



HARINGEY ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCHES

MINUTES OF THE HANHW AGM & QUARTERLY MEETING

Civic Centre, Wood Green

26th May 2016 at 7pm

Present:

Jennifer Bell (A/Chair), PC Jared Bowers (Guest Speaker), PC Chris Palumbo (Guest Speaker), Insp Liam Tierney (Guest Speaker), Adebisi Awoniyi, Martin Ball, Christine Barnwell, Deanna Bogdanovic, Celia Bower, Pat Bromley, Jenny Buzzard, Mike Dark, Yvonne Denny, Ruth Edwards, Friedrich Ernst, Renee Fletcher, Lesley Flynn, Patrick Flynn, Margaret Fowler, Pranabesh Ganguly, Jackie Goodwin, Phil Goodwin, Anke Holst, Martin Iles, Tony Jackson, Rhonda Lewis, Joe Mandell, Liisa McDougall, Cllr. Peter Mitchell, Sally Mustoe, Ray Parker, Mary Rawitzer, Vivian Rogers, Viv Sharma, Caroline Starke, Pauline Syddell, Ian Sygrave, Peter Thompson, Sharon Tully, John Walters, Reg White, Alan Whitehouse, Simon Zachariou

Apologies received from:

Ellenor Anwyl, Joe Boyle, Ann Bronkhurst, Gemma Dawson, Richard Green, Lauritz Hansen-Bay, Sheryl Hendrickson, Wendy Hill, Mary Holtby, Gillian Kilby, Cllr. Claire Kober, Arthur Leigh, Brian Livingston, Susan Mears, Olivia Montuschi, Joan Morrison, Cllr. Sheila Peacock, Cllr. Lorna Reith, Vivienne Rochester-Clarke, Joyce Rosser, Jacqueline Servat, Chris Sharpe, Judith Steiner, Nick Summers, Fred Williams

1. Welcome - Acting Chair Jennifer Bell

Welcome to all Neighbourhood Watch coordinators/members and Friends of Parks, especially members of the eleven new Watches that have formed since our last meeting in January: meeting held in January, eleven new Watches have started:

Cholmeley Crescent
Milton Avenue
Jackson's Lane
Stellar House

Trulock Road
Almond Road
Manor Road
Churston Gardens

Holmesdale Road
Winchelsea Road
Elmar Road

2. Minutes of the last meeting held on 28th January 2016:

- Minutes from the last meeting were agreed.

3. AGM Business:

a) Chair's report, presented by acting Chair Jennifer Bell

Activities 2015-2016:

- Committee has worked hard this year. A few of the things we have been up to:
 - Organising our Neighbourhood Watch (NW) Quarterly Meetings, which have some of the highest attendance of any regular meeting in Haringey.
 - Promoting Haringey NW activities
 - Organising Ducketts Common Community Fun Day for families/children
 - Contributing to a summer event in Paighton Park
 - Successful bid for £11,000 of funding enabling us to purchase NHW Window Stickers, NHW Street Signs, Purse Cables (cables attached to purses and handbags for safety), SmartWater for vulnerable residents (complimenting the MPS Met Trace initiative).
 - This money will not appear on the NW accounts as the funding was paid direct to the suppliers.
- 15 new Watches started from April 2015 to March 2016.
- Publicity from Operation Big Wing Day has generated x 10 Watches in two months.
- Big Wing is an operation where officers target a specific crime type such as mobile phone theft and fly tipping, offer safety advice to residents in Haringey and engage with local businesses to make ensure the law is being observed.
- Special thanks to Pauline for helping to start these new Watches and sustaining them.
- We now have 312 Watches across Haringey Borough.

b) Treasurer's report:

- Our Lloyds Bank Account balance is currently £94.
- Only one transaction has been made during the last twelve months, which was a deposit of £20 transferred from the tea/coffee petty cash.
- The Petty Cash in hand amounts to £68.89; this money is donated by members for refreshments at meetings. It is used to pay out of pocket expenses for tea, coffee, biscuits etc.

c) Election of the new committee:

The committee stood down.

The names of all coordinators standing for election/re-election were read out by Pauline: Christine Barnwell, Jennifer Bell, Jenny Buzzard, Yvonne Denny, Friedrich Ernst, Lauritz Hansen-Bay, Gillian Kilby, Arthur Leigh, Ian Sygrave, Fred Williams.

