



HARINGEY ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCHES

MINUTES OF THE **HANHW AGM** Civic Centre, Wood Green 27th April 2017 at 7pm

Present:

Ian Sygrave (A/Chair)

Guest speakers: Police Chief Superintendent Helen Millichap, Kenny Wilks (LBH), Stelakis Vachos (Veolia)

Roldolfo Alvarez, Martin Ball, Christine Barnwell, Karl Biddle, Pat Bromley, Angeline Burke, Jenny Buzzard, Jackie Chorley, Faruk Choudhury, Rita Cottridge, Ron Dalliday, Lynn Eastman, Friedrich Ernst, Lesley Flynn, Pat Flynn, Jackie Goodwin, Lauritz Hansen-Bay, Wendy Hill, Mary Holtby, Martin Iles, Tony Jackson, Eric Jury, Debbie Lambrou, Panayiotis Lambrou, Arthur Leigh, Rhonda Lewis, Eustace McKnight, Anna Muller, Iglia Nikolova, Hitesh Oza, Ayer Ozinel, Mary Rawitzer, Stephen Rigg, Joyce Rosser, Adrienne Rudkin, Jacqueline Sevat, Ruby Smallin, Gail Stean, Pauline Syddell, Robert Thairn, Susan Tully, Julie Vanstone, John Walters, Mark Watson, Alan Whitehouse, Michael Williams, Sharon Wood, Simon Zachariou.

Apologies received from:

Percy Aggett, Alison Atkinson, Jennifer Bell, Tulika Byce, Cllr. Sarah Elliott, Renee Fletcher, David Gosnell, Richard Green, Geoff Hunt, Cllr. Amin Kaushika, Gillian Kilby, Cllr. Toni Mallett, Liisa McDougall, Susan Mears, Cllr. Peter Mitchell, Joan Morrison, Sally Mustoe, Cllr. Sheila Peacock, Nicola Pogson, Cllr. Lorna Reith, Vivienne Rochester-Clarke.

1. Welcome - Acting Chair Ian Sygrave

- Ian welcomed all Neighbourhood Watch members, Friends of Parks, Councillors and guests
- Explained that this was the AGM and that after our first guest, CS Millichap, there would be an annual Chair's report and finance report presented, followed by election of a new committee.
- Ian asked that any coordinator who is interested in joining the committee, speak to Pauline before the election takes place.

2. Minutes of the last meeting held on 19th January 2017

- Minutes from the last meeting were agreed.
- Matters arising: Mary Rawitzer and Pam Furse noted that they attended the last meeting on the 19th January but were not shown on the minutes.

3. Guest Speaker: Haringey Police Borough Commander, Chief Superintendent Helen Millichap

This was Helen's first attendance at a Haringey Association of Neighbourhood Watches (HANHW) meeting and she was impressed by the number of people attending and praised the "flourishing network". She went on to say that she was here for a conversation rather than a presentation.

Helen is a Londoner. She lives in Tower Hamlets and has two children. She has worked in Newham, Camden, Islington and Hackney and has done a short stint in Counter Terrorism. Helen likes borough policing. She wanted to say thank you – Neighbourhood Watch really does prevent crime. Although difficult to count success, the National Statistics show that Neighbourhood Watch does keep crime down and since 2010 there has been an incremental reduction in burglaries in Haringey.

Acknowledges that in areas with large numbers of Neighbourhood Watches, the DWOs are not able to get around to see them as regularly as they would like.

The priority is crime prevention and building close relationships with all organisations that can help to keep crime down.

Some boroughs will be merging policing for example: Havering with Barking and Redbridge and Camden with Islington.

Haringey will probably merge with Enfield borough next year; Helen has applied for the job of running the merged Haringey/Enfield borough.

There will be two dedicated Police Officers and one PCSO for each Ward.

Action: collaborate with Pauline to point out the areas where Neighbourhood Watch is less active.

Q Haringey NHW has 17,000 or more members. It is the largest community organisation in Haringey. Are there any plans to expand the distribution of information?

A Helen: What services are available? How do you get them? Is there anything that you think is a gap?

Q I have a disabled neighbour who was being harassed. He came to me as he doesn't know where to go to get help.

Q My wife works in Victim Support and has found that people don't know where they can get help. To what extent are you thinking about using volunteers to direct people to the relevant organisations that can help?

A Helen: We need to think about how to gather knowledge and how to get it into the network. I will chat with Pauline about this. We do have a volunteer network but it would be good to recruit more.

Q In Hackney there are street patrols with AIA security officers equipped with radios linked to the police in case of trouble. Can we have something similar here?

Helen: This may be a Business Improvement Initiative. If so, we are thinking of using this in Wood Green. I will look into it.

