

Community Forum Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 15th March 2016

Present:

G. Booth (BCHS) Cllr I. Hashem M. Patel (Audley) Cllr S. Sidat Cllr Y. Janvirmani

Cllr A. Humphrys S. Khan (IMO) B. McDonald (IMO)

A. Gibbons (PREVENT) J. Rogers (St Matthew's) S. Aldred (Audley) Cllr Z. Khan

D. Atkinson (BCHS) S. Hussain (Chair) (BCHS) N. Chester (BCHS) R. Craig (BCHS)

H. Patel (BCHS)

B Wilcock (Note taker)

Apologies:

M Kamaluddin (PREVENT) Cllr S Sidat A Mulla

Item	Discussion	Action
Welcome and Introductions	S. Hussain welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for giving up their valuable time. Introductions were made around the table.	
PREVENT	<p>A. Gibbons established that everyone was familiar with PREVENT and outlined aims and strategies of PREVENT. She stressed that it is about early intervention and close collaboration with local schools.</p> <p>From July 2015 the new Counter Terrorism Security Act was established to give due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. This has become statutory in law for numerous organisations, LA, Police, Prisons, Young Offender Institutes, Providers of Probation services, Schools, Colleges, Universities and NHS bodies are the key organisations which take this on board.</p> <p>The functions within school are to assess the risk of radicalisation, develop an action plan, train staff to recognise radicalisation/extremism, work in partnership with other partners, make use of the referral system and channel and maintain records.</p> <p>The current threat level is severe which indicates an attack is highly likely. This is not meant to frighten anyone it is to make you aware that when you are out and about to report things,</p>	

	<p>don't rely on others to report things.</p> <p>The ideologies look at international terrorism, Northern Ireland terrorism, domestic extremism, right-wing, left-wing, animal rights and environmental. Please don't get hung up on one particular ideology as there is lots out there. Lancashire has a footprint for all of these groups and organisations.</p> <p>In Blackburn the current threats and risks are travelling to Syria. We are not here to change people's views, people have a view and we respect that, but we need to ensure that they have all the information and all the risks and threats should they decide to travel either as a family, a person or a family member, that we do intervene and give them the information and make them aware of what they are getting themselves into.</p> <p>E-Safety is another big one, social media etc., and lots of our referrals come in from that when people post stuff and once again it is about educating students about what they are looking at or downloading. We also give support to families as not everyone knows about the internet. It might be empowering parents, how to look at stuff on the internet because it is not only extremism but all sorts of dangers. Online gaming, apps, radicalisation, family, friends, online speakers, etc. and the changing areas that we live in with migrants coming in etc. which may impact on us. Again it is about help and support for the community.</p> <p>CHANNEL is the new referral system. My role is twofold engagement and referrals and once we have built that trust and confidence and trust you may be more willing to approach us with any concerns. It is not a Police based approach but more a multi-agency approach. Most things go to a Channel Panel which happens once a month. These are multi agency Police, Education, Mental Health, Housing etc. The case will be discussed and it also gives us a chance to see what information, if any, is held by other organisations. Some organisations may already have a relationship with the individual and this may lead to them taking ownership of</p>	
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	<p>the case. If a case does not meet the criteria then it will be closed. It is a very strict criteria and cases may be dropped by the Channel Panel Lead.</p> <p>A Humphreys enquired if the Troubled Families Unit is involved. A. Gibbons confirmed that they are as we need to address the vulnerabilities to try to prevent individuals from going down the wrong road.</p> <p>Y Janvirmani stated that council members have all received training on this issue and reiterated that everyone has to work together on this matter.</p> <p>S Hussain said that this was perfect timing as the purpose of the Community Forum Meetings is to work in collaboration and share information to improve the outcomes for everyone in the local community.</p> <p>Z Khan stated that local councillors are keen to attend these meetings and information would be shared between them as there will always be at least one representative present.</p> <p>A Humphreys pointed out that most councillors are school governors.</p> <p>D. Atkinson informed us that school had organised sessions to help mums spot signs with their children which have been very well received and successful. M. Patel asked if another session was organised could some of the parents from Audley attend. S Hussain this could be done and she would organise a session with A Gibbons and send the details.</p> <p>Y Janvirmani disseminated information about lots of initiatives and schemes running throughout the area and reiterated the need to work together.</p> <p>A Humphreys informed the meeting that this was the 17th most deprived area in the UK. He informed the meeting that money up to £6,000 was available through a grant scheme for initiatives that would benefit the community and encouraged school to apply.</p>	
Update on Business and Educational partnerships	DAT informed the meeting that this had been launched last month under the name of The Hive	

