

MINUTES of the MEETING of the COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE held at THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THE GROVE, SWANSCOMBE on WEDNESDAY 18 APRIL 2018 at 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillor P C Harris (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs L Manchester (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Mrs A E D Barham
Councillor Mrs S P Butterfill
Councillor Ms L M Cross
Councillor P M Harman
Councillor Ms L C Howes
Councillor D J Mote
Councillor B R Parry
Councillor B E Read

ALSO PRESENT: Martin Harding - ATC/RFO
PC Steve Horan - Kent Police
Geena Beddoes – PCSO
Billy Unsworth - KCC Community Warden
Tony Henley – Dartford Borough Council CSU
1 x member of the public

ABSENT: Councillor Mrs M B Kelly

592/17-18. 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.

593/17-18. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor A S Reach.

594/17-18. SUBSTITUTES.

There were none.

595/17-18. 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.

A resident raised issues of litter around the Town and problems with a piece of land being damaged by cars at the back of the garages of Milton Road.

The resident was informed that the appropriate authorities were aware of both these concerns and they would continue to be monitored by the parties involved.

596/17-18. ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN / MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES AND THEIR POSITION ON THE AGENDA.

There were none.

597/17-18. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 FEBRUARY 2018.

Recommended: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 February 2018 be confirmed and signed as a true record.

598//17-18. POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS (PCSO) REPORT.

PC Horan and PCSO Beddoes gave an update on current known issues with off road vehicles, vandalism and burglaries. Updates were provided on current operations being undertaken and a new telephone/message line had been created for residents to call and leave messages for their local police team. This line was for residents to pass on intelligence or information but would not replace 101 or 999 if a crime was being committed or needed to be reported.

Recommended: That the report be noted and PC Horan and PCSO Beddoes be thanked for their attendance

599/17-18. KCC COMMUNITY WARDENS REPORT.

KCC Warden Unsworth gave an update on cases he had been involved with in the area, including sub-letting, neighbour disputes, selling cars on the public highway, concerns for vulnerable adult, drugs related intelligence and anti-social behaviour.

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

600/17-18. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR VIA DARTFORD HOUSING SERVICES.

DBC Housing were unable to attend had been unable to provide a written report for the meeting.

Recommended: That the item be noted.

601/17-18. **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – SUMMER PLAN**

Members briefly discussed what steps could be taken to mitigate anti-social behaviour throughout the summer.

It was felt that the Town Councils programme of events and activities, which included youth work with teenage children, would help but that publicity was important.

Members felt that publicity leading up to the summer regarding the best methods of reporting incidents would help the police to target incidents occurring.

Recommended: That the Town Council ensure adequate publicity for both its events during the summer and promotion of reporting incidents to the police.

602/17-18. **COMMUNITY SAFETY LIAISON.**

Councillors' P C Harris and P M Harman confirmed that they intended to become Kent Police Volunteers.

Councillor P C Harris confirmed a Neighbourhood Watch conference was scheduled for 24 May 2018 in Gravesend

Councillor P M Harman informed members that at a recent meeting of the Kent Fire Authority a decision was made to invest in new smaller fire units to overcome issues of access through busy streets.

Tony Henley informed members that Dartford CSU were awaiting the result of two funding applications, one aimed at outreach workers around gangs and child exploitation and the other was hoped to increase the capacity within the CCTV unit at Dartford.

Recommended: That the information be noted.

603/17-18. **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.

Tony Henley 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 those that the public would expect.

Recommended: That the item be noted.

604/17-18. **SWANSCOMBE AND GREENHITHE TOWN COUNCIL – COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY 2018- 2021 (p).**

Members were provided with a proposed Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council Community Safety Strategy for 2018-2021 for consideration.

Members briefly discussed the merits of a strategy but felt that this should focus on an action plan that was achievable by the Town Council.

Tony Henley agreed to work directly with the Chairman to put together a strategy.

Recommended: That the document be revisited with the support of Dartford CSU.

605/17-18. **CURRENT UNRESOLVED ISSUES.**

Members were provided with updated statistics for parking enforcement for both Greenhithe and Swanscombe High Streets. Members noted an improvement at certain times within Swanscombe High Street.

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

There were no confidential items for discussion.

There being no further business to transact, the Meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

Signed _____
Chairman Date