Q Can Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) be added to the question concerning the problem of who to contact and get help. Contacting the council to talk to someone takes hours, and then my wife was told that they couldn't help with serious ongoing ASB, and that she had to talk to the landlord about it.

Helen – The problem is that even if you put the ASB number in the newsletter, it won't change the time it takes to get an answer. Call the police.

Q Coordinator from Ferme Park Road asked to speak to Helen after the meeting.

Helen: I am sorry but I do have to leave straight away but can arrange to speak another time.

Q Have you heard of Dog Watch? It's used in the Royal Parks. Dog walkers are a great source of information. We're on the ground and see what's going on.

Helen: Are you a dog walker? Would you be willing to come and talk to us?

– Yes, I we can look into this.

Q – We're one of the Neighbourhood Watches around Finsbury Park. There's a lot of drug dealing, youths in the children's playground, Mums being intimidated. We need more resources to combat this.

Helen: Where do you hear this?

– From book clubs and other groups as well as grandparents and Neighbourhood Watches. People are raising the issue of the playground (on Endymion Rd) and drug dealing there.

Helen: We need more intelligence; people to report this sort of activity to the police.

Ian: – Finsbury Park falls in Harringay Ward and obviously this is too big an area for the SNT to deal with on its own. However, there are other resources available such as the Specials.

Pauline: There are up to 10 Specials Police officers, who are volunteers that patrol parks. Parks patrolled are decided on crimes statistics and reported concerns.

Q: Traffic offences – speeding hotspots, including Lordship Lane. What's being done about it?

Helen: If an officer sees speeding, they should deal with it. This is also dealt with by the Specials and Safer Transport Officers.

We need to know specific hotspots to send officers there.

Pauline: You can help by getting involved with RoadWatch, which is a community engagement initiative by the Safer Transport Team. Working along side an officer you will be using a hand held speed gun and recording speeds and car registration numbers.

- One member noted that he had taken part in RoadWatch yesterday and in one hour noted 88 vehicles speeding.

Ian: NHW members were invited to fill in a survey concerning the things that bothered them in their neighbourhood. The highest concerns were:

- Street lighting
- Drug dealing
- Men outside betting shops
- Dangerous driving/Speeding

An analysis of the survey, and recommendations, will be available shortly.

Q: Is there some enforcement to stop using the phone while driving?

Helen: We can't just send police out to do just that

Q: Can we take the number plate?

Helen: It would be difficult to make the offence stick. Police need to witness this. I believe you are able to report incidents/number plates online. There's no harm in passing on info about offenders. It helps.

Pauline: There is a facility to report traffic incidents on the new police website. I did send this information out, but will send out again.

Q: Lots of boroughs brought in 20 mph speed limits but we need more advertising to make people aware.

Q: What about cyclists?

Helen: Cyclists will very rarely ride at more than 20 mph.

Q: The transport police have brought out new enforcement: if driving at 50 mph in a 20 mph zone you could lose your license. It would be good to advertise this.

Q: It's good that you're here, but if you look around we are not really representative of our communities. This borough is known as an angry borough.

Helen: One of our priorities is speaking in schools. Primary schools are full of the next generation of young people. We want to engage with head teachers of primary schools to encourage kids to see us as safe, friendly public servants.

We have 12 officers running the Ubuntu programme; 25 young people around a table with police officers. We are in Broadwater Farm speaking to residents. We want to build a good reputation and change the way young people see us. It is slow work, but engaging with young people is one of my top priorities.

Ian: On behalf of the meeting, Ian thanked Helen for her attendance, and warmly welcomed her commitment to attend again in the future.

4. AGM

Ian – The committee members work hard to come up with ideas for these meetings. If you have ideas, whether for themes or guest speakers, please get in touch with Pauline.

Thanks to Arthur who does the website

Thanks to Friends of Parks and the nearby Neighbourhood Watches who keep an eye on our parks.

Pauline helped to set up 16 new Watches during the past year up to March 2017. I would like to thank all the work and support of our Neighbourhood Watches.

To date the number of Watches in Haringey stands at 311, and since our last meeting in January, seven new Watches have started:

Bancroft Avenue

Boundary Road (east)

Montague Road

Sirdar Road

Stonebridge Road

Thetford Close

Wellfield Avenue.

A warm welcome if anyone is here for the first time from these new Watches.

Christine, treasurer – At the beginning of the year we had £91.92. In February 2017, a further £50 was banked from the petty cash bringing the closing balance to £141.92.

In addition, we currently have £41.14 in our petty cash and our only expenditure was £14.99, paid to committee webmaster Arthur Leigh for the hosting of the Association's website.

Election of committee members.

Pauline asked all coordinators present to ensure they had a pink voting paper. Then asked all nominees to stand up and introduce themselves.