	<p>and local businesses were invited to Our Lady's. The event hosted over 90 businesses and it is about a partnership engaging business with education. 3 BCHS students presented and inspired businesses to sign up. Since then the students have gone on to be recorded for television which has resulted in more positive feedback and more businesses are now asking to sign up to the partnership.</p> <p>A spin off has been the branding and how through schools we help you sell that branding.</p> <p>Some businesses have been struggling with recruitment. This engagement will, and has already, helped with recruitment.</p> <p>BCHS, in its area of deprivation, has always struggled to recruit but now with the image changing, recruitment is really positive.</p> <p>A Humphrys said that we have a fantastic opportunity here. We have a multi-million pound investment occurring in the Whitebirk area. There are a whole range of industries in the area struggling to recruit and this initiative will highlight the opportunities available in the area. This sort of initiative will guide people leaving school to the opportunities available and raise the profile of the area.</p> <p>Y Janvirman added that housing was being built to attract people and promote the area which is in a wonderful position with easy access to the motorway. He agreed that we have to sell Blackburn to the local community in order to help it thrive.</p> <p>A Humphrys added that 9 out of 10 local people going to university never come back and the skills are lost from the area. We need to promote the area to retain these young people and their skills.</p>	
<p>IMO sporting update</p>	<p>B McDonald updated the context of IMO. IMO are a small, community based organisation, a registered charity and we see our role locally is to fill gaps that the statutory sector finds difficult. In discussion with directors at the Local Authority in terms of health and social care they can no longer afford to treat everything. There is a drive to deliver in community settings. With groups like</p>	

IMO we fit into that role. We have rationalised into 3 main areas Sports and Recreation, Health and Wellbeing and Employability and Learning. We are involved in Steer Clear which is a drugs programme funded by Children in Need. We are working with Madrasses delivering education and awareness raising sessions with boys and girls. We are taking additional steps to add other elements offering additional opportunities and incentives for young people such as educational visits to different places, hopefully as far as London, to broaden the horizons of young people. We offer positive diversionary activities primarily through sport. We are increasingly looking at the impact on young people.

Our Including Adults programme around women's mental health which is funded by the National Mind Charity as part of a National support programme. We applied with a focus on BME Adult Women and this has been very successful and had a massive impact on the women. In terms of Employability we are part way through a pilot programme encouraging people from ethnic minorities to consider adult social care as an employment opportunity.

Looking to the future we have a nascent partnership with BwD Wish Centres looking to bring in our work through sports.

S. Khan stated that using sport as a tool to engage with young people has been a great success. We use sport to get people talking. More than 200 organisations applied to sign up to an Impact Project which we lucky enough to be chosen for. We have good uptake from all the local primary schools.

BCHS has close links with IMO and your services are very well utilised by the local community. There is a charge of £10 per month. D Atkinson said that this was an invaluable service and would like to know if there was any way we, as a school, could further support the work of IMO.

Y Janvirman said he would like to see people coming together and using these facilities. A Humphrys said perceptions were incorrect as people think its 'all for them and nothing for us'.

