacobs pointed out these arrests resulted from intelligence often given by the public and urged residents to report any suspicious activity to the police using the 101 number. A resident commented that trying to get through using the 101 was difficult with long waiting times. PCSO Jacobs acknowledge that sometimes this was the case and suggested as an alternative to calling 101 that an incident can also be reported using the Herts Police website either by using the live chat or the reporting page.

PCSO Jacobs also informed that a number of public events were held in Croxley over the last year by Herts Police such as crime and road safety awareness events. Herts Police are also using social media to keep the public informed with crime alerts using the OWL system.

**New Cycle Registration Pilot Project**

There was a presentation on a new pilot scheme called “Share the Road” which is based in Three Rivers. The aims of the scheme are to educate and train cyclists to ride safely on public roads and other public areas to reduce the likely hood of accidents or injuries.

The scheme is also promoting an initiative that adopts a registration system where every bicycle has a unique registration number, similar to the car registration system. This would enable cyclists to be identified by their registration number. As part of the registration process cyclist would have to first pass a set safety test in order to be able to be registered.

It is hoped that in time this scheme will be adopted by government and put into law so bicycle registration becomes compulsory when riding on public highways.

A discussion then took place with some residents commenting on the behaviour of some cyclist particularly when using foot and canal paths where they show little respect for people on foot. The scheme’s leader did acknowledge this fact and went on to say that one of the benefits of the scheme would be to try and improve cyclists’ behaviour and awareness towards pedestrians.

**Croxley Danes School**

The planning application for the new Croxley Danes School was submitted on 17th November. It will be reviewed by TRDC planning officers and the officer’s first report will be put before the TRDC planning committee on Thursday 14thDecember for discussion.

It will then be put forward for a final decision at the planning committee meeting on Thursday 25th January. The likelihood is that application will be then granted as building works need to commence in March in order to meet the deadline for the school opening in September 2019.

A discussion took place with one of the points being raised that a number of public parking spaces will be loss opposite the bottom shops on Baldwins Lane. Councillor Phil Brading responded by say that a local petition had be raised to oppose the loss of this parking and that the planning committee will take this into consideration when they meet in December. This may lead to a change in the proposed highways alterations so the parking spaces remain.

**Metropolitan Line Extension (MLX)**

The project still remains on hold until the funding gap estimated to be between £50 to £70 is found. It is believed that the present planning consent will run out on 31st December 2017 and this may lead to a decision as the whether the project remains active.

On another matter Councillor Chris Lloyd comment on the step free access campaign for Croxley station. At present Croxley station is been put on a list of 50 TFL stations that will be evaluated to have step free access installed. The elevation uses a points scoring system but Cllr Lloyd went on to say that Croxley was unlikely to score enough points to be put forward for step free access but he would still strongly campaign until the final decision is announced in February or March 2018.

**Croxley Green Parking Study**

TRDC have conducted a study for a controlled parking zone scheme that will affect a wide area of central Croxley to ease the pressures of commuter parking. The areas around Dickenson Square and Avenue will be one of these zones but the exact details of which parts of Croxley will have these zones have not been decided.

Councillor Peter Getkahn is the leading Councillor for this proposal and reported that there has been significant resident opposition to the proposed scheme. Cllr Getkahn went on to say that a petition has been raised with 105 signatures from Dickenson Sq. and Ave and as there are only 120 properties in Dickensons it shows the level of opposition.

Cllr Getkahn took questions. A number of residents who live in and around Dickensons challenged the need for the parking restrictions as they feel they are unnecessary. One resident challenge the legality of how the study was conducted by TRDC particularly on how the data on parking was collected, how residents were informed during the public consultation along with what supporting evidence has been used in the survey.

Cllr Getkahn responded by saying the TRDC have followed the proper legal procedures and that TRDC officers are in the process of accessing the findings. A final report along with a detailed design will be drawn up and another public consultation will be conducted. This will enable residents to scrutinise and challenge the report. It will then be up to TRDC to finally decide as to whether the proposed zoned parking restrictions will be implemented.

Councillor Phil Brading went on to say that parking issues are a difficult problem to solve.

**Local Issues**

A resident raised a point about cars parking on the pavement area on the Watford Road opposite the Shell garage along with a vehicle that has not been moved for some length of time. Cllr Brading responded that it is an issue they are aware of but there are difficulties in finding a solution.

**Any Other Business**

Resident Margaret Pomfret brought to Councillors attention that she is working along with others on a proposal to mark the 100th Anniversary of the ending of World War one. The proposal is to organise a march up New Road on Remembrance Day that will pass houses where WW1 service men once lived. She would like to get Councillors support along with raising public awareness for the event.

A resident raise a question as to why the Ascot Road high-rise development was not on the agenda as it was a major issue that could affect Croxley. Cllr Brading responded that as it falls outside the TRDC boundary it would not naturally be considered as a TRDC agenda item.

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 21st June2018 at the Baptist Church Baldwins Lane.