

MINUTES of the MEETING of the COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE held at THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THE GROVE, SWANSCOMBE on WEDNESDAY 14 JULY 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: Graham Blew – Town Clerk
Martin Harding – Assistant Town Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer
PCSO Alan Mitchell – Kent Police
Councillor David Mote – Dartford Borough Council
Lewis Gilbert – Swanscombe Neighbourhood Watch

ABSENT: There were none.

99/21-22. **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.

100/21-22. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Jay Shah, due to medical reasons.

Apologies were also received from Billy Unsworth (Community Warden, Kent County Council) and Katie Buckingham (PlayPlace)

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

101/21-22. **SUBSTITUTES.**

There were none.

102/21-22. **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.

103/21-22. ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN / MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES AND THEIR POSITION ON THE AGENDA.

There were none.

104/21-22. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 FEBRUARY 2020.

Recommended: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 February 2020 be confirmed and signed as a true record.

105/21-22. POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS (PCSO) REPORT.

PCSO Alan Mitchell provided an update on recent activity and investigations undertaken in the areas of Swanscombe and Greenhithe.

Members had the opportunity to ask PCSO Mitchell questions in relation to both his report and raise matters of concern.

Recommended: That the report be noted and PCSO Mitchell be thanked for his attendance

106/21-22. KCC COMMUNITY WARDENS REPORT.

KCC Warden Unsworth had submitted his apologies for this meeting and been unable to provide a report.

Recommended: That the absence be noted.

107/21-22. COMMUNITY SAFETY LIAISON.

Local schools – Councillor Ben Moussa confirmed the recent installation of CCTV camera's outside Manor Community Primary School.

Youth services / officers – A report was read out from Katie Buckingham from PlayPlace:

We to have a regular number of attendees ranging from the age of 12 to 19.

They are a good group of young people who have committed themselves to the club. They attend regularly and engage openly with the staff team about a range of personal issues that are impacting them.

While the group that we work with don't have any anti-social concerns, they bring a range of personal concerns from relationships, identity queries, school/exam pressures and health and well-being worries that they talk through with the staff that they have built a strong and trusting relationship with.

The group often bring with them new friends and partners that they are pleased to introduced to the youth workers which provides a good opportunity to support them when relationships are new or break down.

On the occasions when the young people are unable to attend the team go on outreach in the area to try and engage with any young people that are out, but have not reported any concerns.

We are excited to be offering a new service across Dartford that aims to help with the digital divide that has been identified over the pandemic and have purchased a van that will bring a range of technology, craft and sports to various areas across Dartford. In addition to delivering a detached session in Swanscombe every Thursday from 4-6pm term time as well as providing earlier sessions during the school holidays, the van will also be at Broomfield Park every Wednesday 7:30-9pm. We aim for this service to commence in the next couple of weeks.

Kent Fire Service – Councillor Harman confirmed that crews had recently attended a fire in Irving Walk.

Neighbourhood Watch – The Chairman updated that whilst the Ingress Park Neighbourhood Watch group had regular police contact, the newly formed group from Worcester Park, Stone did not.

Lewis Gilbert from Swanscombe Neighbourhood Watch introduced himself and updated on the activities of the group, including police liaison, publicity, signage for the Town and efforts to better engage with elderly members of the community. On behalf of the meeting the Chairmen thanked Lewis for his attendance and all the work being undertaken by the Swanscombe Neighbourhood Watch.

Community Speed Watch – The Chairman updated that recent sessions in Ingress Park had resulted in 3 people being caught exceeding the limit and that new speed indication boards were being proposed for Ingress Park Avenue.

Dartford Borough Council (CSU) – Councillor David Mote updated that the CCTV cameras recently installed at Manor School had also been installed at x2 other schools within the borough.

Kent County Council – KCC Member Peter Harman confirmed that Kent Highways were still investigating the replacement of the speed humps and raised table on Southfleet Road with smaller versions.

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

108/21-22. **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.

109/21-22. **CURRENT CRIME RELATED ISSUES.**

Having previously discussed the issue of off-road motorbikes during the PCSO's report nothing further was added during this item.

Recommended: That the update previously provided by the PCSO be noted.

110/21-22. **DELEGATION TO CONDUCT NORMAL BUSINESS DURING RECESS PERIOD.**

Members were requested to delegate authority to the Town Clerk, in accordance with section 101 (1) (a) of the Local Government Act 1972, to conduct the normal business of the Council during the recess period. The Town Clerk will consult with the Town Mayor, if appropriate, before any business is transacted. If any emergencies do occur during this time the Executive & Emergency Committee would be convened.

Recommended That, in accordance with section 101 (1) (a) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Town Clerk be delegated authority to conduct the normal business of the Council during the recess period

There were no confidential items for discussion.

There being no further business to transact, the Meeting closed at 8.05 pm.

Signed _____
Chairman Date