



Horsham District Neighbourhood Watch Association

Committee Meeting

Monday 18th November 2019

7.00pm

Southwater Leisure Centre,

Pevensey Road, Southwater, RH13 9XZ

Web-

<http://www.horshamnhw.btck.co.uk/>

Email- horshamnhw@gmail.com

Attendees: * Denotes Committee Member

*Ken Broomfield (KB) – Secretary and Street Coordinator

*Andrew Moffat (AM) – Chairman

*Tony George (TG) – Junior NHW

*Arthur Carden (AC) – Liaison Officer

Mike Hardy (MH)- Street Coordinator

*Nicky Fuller (NF) – Minutes Secretary

Sgt Peter Allan (PA) – Sussex Police

*Martin Bruton (MB) – Street Coordinator

*Mary Irons (MI)- Area Coordinator

Val Comper (VC)- Area Coordinator

*Jackie Reader (JR) - Street Coordinator

Apologies *Trisha Lane (TL) Area Coordinator, *Barrie Lane (BL) Area Coordinator, Phillipa Mc Bean – Area Coordinator Barns Green, , *Marc Bryant- (MBry) Vice Chair and Coordinator Horsham Trafalgar and Warnham, *Steve Guzy (SG) – Treasurer and Area Coordinator Billingshurst, *Pauline Kentell (PK)- Area Coordinator, Upper Beeding; Grace Whellams (GW) – Street Coordinator, Tony Eakins (TE) – Street Coordinator, *Diane Morrison (DM) – Street Coordinator.

1. Welcome, apologies, Chairman's remarks

- Welcome to all. Apologies read.

2. Sussex Police Update and Discussion

- Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) and Recruiting- We will have 45 PCSOs in Adur, Worthing and Horsham by March 2020. Erica Baxter is the newly-assigned Rural Crime PCSO for Horsham Adur and Worthing.
 - The number of PCSOs will go from: 9-to-15 in Horsham and 21-to-30 in Worthing and Adur.
 - Val Comper (VC) asked how the PCSO numbers compare to previous years. Horsham District will be up to 296 by March 2020 but not to the previous level of 370.
- By inputting your postcode in www.police.uk you can find the named PCSO for your area; some areas may have more than one named PCSO.
- The Safer Street Fund (focussed on theft) - £25 million will be released nationwide in April. Peter Allan (PA) will ask NHW for suggestions as to

where we think the money should be spent. Potentially this could mean £200k to £500k pounds for Horsham District.

AP1- Peter Allan (PA) to speak to John Wright and Derek Pratt from Sussex NHW Federation- about their ideas on behalf of NHW. Committee members may also send suggestions to Ken Broomfield for further discussion.

- Andrew Moffat (AM)- suggested that we focus on the most vulnerable and Internet Crime.
- Nicky Fuller (NF) and Martin Bruton (MB) said that much is being done to support older members of our communities but that the criminals are becoming smarter.
- There was a general discussion covering the following aspects-
 - i. Area and Street Coordinators need to be encouraged to support their most vulnerable members.
 - ii. Call blockers were mentioned as a possible consideration.
 - iii. Advertising certain aspects locally was also a consideration.
- AM wondered how much it would cost to put a leaflet out to all households. PA said he could investigate the cost of having a leaflet in with the Council Tax bill.

AP2- Peter Allan (PA) will investigate the cost of having the leaflet in with the council tax bill.

- MB suggested that we plan out what we want to put in. Mary Irons (MI) offered her house for a brain storming session. Jackie Reader (JR) said that Horsham Pages North, Horsham Pages South and Southwater Life have good coverage and the publishers are open to receiving useful articles such as this.
- MB suggested that the local churches and Parish Clerks are good contacts for community communication.

To summarize – We, as a committee, need to collate our ideas - email KB and then have a separate meeting with PA to discuss those ideas.

- Burglaries- for the period 13 August to 18 November - Numbers have remained static. Ashington and Steyning had spikes in the middle of September but other areas remain quite static.
- There were a number of thefts of catalytic converters from vehicles in the Horsham area in the early part of November. Catalytic Converters contain high-value metal, hence are very attractive to thieves. There is no obvious pattern but it is worth raising the profile. They are being crudely sawn off cars with an angle grinder.

- There is a focus on winter burglaries- Ideas to detract burglars such as: leaving lights on when out and not leaving bags on show in cars were mentioned.
- On the 14th of December the Police will be present at Operation Tinsel in Horsham Town Centre. KB has asked Greg Charman for extra purse bells this year.