All nominees were elected by unanimous show of hands by attending coordinator.

Coordinators elected to serve on the 2017-18 committee are:

Christine Barnwell

Friedrich Ernst

Arthur Leigh

Jennifer Bell

Lauritz Hansen-Bay

Ian Sygrave

Jenny Buzzard

Gillian Kilby

Fred Williams

5. Guest speakers:

Kenny Wilks, Street Enforcement Manager (Council)

Stelakis Vachos, Contract Manager Street Cleaning (Veolia)

Apologies: **Zoe Robertson**, Head of commissioning and client services (Council) – but she did prepare a presentation.

Kenny Wilks

I started as a dustman 30 years ago. Before coming to Haringey, I worked in a neighbouring borough. I was surprised at the amount, and regularity, of stuff dumped, especially as Haringey collects large items for free.

Born in Kilburn, I remember Mum cleaning the street in front of our house. There was a local community and civic pride then, which appears to be missing now. We are also living in a throwaway society.

Fly tipping – the blight on our streets. Community Safety and Enforcement

- Tipper van shown on CCTV unloading waste onto the street; the offender has removed his number plates to avoid detection. Investigations are on-going.
- Fly tipping; rubbish searched for evidence; there was nothing found to identify the owners of the rubbish. Veolia had to clear it up at a cost running into thousands of pounds.

There are more than 12 unlicensed people operating that the council are aware of. They use crew cab vans, which can carry a driver and three passengers. If you see one, let us know where.

Anti dumping fencing: Buller Road:

Photos shown of Buller Road. The first shows the corner of the road piled high with rubbish. The second shows the clean corner protected by a two-piece temporary fence.

A car regularly brought stuff to dump here so Veolia put up a Heras fence. There has been no dumping since. Spoke to residents to say that there is a £400 penalty if caught dumping there.

Fly tipping in Gladstone Mews:

A bit of luck with this one – they left the delivery note with the pallet. The business was issued with a £400 fixed penalty notice for fly tipping

Residents in Gladstone Mews didn't have bins so we issued bins for them and the area is now better.

Before that there were drugs and even human waste. People very rarely leave an address in the rubbish but here there was a delivery note for a car wash in West Green. We issued a fixed penalty notice of £400. If they don't want to pay it will go to court and the magistrate will deal with it.

On Good Friday a restaurant put out 3 rubbish bags; on Saturday 2 more bags, on Monday 3 more bags. We found an address and returned the rubbish to their steps and tied it on. It will cost the business £1200.

How you can help:

- **Information.** If you see or hear anything, please let us know, even the little details can help us. Useful things are a description of the offender, a name, address, description of any vehicles involved – such as model, make, colour and registration – even information on which direction they came from and left in.

- **Evidence.** Without details like the above, the person reporting the fly-tip would need to have witnessed the rubbish being dumped and be prepared to provide a witness statement.
- **Photographs.** Images of the dumped rubbish are a huge help in putting a case together for prosecution.
- **Quick tip-offs.** If you see someone fly-tipping, or spot a fly-tip that wasn't there before, let us know the time and date as soon as possible and we could track them down.

You can send information to Kenny in the strictest confidence. Or dial 101 if you see fly tipping taking place as it is a criminal offence.

What we do

- **£400 fines.** This is the highest we are allowed to give. We've raised this from £80.
- **Get stuck in:** Come rain or shine, our enforcement officers trawl through fly-tips for information that could lead to a fine or conviction.
- **Examine CCTV.** We do have CCTV in some locations, but it's not a silver bullet and we can't put cameras everywhere. Surveillance takes up a huge amount of time and is often costly and unfruitful. Even when crooks are spotted on CCTV, they take steps to avoid identification. There are also restrictions on how we use evidence gathered on CCTV.
- **Cost** – It costs a business £1.50 to dispose of one bag of waste. A lot of businesses don't have a contract for waste disposal so put bags out for Veolia. Before the fine was only £80, not big enough to put them off. Now the £400 fine helps. CCTV is useful but expensive and needs an operative to direct the camera. This afternoon we saw a demonstration of a new CCTV which is cheaper and portable.
- **Designing out.** There are fly-tipping hotspots across the borough that we are boarding up. Within hours of us clearing sites, they are filled again. This aims to solve that problem.
- **Visit cards.** When we clear a fly-tip we let the locals know by leaving cards at their homes.
- **Crime scene tape.** Fly-tipping is a crime, if you dump rubbish we will treat you like a criminal.
- **Posters.** We want to make it clear that fly-tipping is not acceptable.
- **Joint work with police.** Together we have more chance of tracking the crooks down.
- We have put crime scene tape around a tip to show that fly tipping is a crime.
- We have a poster showing a real CCTV image of people fly-tipping.