All were proposed, seconded and unanimously voted by a show of hands to serve on the committee for the next year.

4. Guest Speakers: PC Chris Palumbo (Counter Terrorism) and PC Jared Bowers (Protective Security): 'Operation Fairway' (hostile reconnaissance / terrorism)

a) Counter Terrorism

- Every Borough has a Counter Terrorism Team.
- PC Palumbo works for Operation Haringey – an intelligence gathering unit.
- The team relies on the community to give them intelligence.
- Project Griffin is an example of an initiative whereby the team talks to people (public, staff, businesses) about firearms & weapons attacks (i.e. what to do in an attack involving firearms).
- The team works with job centres and talks to chemists (e.g. about selling peroxide), retailers (e.g. to discuss crime in the area).
- At the moment, Wood Green is the CSZ (Community Security Zone). CSZs draw together representatives of the local community to give advice and information on issues within counter terrorism that are relevant to both individuals and businesses.
- Tottenham Hale will be the next CSZ in a few weeks' time.
- Shopping Centres are 'soft targets' for criminals.
- Nearer Christmas, the team will set up stalls in Shopping Centres in order to give tips and speak with the public about counter terrorism security during the holidays.
- The team have a specified vehicle solely responsible 24/7 for dealing with calls that come in reporting activity connected to terrorism. The vehicle carries various equipment that might be required to respond to such reports.
- The team reviews intelligence reports to see what needs to be done/what action needs to be taken and may also look at the rubbish people throw away to gain intelligence information.
- The team are able to give presentations/workshops to companies. If you work for a company, contact Chris if you want them to talk to your employer/staff. They can train staff and give presentations on current threat (e.g. bombs, personal threat – social network) and how to respond.
- Email chris.palumbo@met.police.uk or call landline at work 0208 345 1874.

b) Protective Security

- This team is based in Scotland Yard and support officers like PC Palumbo in their role.
- What is Counter Terrorism? It is a strategy to protect us from a terrorist attack.
- The aim is to Prevent, Pursue, Protect and Prepare – the 'Four Pillars'.
- Prevent – prevent people from becoming terrorists (i.e. from becoming radicalised). Not every Borough has a 'Prevent Officer'.
- Pursue – to stop terrorist attacks.
- Protect – to protect against an attack and make people more aware.
- Prepare – to mitigate the impact of an attack.

- Common, top 3 threats – International (biggest threat), Domestic, Irish Republican Army (IRA).
- A ‘Montage of Threats Presentation’ was shown. Events in Turkey, Paris were highlighted from the news, however many more are not highlighted by the media.
- There are 5 threat levels. These indicate the likelihood of a terrorist attack in the UK:
 - Low - an attack is unlikely
 - Moderate - an attack is possible but not likely
 - Substantial - an attack is a strong possibility
 - Severe - an attack is highly likely
 - Critical - an attack is expected imminently
- At the moment we are at ‘Severe’ for International threat because we are expecting something to happen in the UK.
- Once we get to Critical, it’s too late – an attack has already happened.
- There is a domestic IRA threat, however this is a threat towards our military, not the general public.
- The threat level is set by the Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre and the Security Service (MI5).
- Threat levels don’t have an expiry date. They can change at any time as different information becomes available to security agents.
- Terrorists are less sophisticated these days (e.g. using blunt force weapons). They want swift, easy, cheap action.
- They publish magazines; they tell followers to stab random people. It’s no longer about the big explosions, but easy publicity.
- Terrorists target large overpopulated/crowded areas.
- Because counter-terrorism is not in the news every day, people are only made aware of attacks that happen after they’ve happened. Then the question is “why was nothing done?”
- **Hostile Reconnaissance** – where a terrorist ‘does their homework’. They visit and research potential targets. (E.g. where are the cameras in a shopping centre? How many security guards? What are the shopping centre opening hours?).
- Terrorists look for weak spots, identify targets, determine the best method of attack/time and carry out their plan.
- The public sees suspicious behaviour, but might not recognise it as ‘suspicious’ or may not want to report it. Anything you deem suspicious should be reported. Small things can help put a bigger picture together. Contact numbers that are provided for the public to report suspicious activity ensure anonymity.
- A film clip was shown detailing what could be deemed as suspicious behaviour.
- It’s not about identifying a suspicious ‘person’ but suspicious ‘activity’.
- **Q:** Do staff get training? E.g. when there is an event at Finsbury Park, the security officers do not look like they have training.

