

MINUTES of the MEETING of the COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE held at THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THE GROVE, SWANSCOMBE on WEDNESDAY 6 DECEMBER 2017 at 7.00 PM

**PRESENT:** Councillor P C Harris (Chairman)  
Councillor Mrs A E D Barham  
Councillor Ms L M Cross  
Councillor P M Harman  
Councillor D J Mote  
Councillor B R Parry  
Councillor A S Reach

**ALSO PRESENT:** Martin Harding - ATC/RFO  
Billy Unsworth - KCC Community Warden  
Sergeant Dave Crompton - Kent Police  
Kim Anderson - PCSO  
Tony Henley – Dartford Borough Council  
1 x Member of the Public

**ABSENT:** Councillor Mrs M B Kelly

**343/17-18. TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE 2017-18 YEAR.**

That Councillor P C Harris be elected Chairman of this Committee for the remainder of the 2017-18 year.

**344/17-18. TO ELECT A VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE 2017-18 YEAR.**

That Councillor Mrs L Manchester be elected Vice-Chairman of this Committee for the remainder of the 2017-18 year.

**345/17-18. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors' Mrs S P Butterfill, Ms L C Howes, Mrs L Manchester and B E Read.

**346/17-18. SUBSTITUTES.**

There were none.

**347/17-18. 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.***

Mr A Creba from Arriva buses gave a brief summary of the issues being faced with malicious damage to vehicles whilst on routes.

Members and strategic partners briefly discussed this issue and it was agreed that a further meeting, between Kent Police and Arriva, was to be arranged.

**348/17-18. ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN / MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES AND THEIR POSITION ON THE AGENDA.**

There were none.

**349/17-18. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4 OCTOBER 2017.**

**Recommended:** That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 October 2017 be confirmed and signed as a true record.

**350/17-18. POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS (PCSO) REPORT.**

Sergeant Crompton gave a brief summary of current and future operations in the area. Sergeant Crompton confirmed that a rise in theft from motor vehicles had occurred involving a group searching for open vehicle doors for access.

Crimes involving motorbikes continued but a drop had occurred in the number of snatch related burglaries, a rise had occurred for thefts of bicycles and motorbikes.

An arrest had been made in both the recent postal theft incident and the burglary from Craylands School.

**Recommended:** That the report be noted and Sergeant Crompton and PCSO Anderson be thanked for their attendance

**351/17-18. 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 worrying numbers in relation to violent crime for both areas.

Sergeant Crompton confirmed that, although the number of violent crimes was accurate it did not truly reflect the nature of crime within the area as the Police were asked to attribute lesser offences to this particular category which the public would not normally associate as a violent offence.

**Recommended:** That the item be noted.

**352/17-18. KCC COMMUNITY WARDENS REPORT.**

KCC Warden Unsworth gave an update on cases he had been involved with in the area, including several cases of abandoned vehicles, neighbour disputes, phone scams, concerns for children and vulnerable adults and stranger danger talks.

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

**353/17-18. KENT POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONERS ANNUAL POLICING SURVEY.**

Members considered the survey, and agreed that the ATC/RFO be delegated, to submit a response from the Town Council, in consultation with the Chairman.

**Recommended:** That the ATC/RFO be delegated, to submit a response from the Town Council, in consultation with the Chairman.

**354/17-18. SWANSCOMBE AND GREENHITHE TOWN COUNCIL – COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY 2017 – 2020.**

Members briefly discussed the merits of the draft document provided but, after discussion, it was felt that it would be far more appropriate to scale down the information to focus on more attainable targets.

The Chairman requested that any comments or suggestion be fed directly to himself pending a second draft.

**Recommended:** That, pending members input, the Chairman collates a second draft for consideration at a later date.

**355/17-18. CURRENT UNRESOLVED ISSUES.**

Kent County Council (KCC) Member Mr Peter Harman explained that the concerns raised regarding the large pile of wood located at Pilgrims Road had now been passed to the Environment Agency who were pursuing the matter via the landowner.

KCC Member Harman explained that the issues within Castle Hill relating anti-social behaviour by groups of youths were being monitored by all parties and that residents were being actively encouraged to report incidents by calling the Police on 101.

The Chairman requested an update on the dangerous driving occurring around St Clements Way and Crossways Boulevard in Greenhithe. Tony Henley from Dartford CSU confirmed that they were awaiting further intelligence before action could be taken.

The Chairman invited all Members to consider joining Speedwatch.

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

**356/17-18. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.**

It was proposed by Councillor P M Harman and seconded by Councillor D J Mote.

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.

**357/17-18. CONFIDENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS.**

A brief discussion was held regarding housing concerns.

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

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Chairman

Date