AP3- KB will check that we will have extra bells for Operation Tinsel on the 14th of December.

- KB said that he has been contacted by one of the coordinators in Merryfield Drive, Horsham with a question about problems with local drug dealing and usage.

AP4- PA will investigate this matter and pass details back to KB so that he can go back to the coordinator in question with an answer.

3. Action from previous Meetings (Ongoing)

Ref 2Q19	Description and Update	Contact
AP1	PA to speak with KB with regards what information would be useful to put on Facebook. Closed, (All info considered useful has been communicated).	PA/KB
AP5	AM to ask the question at the JAG with regards initiatives to do with road safety. Ongoing- AM asked MB for clarification re this question. MB clarified- AM will follow up	AM
AP7	KB to review Constitution to ensure wording etc is 100% clear and 'watertight' Started- with Exec Committee for comments before the end of the year. This will then be presented to the committee at the next meeting in February 2020	KB
AP9	Steve Guzy (SG) to send letter to all developers asking for financial support for NHW. Ongoing	SG
Ref 3Q19	Description and Update	Contact
AP1b	MI will compile a list of questions for review at the November meeting Ongoing	MI
AP3	PA to look at the letter that goes out to victims of burglary to see if it mentions alarms- PA confirmed that it doesn't - closed	PA
AP7	MI and AC will link to organise a Coordinators meet where AC will talk on a particular subject. Future project	MI/AC
AP8	MB to spread the word about support for JNHW and AM to speak to Greg Charman for suggestions to recruit support – MB has completed his action. KB also looking into this- The Job description is not out as yet. AM will ask Greg re further update about support for JNHW. On going	MB/AM

4. Update from MI on “NHW—Police Communications”

- Recap: -The objective of the meeting between PA and MI was: To consider (i) how best to collate commonly asked questions/answers raised by the public to the Police, and (ii) the best methodology for disseminating answers to everyone.
 - PA and MI met to consider the above and the wider network of areas that should not be overlooked. Similar areas of concern may include welfare, local, health, safety and general well-being, plus the elderly and disabled.
 - We did not want to re-invent the wheel or duplicate information already available.
 - PA mentioned there is an application ‘Ask the Police’ that deals with all nationally asked questions and answers, it does not deal with local or community questions.
- Actions so far:-
 - PA has contacted: PCSO Erica Baxter; Sharon Cadman of Horsham District Council and Emily King of the County Council -deal with health and youth aspects. The purpose being, to establish what repeat questions of concern are raised by the public and where the answers are stored. -

Update:-There are a great many online resources and some paper based ones but nothing on a single site. There are some sites though, which offer advice on many areas of interest, in one place, such as the Horsham District Council one below. Erica is aware that there are many Parish magazines and websites as well.

AP5 PA will look at the resources both online and paper-based for advice on keeping safe so we know what is out there

- MI contacted NF at her place of work- Age UK Horsham District to establish the main questions that are raised by the older members of the community.

Update:- NF sent MI some information related to 'Listening tours' of local communities so that they can better understand the health and social care changes for the local people living in a village/town undergoing significant new housing growth in this instance Broadbridge Health.

AP6 NF will investigate this matter and pass details back to MI.

- Going forward we need to consider in greater detail the role of NHW, in helping bring together either one central site or a road map to the various websites. Once we establish the top 10 questions raised locally we will establish if there is a need locally for one front door to access the information.
- We could consider a chart with pointers to the various websites. Transparency is vital to try and simplify the various links available to help the public. Paper versions often become out-dated but we will consider in greater depth as we progress.
- We hope the use of the NHW Neighbourhood Alert system may prove useful to this process and the dissemination of information.

- PA and MI to meet again when more information available this may include other parties from other bodies. **Target date by 20th December.**
- Arthur Carden (AC) suggested 101 calls as a good source for information

5. News from the Executive Committee Meeting held on 31 October

- **How do we get more Street Coordinators? AND**
- **How do we get information from Street Coordinators?**

Suggestion to advertise on the leaflet mentioned in point 2.

