

MINUTES of the MEETING of the ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR & CRIME SUB-COMMITTEE held at THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THE GROVE, SWANSCOMBE on WEDNESDAY 12 JULY 2017 at 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillor P C Harris (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs L Manchester (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Ms L C Howes (substituting for Councillor Mrs A E D Barham)
Councillor A S Reach

ALSO PRESENT: Martin Harding - ATC/RFO
Billy Unsworth - KCC Community Warden
Sergeant Dave Crompton - Kent Police
Tony Henley – Dartford Borough Council

ABSENT: Councillor Mrs M B Kelly

137/17-18. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors' Mrs A E D Barham, P M Harman, B R Parry and B E Read.

138/17-18. SUBSTITUTES.

Councillor Ms L C Howes substituted for Councillor Mrs A E D Barham.

139/17-18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

There were none.

The Chairman gave the opportunity for the meeting to be adjourned at this point to accept questions from the public.

140/17-18. ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN / MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES AND THEIR POSITION ON THE AGENDA.

There were none.

141/17-18. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5 APRIL 2017.

Recommended: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 April 2017 be confirmed and signed as a true record.

142/17-18. POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS (PCSO) REPORT.

Sergeant Crompton gave a brief summary of current and future operations in the area. The PCSO's are due to be re-shuffled in September giving a static officer for both Greenhithe and Swanscombe rather than a team. The PC's will revert to a team that can focus on target areas within the community.

Current investigations / issues include issues with nuisance (noisy) cars, Anti-Social Behaviour around The Pier, Greenhithe, and investigations into a car approaching young girls within the wider area.

Sergeant Crompton emphasised the importance of reporting crime via 101 as intelligence passed on from Facebook feeds did not allow for prosecutions to be made

Recommended: That the report be noted and Sergeant Crompton be thanked for his attendance.

143/17-18. **DETAILED ANALYSIS OF CRIME STATISTICS FOR SWANSCOMBE AND GREENHITHE.**

Members were provided with the up to date detailed analysis of crime figures for Swanscombe and Greenhithe. Members highlighted an increase in crime from January to April 2017 for Greenhithe, but nothing could be identified that may be causing this.

Mr Henley from Dartford Borough Council Community Safety Unit (CSU) indicated that they are trying to work at an early stage with developers to implement CCTV in new areas. Mr Henley gave a summary of new cameras that the CSU were arranging that are more cost effective at tackling specific areas. Mr Henley offered to attend a future meeting and demonstrate the new cameras and the quality of the images involved.

Recommended: That Mr Henley be invited to the next meeting of this Sub-Committee to provide a CCTV demonstration.

144/17-18. **KCC COMMUNITY WARDENS REPORT.**

KCC Warden Unsworth gave an update on cases he had been involved with in the area, including issues of several cases of ASB, fly tipping, drugs, animal welfare, parking disputes, abandoned vehicles and Speedwatch.

In addition members were updated on the recruitment of volunteer wardens.

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

145/17-18. **CRIME PREVENTION INITIATIVES.**

Members focused on initiatives to reduce ASB during summer months linked to young people and a perceived lack of activities.

A discussion was held on the need to include events that appeal to older children. Members suggested contacting Ebbsfleet Development Corporation (EDC) regarding setting up taster days for some of the trades used throughout the Garden City. The Chairman requested the ATC/RFO contact the Community Engagement Officer at EDC to consider this proposal.

Recommended: That the ATC/RFO contact EDC to further discuss employment taster days as part of summer activities.

146/17-18. **OBSERVATION AND REPORTING.**

Members were provided with an update on the guidance for when 999 and 101 should be used. Sergeant Crompton confirmed that 999 should be used when life is in danger or the crime was in progress, everything else should be reported via 101.

Members were informed that the online facility for reporting crime to Kent police was due to be available later this year.

Sergeant Crompton urged members to emphasise to residents to expand the content that is provided during calls to the Police. Any background to similar issues in the area or wider concerns that other crimes may be linked should also be included.

Recommended: That the item be noted.

147/17-18. **COMMUNICATIONS.**

The Chairman requested that Sergeant Crompton try to ensure that the correct PCSO's attended local groups or Neighbourhood Watch meetings to ensure consistency and local knowledge.

Members felt that continuing liaison with the Police in the current format was more beneficial than the need to conduct a specific meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Recommended: That the item be noted.

148/17-18. **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH GROUPS.**

The Chairman gave a brief background of the success of local groups and invited all members to consider setting up groups in each ward.

Members felt that it would be appropriate to invite the Neighbourhood Watch Group (NHWG) Co-Ordinator for the area to the next Town Council meeting to provide a brief for all members to consider setting up groups.

Recommended: That the NHWG Co-Ordinator be invited to the next full meeting of the Town Council to provide a brief on setting up Neighbourhood Watch Groups.

149/17-18. **CURRENT UNRESOLVED ISSUES.**

Members were asked to note correspondence from Social Media regarding issues of Anti-Social Mopeds and Motorbikes and Dangerous Driving on Crossways Boulevard.

Sergeant Crompton informed of an intelligence led operation for North Kent that would focus on motorbikes and mopeds.

Mr Henley from DBC CSU confirmed that DBC were currently undertaken a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for Dartford Town Centre. Once implemented they would be looking at Crossways Boulevard next.

The Chairman raised Dangerous / Obstructive Parking on Swanscombe High Street. Members felt that the CCTV previously mentioned by Mr Henley may be appropriate but Mr Henley confirmed that this site was not one being considered by DBC.

Members discussed railings, barriers and bollards being placed on the path. It was requested that the ATC/RFO contact KCC Member Mr P M Harman about the possibility of Kent Highways placing barriers along the pathway adjacent to the zig-zag markings around the crossing in Swanscombe High Street.

Recommended: That the ATC/RFO contact KCC Member Mr P M Harman whether Kent Highways would install railings as detailed above.

150/17-18. **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.**

Recommended: That the next meeting be held in 3 months with the date to be set by the ATC/RFO

151/17-18. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.**

It was proposed by Councillor Ms L C Howes and seconded by Councillor A S Reach

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 item of business.

152/17-18. **CONFIDENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS.**

No confidential items were discussed.

There being no further business to transact, the Meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Signed _____
Chairman Date