	<p>The services are there for everyone and we have to learn to come together and share.</p> <p>S Hussain introduced I Hashem.</p> <p>Mr Hashem told the meeting he works for BwD and he works with schools and communities as well as residents around this agenda.</p>	
<p>Adult Education</p>	<p>M Patel told the meeting that Audley Juniors have a meeting every half term called 'Ask the Head'. Parents are invited to come in for informal chats. One thing to have emerged from these meeting is that parents want to do level 2 literacy and numeracy. Space is not available at Audley and they would like to use BCHS facilities. D Atkinson said that echoes some of things we have picked up here. At our open morning parents said they wanted to do these courses.</p> <p>G Booth told the meeting we provide a bespoke service. We currently have 42 children who need to learn basic English and of those 42 children there are 19 different languages. We need parents to engage but we realised that they couldn't speak English either. H. Patel works with these parents delivering a bespoke service. The session run 5.00 to 6.30 on Wednesday evening.</p> <p>M Patel will look into what is needed and liaise with D Atkinson and S Hussain.</p> <p>D Atkinson said space is also an issue at BCHS but we have a planning application in for a modular building to be in place by September.</p> <p>I Hashem advised there are courses running at the Neighbourhood Learning Centre also. Talk English which is pre-entry English and also entry level 1, 2 and 3. S Hussain requested that he bring the details to the next meeting.</p>	<p>I Hashem.</p>
<p>Community Enrichment</p>	<p>S Aldred advised one of the ideas was a joint litter pick to tidy up the area. Y Janvirman advised that equipment could be loaned from the council and the council would be keen to engage with this type of initiative, bags could be left on the road to be collected. D Atkinson suggested HiVis jackets with advertising on to promote us in the community and local businesses could be</p>	

	<p>encouraged to be involved. A Humphreys informed the meeting that 2 major clean-ups are being planned. Clean up for the Queen is being organised in preparation for the Queen's birthday. Clean Up UK have developed a scheme of engaging communities in cleaning up areas and an event is taking place in Shadsworth on the 16th March where skips will be available for people to dump rubbish. Shabir Patel from Pringle St Neighbourhood Centre is the person dealing with these initiatives and can be contacted on 507729. Funding is available.</p> <p>Parents have also enquired about children going out to visit old people's homes and having more connections with different members of the community. She said they don't always have access to information of what is possible or available and requested help with links. Many children have no contact with their elderly relatives and the experience would enrich them.</p>	<p>A Humphrys will send details out.</p>
<p>Year 5 informal parental visit</p>	<p>M Patel advised that many of their parents had not been lucky enough to get their choice of BCHS. Selection begins now in year 5 and parents would like to visit BCHS on an occasion which is not an open evening. S Hussain explained we had held an event recently which was very successful and well attended. This is actively encouraged and a visit will be organised after SATs and hopefully before Ramadan.</p>	<p>M Patel to liaise with S Hussain.</p>
<p>Building Bridges Event</p>	<p>S Hussain told the meeting that there are two events in the near future. The Community Spring Fair is taking place at BCHS on Saturday 19th March. All money raised will be to help BCHS students who have particular difficulties.</p> <p>The Building Bridges event on the 23rd March is in conjunction with a group called 'Meet Your Muslim Neighbour' and they are keen to visit primary schools also. They have done a lot of work in St Helen's and information can be found via Google. All the members of the group are Doctors, Dr Noshad is a surgeon, and they all give up their time voluntarily. The aim of the group is to develop community cohesion, to eradicate misconceptions, particularly about the Islamic Faith and break down barriers. On March 23rd we have 6 primary school year 5</p>	<p>B Wilcock to send out details to members so they can promote in their areas.</p>

	<p>classes coming into BCHS and the organisation aim to work during the course of the day on a variety of workshops including creative writing, drama, food technology, team building and model making. The aim of the session is to build bridges and friendships, to eradicate misconceptions and encourage students to work together. They held an event here at BCHS on Mother's Day which was hugely popular and attended by nine of our local primary schools.</p>	
<p>A.O.B</p>	<p>There were no other items of business and S Hussain thanked everyone for giving up their time today to attend the meeting. She reiterated that it is only by working together and in collaboration that we can improve outcomes for our community members. We are hoping to meet on a half termly basis and if members know anyone who may be interested in joining us to benefit the community then could they share the details with her.</p> <p>The next meeting will be after Easter in the summer term and will be notified in due course.</p>	