Kenny Wilks

Street Enforcement Manager

kenny.wilks@haringey.gov.uk

Stelakis Vachos Contract Manager Street Cleaning (Veolia)

- There is a team of seven managers and 170 staff.
- We have an overview of fly-tipping: statistics and resources.
- From 1 Jan to 31 March 2017 there were 5,500 incidents. These vary from black bags to huge piles.
- We knock on a lot of doors. The feedback makes us pretty sure who is responsible but people aren't comfortable reporting them.
- There are 17,000 members of the Neighbourhood Watch who may or may not see who could be dumping. We need your help.

- It takes 12 people every day to collect this waste and a large proportion of the expense is the gate fee at the recycling centres.
- The average wait for us to pick up a fly-tip is three hours.

Overview on Fly-tipping

Haringey has historically had a high level of fly-tipping across the borough. The severity varies by area/post code but is a constant blight on our streets. Below is an overview of the last three months' reported fly tips in LB Haringey

- Resident reported clearances: 2613
- Veolia pro-active clearances: 2722

Veolia have a Service Level Agreement (SLA) to remove all reported fly-tips within 6h/24h depending on where the waste is reported. Main roads are 6 hours and residential roads are 24 hours.

- Average time for removal from main roads across the borough is 5.3 hours
- Average time for removal from all other roads across the borough is 18.5 hours

There will be certain dumps that may remain on the highway for longer. This could be because investigations into the dump are being carried out or the dump is too large for our normal teams to remove. We then deploy a grab lorry to remove the waste.

We pick up from the top ten hot spots 2 to 3 times per week.

How to report fly-tipping

There are many ways that residents can report fly-tipping to Veolia. Below are the best options to ensure that Veolia can carry out speedy removal. There are 2 X apps that link directly to Haringey Council services:

- Our Haringey App: www.haringey.gov.uk/contact/report-it/our-haringey
- Love Clean Streets App: lovecleanstreets.com/reports/home

You can contact Veolia directly on:

- Tel: 020 8885 7700 (Mon-Fri 08.30 – 17.30)
- Email: enquiries.haringey@veolia.com

Ian: It's a minor miracle that you manage to deal with the immense amount of tipping with your limited resources. It seems to me that one of the main sources of dumping/rubbish is HMOs (Houses in Multiple Occupancy), and rogue landlords. There should be very close links between the licensing and registration of properties and their track record on dumping, especially in front 'gardens'. Licences should be reduced in length (forcing a new application) or revoked (in the case of serious repeat offenders).

Q: I'm concerned that people will be charged for green waste which will produce more fly-tipping.

Kenny: The other boroughs that have brought this in say that there is an increase at the beginning that we will have to deal with but that it will settle down later – hopefully.

Q: Are we going to be charged for green waste?

Ian: Yes, and big items too. This is a relatively recent decision, and we do not, as yet, have a start date.

Q: Can you not just close businesses that keep dumping?

Kenny: I think we should but it's down to educating them. Worth considering. One shop has 4 fixed notice penalties. If they're not fit and proper persons (which they're not as they are repeat offenders) we can apply to take their alcohol licence away.

Q: Another pet hate is people throwing stuff out of car windows.

Kenny: A lady cyclist reported a van driver who threw a banana skin out of the window. She took his number plate and logo. She phoned the company who disciplined/fined the driver and gave him a warning.

Q: I don't think there's enough publicity; I think there are people out there who genuinely don't know

Kenny: There is publicity on the side of the bin lorries. The council isn't that good at communicating. They will be using pictograms for non-English speakers which are quite clear.

Q: On our road people put furniture outside their garden wall on the pavement – cardboard and plastic too. I have to clean my garden of food brought in by foxes.

Kenny: There's a good poster in Bounds Green of a fox at night opening a black bag.

Q: A neighbour put out two mattresses. She got quite shirty when I asked if she'd phoned Veolia. I saw a rat burrowing into the mattresses.

Q: I saw a man in a car about to dump rubbish. I said you can't dump here because there's CCTV watching. I told him to follow me and took him to the Tottenham recycling site.

Kenny: Download App. Take photo.

On one occasion we found evidence in fly tipped rubbish, we visited the resident who told us that the rubbish had been put out correctly in their black bins, not dumped.

Warning - People go through black bins looking for clothes to sell or any document showing identity. If they find a bank statement, they can sell it for use in identity fraud. Don't put bags next to bins.

6. A.O.B

Saturday 15th July: The Ducketts Common Community Fun Day.

Please come along! Pauline will be sending out further details nearer the time

Because of this, the next HANW meeting will be delayed until September.

**NEXT MEETING
September 2017 (date tbc)
Civic Centre, Wood Green, N22**