

MINUTES of the MEETING of the COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE held at THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THE GROVE, SWANSCOMBE on WEDNESDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2018 at 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillor P C Harris (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs L Manchester (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Mrs S P Butterfill
Councillor Ms L M Cross
Councillor P M Harman
Councillor B R Parry
Councillor A S Reach

ALSO PRESENT: Martin Harding - ATC/RFO
Sergeant Nick Grainger - Kent Police
Geena Beddoes - PCSO

ABSENT: There were none

456/17-18. **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 and B E Read.

Apologies for absence were also received from Billy Unsworth – KCC Community Warden.

457/17-18. **SUBSTITUTES.**

There were none.

458/17-18. **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.

459/17-18. **ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN / MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES AND THEIR POSITION ON THE AGENDA.**

There were none.

460/17-18. **TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6 DECEMBER 2017.**

Recommended: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 December 2017 be confirmed and signed as a true record.

461//17-18. A VIEW FROM A MAGISTRATE.

Councillor Ms L M Cross gave a short briefing on her duties and experiences as a Magistrate.

Recommended: That Councillor Ms L M Cross be thanked for her time and the information provided.

462//17-18. POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS (PCSO) REPORT.

Sergeant Grainger briefly introduced himself as the new Sergeant for the area. He explained his background and what steps he had taken to learn more about the Town

Sergeant Grainger and PCSO Beddoes gave an update on current known issues with dangerous parking, anti-social behaviour on Tiltman Way. Updates were also provided on wider issues across Dartford and Kent including money laundering and the potential increased Police resources following the agreed PCC budget for 2018-19.

Recommended: That the report be noted and Sergeant Grainger and PCSO Beddoes be thanked for their attendance

463/17-18. KCC COMMUNITY WARDENS REPORT.

KCC Community Warden for Swanscombe, Billy Unsworth was unable to attend the meeting but had provided the meeting with a detailed report on items that he had dealt with since the last meeting.

Recommended: That the report be noted.

464/17-18. COMMUNICATION.

Members briefly discussed existing routes of communication regarding community safety and methods in which these could be improved.

Sergeant Grainger explained some of the ways in which the Police gather information and the use of Twitter to provide feedback and results. Sergeant Grainger confirmed that the important message to be issued was for members of the public to keep reporting everything which enabled the Police to build up intelligence. Sergeant Grainger was also happy to have information, that may help to build up patterns of incidents, passed directly to himself

Recommended: That the information be noted.

465/17-18. COMMUNITY SAFETY LIAISON.

Members briefly discussed the best methods of information gathering / liaison between the Community Safety Committee and outside organisations.

Members felt that an informal arrangement where relevant information could be fed into the Committee would be appropriate. This would form a standing item on future agendas for this Committee.

Recommended: That 'Community Safety Liaison' form a standing item on future agendas of the Community Safety Committee.

466/17-18. 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.

Sergeant Grainger confirmed that crime statistics, although accurate, are misleading to the public as each incident reported can result in several crimes being recorded, and the classifications may not match what the public would expect.

Recommended: That the item be noted.

467/17-18. KENT POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONERS ANNUAL POLICING SURVEY.

Members were provided with the January 2018 edition of the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner Newsletter.

Recommended: That the item be noted.

468/17-18. CURRENT UNRESOLVED ISSUES.

Members felt that some of the major concerns had already been raised and answered during the earlier Police Community Support Officers Report.

Councillor B R Parry enquired as to whether any follow up had been made on the Neighbourhood Watch Meetings held in Greenhithe during 2017. The Chairman confirmed that the Co-Ordinator for Neighbourhood Watch for North Kent had recently changed and he would ask for an update in his role as a member of the North Kent Neighbourhood Watch Committee.

Recommended: That the update on the current unresolved issues be noted.

469/17-18. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.

It was proposed by Councillor P M Harman and seconded by Councillor Mrs S P Butterfill.

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.

470/17-18. CONFIDENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS.

No confidential items were discussed.

There being no further business to transact, the Meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Signed _____
Chairman Date