

STAMFORD & DISTRICT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION

Held at Barnhill Methodist Church, Stamford on Wednesday 16th January 2013 at 7 pm

PRESENT: Nick Amies – Chair (NA)
Brian Lewis (BL)
Peter Burrows – Treasurer (PB)
Liz Cooke – Minute Taker (LC)
PCSO Meela O’Neil (MO)
NHW Members - Lewis Clayton (All Saints St/St Peters Green), Caroline Billinger (Berrybut Way), Marian Whiting (Armley Grove & Woodhead), Ann & David Turner (Alexandra Road), Jeremy Ball (Welland Park), Armstrong (Fife Close), Phil Hughes (Fane Close), Geoff Lidbetter (Vence Close), Brenda Brown (Peterhouse Close).

1. WELCOME by NA and introduction of Steering Group Members and Inspector Mike Burnett (MB) and Anita Gordon of Street Pastors.

2. APOLOGIES: Caithness Road Co-ordinators (3), Richard Barry (Barn Hill) and Sue Richardson (Cliff Road)

3. Minutes of last Meeting: Agreed

4. Matters Arising: Still ongoing - money from old Crime Prevention Panel (CPP) bank account – NA has been in touch with Reg Burrell (RB) who will now contact the dormant account section of the Bank. Inspector Burnett offered to contact RB but NA will try once more. PB has received a statement of an old CPP account from a Leicester Bank showing balance of £127.03 in it.

Training on Lincs Alert – NA has been cleared by Lincs Police for access, but training still to be arranged.

Information day for new Co-ordinators - 2 co-ordinators went on 21st October and NA gave expenses claim forms out.

Expansion of NHW – We have 2 new schemes, Welland Park (Jeremy Ball) and Peeterhouse Close (Brenda Brown) with another to open in Churchill Road and perhaps another in pipeline.

Co-ordinator’s Guide – NA said this is now at Issue 1 and he has electronic form of it and will email to any coordinator who wants copy.

5. Lead Co-ordinator’s Report NA spoke about Lincs Alert and encouraged people to use it, reminded them about links on it to other websites, ie Lincolnshire Links including Stamford NHW. Pleased with new schemes and did not think we had lost any schemes. He had attended 2 Neighbourhood Panel meetings. New priority foreign lorries ignoring ban and driving through Stamford and also people “keying” cars bodywork.

From County point of view has attended a meeting and although a scheme in Lincoln has folded all others seem to be doing well. New Police & Crime Commissioner Alan Hardwick (AH); NA had attended 2 meetings he was at, including last Neighbourhood Panel and seems keen although still finding his feet. Has just issued draft policing plan although NA not read in detail yet. It talks of volunteer PCSO’s; MB expanded on this. NA hopes AH will attend next county NHW meeting.

Constitution – the county one is being reviewed.

NHW association is being represented at Lincs County Show this year in same tent as Fire and Rescue service.

Fire and Rescue service would like to be involved with NHW and give a presentation. It was suggested would be a good idea for summer meeting. Asked the meetings opinion, who agreed. One member thought he had heard they will do free fire survey on your home and

then supply and fit fire detectors if required free of charge. Direct phone no. for Community fire safety is 01522 582222.

Re window stickers- new tel. no. is 0844 8926242 or email nhwenquiries@towergate.co.uk to obtain from Towergate insurance.

New scheme - if people with dementia roam set up, carers phone organisation (Neighbourhood Return) and volunteers go for a walk round to see if can find person, if no report from volunteers within 2 hours then carers contact police. Set up in Oxfordshire and now Northants. (website www.ourturn.org.uk). People can register or volunteer now. Also re frauds – www.actionfraud.police.uk. MB expanded on this. Said there is a link to Metropolitan Police Little Book of Scams.

6. Treasurer's Report PB gave details of bank account – Expenditure £7 on hire of hall, balance £867.63. He is working with NA to get SCPP money.

7. Election of Steering Group NA asked for volunteers to take over from present members, as have been doing the jobs for at least 2 years if not longer. Zilch! Everyone was happy for present members to carry on and NA said they would for one more year. He thanked Steering Group for work done over past 2 years.