- **A:** When there are big events on the borough that require appropriate training, everyone gets trained – event organisers, the acts, stewards. Our team works with these individuals.
- **Q:** Do police officers themselves get updated training?
- **A:** Yes, PC Palumbo delivers direct training herself – both internally and externally.
- **Q:** How is it that people are able to buy fire trucks/ambulances online E.g. through eBay? Why are old ones disposed of badly? Some people purchase these items for stag do's/hen nights etc. Why not strip it down so that it's not evident what the vehicle used to be. People should be heavily fined if they are breaking the law in this respect, if they are using these types of vehicles badly.
- **A:** Your concern is understandable. Ambulances get re-used for foreign aid purposes – so there is a benefit. We have been telling the force to validate IDs (e.g. exert stop and search) and appropriately reprimand people where the law is being broken.
- Check out a clip on YouTube called: '**Run Hide Tell**' – what to do should you be caught up in a firearms attack.

5. Guest Speaker: Police Inspector Liam Tierney, North Cluster SNT

- Police Inspector Tierney handed out a Volunteer Award to minute-taker Renée Fletcher for her contributions to the Haringey Neighbourhood Watch Association.
- The latest Body-Worn Video cameras will start to be used by officers in the next month or so.
- Before this initiative was implemented it was piloted in other boroughs (e.g. Camden, Brent).
- Officers press the camera to start recording. The camera records 20 seconds before officers press the button – to help set the scene (this 20 seconds is logged in the cameras memory).
- Officers are unable to edit and delete footage and evidence is held for 31 days.
- Usage of the cameras are interest specific e.g. stopping and searching of motor vehicles, road traffic incidents, assaults.
- Footage helps Magistrates determine what charges to give an offender.
- The data on the camera is hosted on an internal server, is securely stored, and is shared electronically.
- The camera is not used for covert operations.
- The aim is to secure more prosecutions for offending behaviour and to decrease complaints.
- **Q:** Retention of footage - if an offender wants a copy of the video, is he/she able to get a copy?
- **A:** Yes, they can procure this. If someone can justify people who may not have been directly involved in the case (e.g. a sister) getting a copy of video, then maybe this can be shared. In cases of sexual offence, video footage is not shared.

- **Q:** Are the cameras bulky? Are they easy to remove/grab?
- **A:** People have tried for two years at Brent Borough (pilot Borough) to remove the cameras to no avail. They are robust.
- **Q:** Have there been circumstances where the camera was worn and people got shot or acted in a covert way because of the camera?
- **A:** People can feel threatened.
- **Q:** On a hot day, would officers feel comfortable chasing after someone in the heat with this additional layer?
- **A:** We wear quite a bit of kit already.
- **Q:** Is there a facility to wear high vis jackets with the cameras?
- **A:** Yes other kit can be worn at the same time.
- **Q:** Does this camera automatically record?
- **A:** Once an officer presses the button to record, the camera knows automatically that it has to store the information.
- **Q:** What's the decision on when to stop recording?
- **A:** When the offender is arrested.
- **Q:** What are the circumstances around recording? Is it the case that there are some incidents officers must record, and they use their judgement for anything else?
- **A:** Officers don't need to be aggressive. If they see people engaging in suspicious behaviour that they may not want to necessarily challenge, they can simply walk past while recording. Female assault victims might not want to give evidence, but officers can still show their face. A decision needs to be made about what to record.
- **Q:** What is the distance for recording?
- **A:** The closer the better. Better interactions, speaking with people, stop and search. There is nothing to stop someone filming the police officer who is also filming.
- **Q:** Once you press the button to start recording, do you say that you're recording?
- **A:** Yes, we do say that we are recording. Sometimes it's not possible to relay that you are recording (e.g. if an offender is being aggressive).
- **Q:** How do you quantify success of the use of this technology? Do you have statistics to show evidence of success?
- **A:** At this time we cannot say. It's still early stages.
- **Q:** Does this technology cost a lot of money? How is it funded?
- **A:** Through the police budget. Members think it's a good idea because one cannot argue with video.
- **Q:** Are there plans to quantify the effect that this technology has had?
- **A:** It's difficult to tell so far. There are upcoming plans, however we need to work on implementing a quantitative approach.



NEXT MEETING
Thursday 22nd September at 7pm
Civic Centre, Wood Green, N22