

MINUTES of the MEETING of the COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE held at THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THE GROVE, SWANSCOMBE on WEDNESDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2019 at 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillor P C Harris - Chairman
Councillor Mrs S P Butterfill
Councillor Ms L M Cross
Councillor B R Parry
Vacancy

ALSO PRESENT: Martin Harding – Assistant Town Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer (ATC/RFO)
Sgt Dan Horsley - Kent Police
Rob Young – Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)
Sarah Rawlinson (Youth & Community Engagement Officer, Diocese of Rochester)

ABSENT: Councillor P M Harman

452/18-19. **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.

453/18-19 **TO ELECT A VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE 2018 -2019 YEAR.**

Due to a Councillor resignation the Vice-Chairman position had become vacant.

It was proposed, duly seconded and agreed;

Recommended: That Councillor P M Harman be elected Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the remainder of the 2018-19 year.

454/18-19. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors' Mrs A E D Barham, Ms L C Howes, Mrs M B Kelly, D J Mote, A S Reach and B E Read.

Apologies were also received from Tony Henley (Dartford Borough Council (DBC) CSU), Martin Smith (DBC Parking Enforcement) and Billy Unsworth (KCC Community Warden).

455/18-19. **SUBSTITUTES.**

There were none.

456/18-19. 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.

457/18-19. ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN / MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES AND THEIR POSITION ON THE AGENDA.

There were none.

458/18-19. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5 DECEMBER 018.

Recommended: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 December 2018 be confirmed and signed as a true record.

459/18-19. POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS (PCSO) REPORT.

Sgt Dan Horsley and PCSO Rob Young gave a brief update on current cases. They confirmed investigations were ongoing regarding shoplifting in Swanscombe High Street, nuisance vehicles across Swanscombe, groups of young people congregating around local community venues and anti-social behaviour from students of the local secondary school as they left the premises. Sgt Horsley confirmed that some arrests had been made outside of the Dartford area regarding thefts from motor vehicles. It was felt that these suspects could be connected to the recent incidents occurring throughout Swanscombe, Greenhithe and Stone.

Recommended: That the item be noted.

460/18-19. KCC COMMUNITY WARDENS REPORT.

As KCC Warden Unsworth had submitted his apologies for the meeting the ATC/RFO read out a brief report submitted prior to the meeting. This included work conducted on suspicious behaviour, reassurance visits, fly-tipping and anti-social behaviour.

Recommended: That the report be noted.

461/18-19. COMMUNITY SAFETY LIAISON.

Youth services / officers – Sarah Rawlinson gave an update on a new youth provision that would take place on Monday evenings at The Pavilion. This was being run by The Bridge for Young People and would commence in March 2019. The ATC/RFO confirmed that the Youth Club in the Heritage Hall would be starting on Thursday 28 February between 6.30pm and 8.30pm and that the youth provision that the Town Council had commissioned was hoped to begin in April and would operate on a Tuesday evening.

Ebbsfleet Development Corporation – The Chairman confirmed that he had been liaising with Ebbsfleet Development Corporation regarding the safety issues surrounding the development at the bottom of Craylands Lane. The issues of mud from construction lorries was also now being resolved.

Neighbourhood Watch – The Chairman advised that the importance of Neighbourhood Watch had been raised and discussed at the recent Dartford and Gravesham Community Safety Panel.

Community Speed Watch – The Chairman confirmed that the group had 3 new volunteers and had recently undertaken a Speed Watch session in Ingress Park and that another session was planned for later this month in Knockhall.

Dartford Borough Council (CSU) – The ATC/RFO updated members on the parking enforcement statistics for Swanscombe High Street which included that during the last 6 months 9 hours of enforcement had taken place which had resulted in 117 Penalty Charge Notices (PCN's) being issued.

Recommended: That the information be noted.

462/18-19. **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.

Sgt Horsley confirmed that a system anomaly had occurred between Kent Police and the Home Office resulting in incorrect crime statistics for November and December 2018

Recommended: That the item be noted.

463/18-19. **ANTI-SOCIAL PARKING – LOCAL SCHOOLS.**

Further to minute 132/18-19, 224/18-19 and 355/18-19 the Chairman gave a brief verbal update to members which included:

Two meetings had been held with school councils from all three schools and Action Plans were being drafted with ideas being put together by the children on improvements outside the school to prevent parking issues.

Surveys had been undertaken across each of the three schools and the results would be incorporated within the Action Plans. One student had written a letter to parents raising the concerns of the children. This had been sent to all parents from that school and was being considered for further circulation.

Members noted a recent article in the News Shopper highlighting the level of PCN's issued outside schools across Dartford.

Recommended: That the information be noted.

464/18-19. **FEEDBACK.**

Further to minute 333/18-19 members were again provided with an example of feedback issued by Kent Police, via there Twitter feed linking in the arrest of two men in the Greenhithe area for theft.

Members discussed this with the Police and felt that feedback was key to promoting further crime reporting as it was important that residents needed to know that something was being done if a report was filed.

Recommended: To discuss and advise accordingly.

There were no confidential items for discussion.

There being no further business to transact, the Meeting closed at 7.55 pm.

Signed

Chairman

Date