8. Police Briefing - Inspector Burnett thanked people for all they do in Stamford to help police. Said it had been an interesting year for police. The burglaries had gone up by 40/50 but since the arrest and conviction of 1 offender there had been a successful conclusion. Asked people to still ring in with any suspicions they might have as crime figures had gone down due to people ringing in. Purse thefts still carrying on but criminal damage has seen a reduction over last year. 9% reduction in crime figures. There were no questions from the floor.

MO – Said police looking at Action Days round allotment sites in Stamford – dates will be on Police website. If anything needed marking police happy to do it. This helps when person is arrested to return property to address stolen from. Had leaflets if needed and also register items at www.immobilise.com - any bikes, tv's, etc if stolen and found these can be returned quickly. NA said after a theft from his property in London few years ago he had been contacted by Essex police who had arrested someone with his property which was postcoded.

9. Street Pastors Presentation – Anita Gordon gave a short presentation on the setting up and running of Street Pastors in Stamford. Did say if you see only one of them operating let police know as they **always** go round in groups of 3 or 4. (Singletons might be impostors).

10. Any Other Business - NA had drafted a Constitution for Stamford NHW Association – everybody had a copy and having gone through it, it was decided to vote this evening and after it was proposed and seconded, it was accepted as the Constitution for Stamford, but can be amended later if necessary. Copy is attached to these Minutes.

Phil Hughes (PH) of Fane Close said his nephew had had his wallet stolen and now PH always keeps 2 wallets on his person 1 with money in and another in inside pocket with his driving licence and cards in.

NA thanked Anita Gordon and Inspector Burnett for attending the meeting and will try and get Fire and Rescue people along to next meeting.

11. Date of next Meeting for NHW co-ordinators was agreed as Wednesday 19th June 2013 at 7pm at Barn Hill. (NB: venue for this meeting may have to be changed, coordinators will be informed prior to the meeting)

Meeting closed at 8.27pm.

STAMFORD AND DISTRICT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

NAME

- 1 Stamford and District Neighbourhood Watch Association.

AIMS

- 2 The aims of the Association are:
 - 2.1 To act as a focal point for Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) schemes within the Stamford Town Neighbourhood Policing Area.
 - 2.2 To act as a link with organisations whose aim is to reduce crime and the fear of crime, and with organisations that promote community safety.
 - 2.3 Encourage the creation of NHW schemes within Stamford Town.

MEMBERSHIP

- 3 Coordinators of NHW schemes within the Stamford Town Neighbourhood Policing Area shall be considered to be members of the Association.

ADMINISTRATION

- 4 The Association shall be administered by a Steering Group consisting of a Lead Coordinator, a Secretary, a Treasurer and one other coordinator. The Stamford Town Neighbourhood Policing Team member assigned as the NHW Single Point of Contact (SPOC) shall be an ex-officio member of the Steering Group.
- 5 The Steering Group members are to be elected annually by the members of the Association.
- 6 The Steering Group is to:
 - 6.1 Organise meetings of the Association.
 - 6.2 Safeguard and administer any funds held by the Association.
 - 6.3 Publish minutes of meetings of the Association.
 - 6.4 Provide representation at meetings of:
 - Lincolnshire NHW Association.
 - Stamford Neighbourhood Panel

- Any other organisation at which the Association is invited to be represented.

MEETINGS

- 7 The Association shall meet at least twice a year. An Annual General Meeting (AGM) is to be held during January.
- 8 The agenda for meetings is to include:
 - 8.1 Minutes of previous meeting.
 - 8.2 Matters arising from those minutes.
 - 8.3 Report by the Lead Coordinator.
 - 8.4 Report by the Treasurer.
 - 8.5 Election of the Steering Group (at the AGM).
 - 8.6 Any Other Business.
- 9 Voting on proposals shall be by a show of hands by coordinators attending. In the event of a tied decision the Lead Coordinator may exercise a casting vote.
- 10 Individual members of NHW schemes may attend meetings of the Association.

DISSOLUTION

- 11 The Association may be dissolved by a resolution supported by a majority of the membership.
- 12 Any funds remaining after payment of any debts and liabilities are to be transferred to the Lincolnshire NHW Association.

REVIEW

- 13 This constitution is to be reviewed biennially by the Steering Group. Any proposed amendments are to be approved at the next AGM.