

**STAMFORD & DISTRICT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

Held at Barn Hill Methodist Church, Stamford ON 22 January 2014

PRESENT: Nick Amies – Chair (NA)
Brian Lewis (BL)
Peter Burrows – Treasurer (PB)
Liz Cooke – Minute Taker (LC)
Kirsty Taylor PCSO (KT)

Co-ordinators: Phil Hughes (Fane Close), Lewis Clayton (All Saints St/St Peters Green), Marian Whiting (Arnley Grove), Ann & David Turner (Alexandra Road), Mrs S Massingham (Caithness Road), Mrs S Pullinger (Caithness Road), Bill Anderson (Adelaide Street), Derek Bell (Guest), Brenda Brown (Peterhouse Close), C Billinger (Berrybut Way)

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – NA welcomed everyone and introduced the Steering Group Members, Kirsty Taylor PCSO standing in for David Vines, who is taking over from Meela O'Neill (MO) who has now left to go and train to become a Police Officer and Inspector Burnett.

2. **Apologies** - Sue Richardson (Cliff Road) and Pauline Troth (Conduit Road).

3. **Home Fire Safety Presentation** by Debbie Robinson (DR) of Lincolnshire Fire & Rescue – as DR had not arrived moved on to next Agenda item.

4. **Minutes of last meeting** 19.06.13 accepted.

5. **Matters Arising:** 4 [4] Crime Prevention Panel (CPP) bank account – NA explained background to this saga and said MO had, through 5 names PB had obtained, tracked down another member of the old committee (Derek Bell) and he was at the meeting and would sign the forms and, with Reg Burrell's signature as well, PB would be able to get them to the bank and arrange for the money in the old bank account to be transferred to the NHW bank account.

4[5] Lincs fire & Rescue services – see above.

5 Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) Community Fund – NA explained about this and had taken it up with the PCC and county NHW and clarified that we are able to get funds from Lincs NHW if we are short of funds at any time.

8. Dog Dirt – not a policing matter and this has been referred on to SKDC. Any other matters similar to this should be referred to SKDC.

3. **Home Fire Safety Presentation** - at 7.10 pm DR had arrived (parking problems) – gave a very interesting and informative talk on free fire safety checks, gave out booklets and forms for Co-ordinators to ask members if they wished to have checks done. NA thanked DR at the end of her talk and said it was most useful.

6. **Lead Co-ordinator's Report** – NA said at last meeting there were 64 schemes registered in Stamford on Lincs Alert, but checking recently there were only 61 – 5 (of which 1 was the Police station) had gone and there were 2 new schemes (Edward Close and Belvoir Close). Others gone - part Empingham Road, Stirling Road and Shelley Close.

Re Lincs Alert – NA now cleared to put messages on, sends out 45 emails and 14 voicemails but only has acknowledgement from 7 voicemails. He also puts News, Agenda and Minutes on Lincolnshire NHW Association website

Neighbourhood Policing Panel – NA is on the Panel, said it is disappointing how few people attend. Discussion and decided it could be because it is the wrong time at 6.30pm. Insp Burnett will look into changing the time and urged people to attend. NA had attended July, Oct and January meetings. Theft of catalytic converters are the latest priority for Police, ASB seems to have quietened down, possibly because of weather. NA said someone had complained about speeding in Stamford and Police had arranged for a system called “Archer” to be installed in Kings Road with interesting results. Next meeting is at Queen Eleanor School on 8th April at 6.30pm.

NA also attended meeting of County NHW at Sleaford. Had attended AGM on 7.11.13 and talk had been a recruitment campaign for police volunteers. PCC has set himself a target of 1000 people supporting police. NA did raise the question of funding for NHWs as reported above. They are also planning to have an Information Day at Nettleham for existing Co-ordinators in April. No other info yet. Assistance with transport costs by Stamford NHW could be given for cars of 4 at 20p a mile. Also said although we have a Constitution, County have still not fixed theirs although NA had suggested one.

Said we have a page on Lincs NHW Association website (www.lincolnshireneighbourhoodwatch.co.uk) and Minutes etc on it. He hoped to get all archives on there eventually. Grantham and Sleaford also have pages. Query about sending emails to NA.

Window Stickers are now being sponsored by Master Locksmith Association and available from Gillian Fleet on 01522 558131 or nhw@lincs.pnn.police email.

Regularly receiving items from Lincolnshire Police and National NHW for people on line and PCSO had forms for joining Lincs Alert. NA informed meeting about useful items received recently.

7. Treasurer’s Report – Income Nil, expenditure £60.60 (transport and hiring of hall) making a balance of £807.03. Hopes to have CPP funds in account next time of £127.00. Query about expenditure in the coming year and this will probably be the same as this year. PB will inform NA when CPP funds received.

8. Election of Steering Group – According to constitution need to have 4 people to arrange meetings and go to County meetings. Lead Co-ordinator to chair meetings and represent Association; need a Secretary, Treasurer and 4th person to deputise if anyone unavailable. NA and LC standing down but PB and BL willing to continue. NA said if no Steering Group there will be no District Association. No current coordinators volunteered. Discussion about jobs involved. NA suggested calling an EGM in one month’s time with Agenda “Future of Stamford NHW” which was agreed. Meeting to be on Wednesday 26th February 2014 at 7pm at Barn Hill Church if BL can book it. (Sec note – booked).

9. Police Briefing Insp Burnett thanked NA and LC for all their work and said NHW members are very useful to police with information of people in their road. Very grateful to people who ring them. Said a good detection rate is 38% and Stamford’s is 28%. Had massive reduction in burglaries and also theft of motor vehicles. Police would be struggling without help of NHW. Said Police would appreciate it if meetings continued. Said ¾% reduction in crime last year and most people involved are not local. Thanked NHW for all the work they had done.

PCSO Kirsty Taylor said new to this area although she has helped here before. Said there is only one team now instead of town and country; 4 PCSO’s at moment and may be another member in May. Talked about catalytic converter thefts and said people should try and not make it easy for thieves to get onto drives etc to cut them off. Insp B suggested people ring

Sally Picker at Grantham for advice. New information will be put on Lincs Alert. Please ring Police if see anything suspicious. KT said Lincs alert messages had all details of PCSO's on and email address.

10. **Any Other Business** – Bill Anderson asked how to get interest for volunteers. NA would put things on Lincs Alert until someone else is trained up. Insp B suggested there should be a Lead and Assistant Lead and team of 4 not required. This did not seem feasible as Constitution says team of 4 which includes a Treasurer and Secretary.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm.