

MINUTES of the MEETING of the COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE held at THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THE GROVE, SWANSCOMBE on WEDNESDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2022 at 7.00 PM

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

ALSO PRESENT: Martin Harding – Assistant Town Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer
Billy Unsworth – Kent County Council Community Warden
Tony Henley – Dartford Borough Council (DBC) Community Safety Unit (CSU)

ABSENT: Councillor Anita Barham

418/21-22. 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.

419/21-22. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Sue Butterfill, due to other commitments.

Councillor Jay Shah had previously received dispensation from attending meetings for a six-month period commencing 9 December 2021 (minute 315/21-22).

An apology was also received from Martin Smith (DBC – Parking Enforcement), David Mote (DBC Borough Councillor – Greenhithe) and PCSO Alan Mitchell (Kent Police)

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

420/21-22. SUBSTITUTES.

There were none.

421/21-22. 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.

422/21-22. 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.

423/21-22. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1 DECEMBER 2021

Recommended: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 1 December 2021 be confirmed and signed as a true record.

424/21-22. POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS (PCSO) REPORT.

PCSO's Digby-Baker, Mitchell and Lewis were absent but had provided the monthly update reports for September and October on recent activity and investigations undertaken in the areas of Swanscombe and Greenhithe.

Recommended: That the reports be noted.

425/21-22. KENT COUNTY COUNCIL COMMUNITY WARDENS REPORT.

KCC Warden Unsworth gave an update on matters he had been involved with in the area, including safeguarding, welfare support, CCTV advice, underage vaping and a human faeces complaint prosecution.

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

426/21-22. COMMUNITY SAFETY LIAISON.

Local schools – Councillor Emma Ben Moussa updated on recent parking issues highlighted at Swanscombe Health Centre involving parents from Manor Community Primary School. A visit was also scheduled for later this month to Tunbridge Wells to look at a scheme of road closures around schools.

Kent Fire Service – Councillor Peter Harman updated that he was due to attend a meeting on 18 February where the Fire Service would be setting their budget for the coming year.

Ebbsfleet Development Corporation (EDC) – The Chairman updated that he had attended a recent meeting with the CEO of EDC regarding the vehicle accessway from the development area onto Mounts Road. It had been assured that this would be closed in June / July this year when it was no longer needed for emergency purposes. At the same time the additional traffic island installed for this entrance would be removed.

Neighbourhood Watch – The Chairman updated that a recent meeting of the Ingress Park Neighbourhood Watch had taken place, and the ongoing issues of double yellow lines and anti-social behaviour and been raised.

Community Speed Watch – The Chairman updated that no recent activity had occurred due to the weather, but that it was hoped the group would receive a speed gun as opposed to the freestanding speed indication device as this was better suited to inclement conditions.

DBC CSU – Tony Henley updated that work was continuing across the Borough to address shop lifting which included incidents raised at the Swanscombe Co-Op. An update was provided on the joint approach to working with troubled families and a discussion held on e-scooters and nuisance vehicles.

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

427/21-22. **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.

428/21-22. **DARTFORD COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP – COMMUNITY PRIORITIES – PUBLIC CONSULTATION 2022.**

Members were sent a copy of the consultation questionnaire that had previously been emailed to members on 7 February 2022 and can be viewed electronically at <https://www.dartford.gov.uk/community-safety/community-safety-partnership>

Tony Henley (DBC) (CSU) advised that the consultation was targeting individual responses as opposed to the opinion of groups and organisations

Recommended: That no response be submitted to this consultation.

There were no confidential items for discussion.

There being no further business to transact, the Meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Signed _____
Chairman Date