Discussion-

- VC- Leafleted the streets in Roffey and got one Coordinator from all the streets.
- MB has tried leafleting with no response either
- KB- said that this district is not alone.
- MB- Do we need to exist? VC feels that communities don't care anymore. KB said that he can't remember the last time he had a reply to his emails. It appears that it is only when there is a problem that people get in touch.
- NF suggested that we need to create the community spirit of old
- MI and MB suggested that we ask people what they want. Send ideas to KB
- AM suggested that maybe the Internet has taken the place of the coordinators. MB said that Facebook is effective for spreading the message.
- Mike Hardy (MH) said that he has been able to support one local family in a very positive way using the internet. The Internet makes it easy to communicate and get information out easily and effectively.
- Arthur Carden (AC) said that the National NHW have produced a newsletter with success stories. AC suggested that MH writes up this positive story to publish.
- AM suggested that we get Greg Charman and other interested parties who need volunteers together to discuss the way forward. MB suggests that we need more collaboration between groups to link the knowledge.

AP7 AM will write up our discussion and talk to Greg Charman at HDC. Ideas to be sent to KB to keep on the Agenda for February's meeting

- **AC asked if we can discuss how we know if a coordinator is active.**
 - 4 questions to ask-
 - i. Do you have an active scheme?
 - ii. How many members do you have?
 - iii. Do you have a deputy?
 - iv. Do you forward on the Alerts?
 - AC suggests we write to the AC's with the above questions.

6. Committee Reports- Highlights

- **Chairman:** See website for full report
- **Secretary:** See website for full report
- **Junior NHW:** See website for full report

7. Round the Table

- **KB- Update from Barry Lane (BL) and Trisha Lane (TL)**
 - The teenage anti-social behaviour problem at Highwood Mill has improved.
 - They have been involved with extra signage/markings being placed to prevent inconsiderate parking at Highwood. This is ongoing but as soon as they hear from Courtney Green, they will update us.
 - Regarding the A24 and A264 - still waiting to hear from WSCC re a pedestrian crossing at the top of the slip road near the Highwood development entrance. The traffic lights have not yet been completed at the top of Farthings Hill approaching the roundabout where another pedestrian crossing is being installed. This will, hopefully, make a big difference to traffic coming up the slip road.

8. Upcoming Events

- **Southwater Christmas Fayre – Sat 30 November, 12pm to 4pm**
 - Attendees- AC, BL, TL, TG, KB, JR (floating), VC
- **Operation Tinsel – Sat 14 December, 1pm to 3pm – Horsham town centre**
 - Plenty of people available to support Operation Tinsel from NHW and The Police

9. 2020- Meetings

- NHW Horsham District Committee Meeting
 - One per quarter, i.e. February, May, September and November**
 - ** Will include the 2020 AGM as there have been poor turnouts at the last 3 AGM's.
- Meeting for Q1-20 -Monday 17th February- 7pm Southwater Leisure Centre
- Sussex NHW Federation Meetings – January, April, June, September
 - January- Wednesday 8th -Sussex Police Headquarters, Lewes. KB will attend

10. Approval of the minutes of the 3Q19 Committee Meeting

Minutes Approved -proposed – AC

11. Other News

- NH Wardens – Wardens' Supervisor status- Horsham District Council are recruiting for a new supervisor now Carly Jenkins has left.

Note- There was no time to discuss the following which will be near the top of the Agenda at the February Meeting

- Volunteers requested for the following roles:
 - Stock Keeper-
 - Street Signs Coordinator-
 - Events Coordinator-

12. Closing Remarks

- The Safer Street Fund money is a particularly important consideration.
- We need to address recruitment for ACs and SCs and the way forward
- KB needs support regarding the number of roles he has for NHW

Ref 4Q19	Description and Update	Contact
AP1	Peter Allan (PA) to speak to John Wright and Derek Pratt with their countywide hats about their ideas on behalf of NHW. Committee members are also to send any suggestions to Ken Broomfield for further discussion.	PA/ALL
AP2	Peter Allan (PA) will investigate the cost of having the leaflet in with the council tax bill.	PA
AP3	KB will check that we will have extra bells for Operation Tinsel on the 14 th of December.	KB
AP4	PA will investigate the matter with regard drug dealing in Merryfield Drive and pass details back to KB so that he can go back to the coordinator in question with an answer.	PA/KB
AP5	AP5 PA will look at the resources both online and paper-based for advice on keeping safe so we know what is out there.	PA
AP6	NF will investigate the types of questions that the older members of our communities are asking and pass details back to MI.	NF/MI
AP7	AM will write up our discussion re street coordinators- how to recruit them and how to get information from them. He will talk to Greg Charman at HDC. Ideas to be sent to KB to keep on the Agenda for February's meeting.	AM/KB/ALL
AP8	AC will write to all the coordinators with the purpose of establishing how many are active.	AC

Meeting Closed- 9pm