

**BRIDGNORTH TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY 17TH AUGUST 2021**

LJ/2021

9th August 2021

REPORT TO TOWN COUNCILLORS

AGENDA ITEM 9 – LOCAL POLICE CONTRACT

AIM

1. To identify the Town Council's current priorities for Local Policing in response to the Police's request as part of their new 'contract' with the Town Council.

BACKGROUND

2. At its meeting on 20th July 2021, the Town Council received a presentation from representatives of the Local Policing Team which included an overview of the new contract system that they have devised for local councils to identify their policing priorities. The Local Policing Team is only one element of the police resources that operate in and around Bridgnorth.
3. An example of the contract form has been circulated to members and a shared document (available to all councillors) was created to allow some tentative discussions around priorities ahead of any formal decision of the Town Council at its next (this) meeting.

DISCUSSION/ COMMENT

- Several members have commented on priorities all have agreed that priority 1 is an increased police presence.
- The second and third priorities were not necessarily in the same order for all but the majority view was that the elimination/ reduction of illegal drug culture was the 2nd priority and reduce speeding cars in and around the town and town centre (late night lappers) was the 3rd priority.
- In their comments, each councillor provided an explanation of / expansion to the headline item. It is probably very helpful for the local policing team to have those additional comments in addition to the headline topics so that they might better appreciate the specifics of a Town Council Priority.

- The Contract form provided by the Police offers a number of options for 'contact type' and 'frequency'. Some light-touch but frequent contact with town council officers is likely to be useful, for exchange of information, this should not replace the need to communicate about real time issues as and when required. It is also likely to be helpful for a named councillor to have some regular dialogue with the local policing team. In addition, some more formal presentation to the Full Council at less frequent intervals would provide an opportunity if required for the Council to form a corporate view on matters relating to the local policing team. The following might be appropriate:

- A nominated Town Councillor (TBC) – Meeting – Monthly
- Deputy Town Clerk – Telephone – Bi monthly
- Full Town Council – Meeting – Four Monthly

SUMMARY

4. 3 Councillors have submitted comments regarding policing priorities and there is agreement between them all as to the 3 priorities, albeit the order might be slightly different to some.

RECOMMENDATION(s)

5. It is recommended that the Town Council RESOLVES:

That the 3 current priorities from the Town Council with regard to local policing and a contract are:

- 1- An increased police presence.
- 2- Elimination/ reduction of illegal drug culture.
- 3- Reduce speeding cars in and around the town and town centre.

And

That the individual comments submitted by town councillors as part of the process be forwarded along with the Contract document.

6. It is further recommended that members confirm the contact options (agreed contact, type of contact and frequency).



Lee Jakeman
Town Clerk



West Mercia Police Community Charter

Parish Contact Contract

- INITIAL CONTRACT
 RENEWED CONTRACT

Parish Council: Bridgnorth town Council			
Contract Date: 29/06/2021		3 Month Review Date: 29/09/2021	
Council Chair	Sarah Barlow	Tel:	Email:
Council Clerk	Lee Jakeman	Tel:	Email: townclerk@bridgnorthtowncouncil.gov.uk
PC / PCSO		Tel:	Email: bridgnorth.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk
Top 3 community issues			
1	2	3	
Other Comments			
Agreed contact	<u>Contact type</u>	<u>Contact Frequency</u>	
	Choose an item.	MONTHLY	
	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	
	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	
	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	

SEND A COPY OF THE COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR & CLERK AND TO THE PROBLEM SOLVING SUPPORT TEAM EMAIL BOX