

MINUTES of the MEETING of the COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE held at THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THE GROVE, SWANSCOMBE on WEDNESDAY 6 OCTOBER 2021 at 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillor Peter Harris – Chairman
Councillor Peter Harman– Vice-Chairman
Councillor Anita Barham
Councillor Emma Ben Moussa
Councillor Sue Butterfill
Councillor Lorna Cross
Councillor Lesley Howes

ALSO PRESENT: Martin Harding – Assistant Town Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer
PCSO Andrew Lewis – Kent Police
PCSO Tilly Digby-Baker – Kent Police
Billy Unsworth – Kent Community Warden
Councillor David Mote – Dartford Borough Council
Tony Henley – Dartford Borough Council (CSU)
X 1 member of the public

ABSENT: There were none.

194/21-22. **ARRANGEMENTS AND CONSTRAINTS REGARDING FILMING OR RECORDING THE MEETING.**

The Chairman explained the arrangements and constraints relating to the filming or recording of the meeting.

195/21-22. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Councillor Jay Shah had previously received dispensation from attending meetings for a six-month period commencing 24 June 2021 (minute 48/21-22).

An apology was also received from Martin Smith (DBC Parking Enforcement).

Recommended: That the reasons for absence, for the Councillors listed, be formally accepted and approved.

196/21-22. **SUBSTITUTES.**

There were none.

197/21-22. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.**

There were none.

As per Standing Order 34 c) the Chairman adjourned the meeting at this point to allow members of the public to address the meeting in relation to the business being transacted at the meeting.

198/21-22. ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN / MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES AND THEIR POSITION ON THE AGENDA.

The ATC/RFO reminded those present that no case specific detail, names and addresses, should be discussed during the public section of the meeting.

199/21-22. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 JULY 2021

Recommended: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 July 2021 be confirmed and signed as a true record.

200/21-22. POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS (PCSO) REPORT.

PCSO's Andrews Lewis and Tilly Digby-Baker provided an update on recent activity and investigations undertaken in the areas of Swanscombe and Greenhithe.

Members had the opportunity to ask both PCSO's questions in relation to both their reports and raise matters of concern.

Recommended: That the report be noted and PCSO's Lewis and Digby-Baker be thanked for their attendance

201/21-22. KCC COMMUNITY WARDENS REPORT.

KCC Warden Unsworth gave an update on matters he had been involved with in the area, including Swanscombe Food Cellar, Welfare Support, Property Eviction and Anti-Social Behaviour.

Recommended: That the report be noted and KCC Warden Unsworth be thanked for his attendance.

202/21-22. COMMUNITY SAFETY LIAISON.

Local schools – Councillor Ben Moussa confirmed that the new CCTV cameras outside Manor Community Primary School were being effective in fining drivers that were illegally parking outside the school. Work was being undertaken to look at the effect of cars being displaced onto adjacent streets.

Kent Fire Service – Councillor Harman confirmed that the appliance from Swanscombe Station was operating less than 50% of the time, with crews operating on a retained basis.

Neighbourhood Watch – The Chairman confirmed that the AGM for North West Kent was due on 25 October 2021.

Community Speed Watch – The Chairman updated that two recent sessions had been undertaken in Ingress Park, but the group were still awaiting new speed indicator signs.

Dartford Borough Council (CSU) – Councillor David Mote and Tony Henley updated members that the Community Safety Partnership had changed from being between Dartford and Gravesham to just Dartford on its own. Members were provided with a copy of the Partnership Performance Update document recently considered at the Crime & Disorder Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting at Dartford Borough Council. It was hoped that this would be agreed to be made available to the public.

Recommended: That those who provided reports be thanked and the information be noted.

203/21-22. **DETAILED ANALYSIS OF CRIME STATISTICS FOR SWANSCOMBE AND GREENHITHE.**

Members were provided and discussed the up-to-date detailed analysis of crime figures for Swanscombe and Greenhithe.

Recommended: That the information be noted.

204/21-22. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.**

MOVED BY Councillor Peter Harman and seconded by Councillor Emma Ben Moussa.

RESOLVED:

That, pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave the meeting during consideration of the following item(s).

No members of the press or public were present during discussion of the following items of business.

205/21-22. **CONFIDENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS**

Further to minute 283/20-21 (Town Council 8 April 2021) the ATC/RFO provided an update to members on the progress of this matter and that officers were now working with Dartford Borough Council (CSU) on pursuing a prosecution.

Recommended: That the update be noted and that the work being undertaken towards a prosecution be supported.

There being no further business to transact, the Meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

Signed _____
Chairman Date