

HARINGEY ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCHES

MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING & AGM

Civic Centre, Wood Green

11th June 2013

Present:

Ian Sygrave (Vice Chair), Borough Commander Victor Olisa, Inspector Tracy Tempest, Martin Ball, Eric Beck, Jennifer Bell, Jim Cassins, Lesley Flynn, P Flynn, Margaret Fowler, Maggie Gennin, Cllr. Gibson, Bhaiben Gijha, Shantanu Guha, Lauritz Hansen-Bay, Anselm Hartley, Wendy Hill, Mary Holtby, Eric Jury, Ulla Lefmann, Catherine MacArthur, Joel Mandell, Agnes Miller, Sally Mustoe, Kathleen Nyland, Gretta Sweeney, Pauline Syddell, Julie Vanstone, Cllr. Ann Waters, Cllr. Lyn Weber.

Apologies received from:

Councillors: Khan, Kober, Peacock, Reece, Reid, Reith, Schmitz and Whyte. Elizabeth Adams, Joseph Boyle, Gillian Kilby, Arthur Leigh, Susan Mears, Joan Morrison, Nicola Pogson, Mary Rawitzer, Vivien Rodgers, Jacqueline Servat, Mei Wang, Fred Ellis, Richard Gardner.

1. Introductions:

The Chair welcomed all & introduced panel of guest speakers.

2. Approval of Last Minutes – 4th March 2013.

2.1 The minutes of the last Quarterly Association Meeting and AGM (4th March 2013) were accepted.

Proposed: Jim Cassins **Seconded:** Lauritz Hansen-Bay.

3. Guest Speaker: Mr Victor Olisa, Chief Superintendent, Haringey Police Borough Commander

Mr Olisa welcomed all and gave a brief resume of his career. He served in Bexley for 10 months, before that worked on Stop and Search and also led the Professionalism Team. Prior to that, was 3 years in Met Police.

The intention is to work in Haringey for at least the next 2 years.

The Commander said that although Haringey police officers work a 24 hour shift system, it is difficult for his officers to keep all 250K residents safe, so it is important for NW members to look out for each other and work with the police to prevent and deter crime in our borough. He is pleased that NW is going from strength to strength in Haringey and with members doing invaluable work.

He reported an 18% reduction in vehicle crime last year.

Question & Answer Session with action points:

Q: How to improve the stance of NW as they are still broadly seen to be curtain twitchers

A: nosy neighbours are good neighbours.

ii) that the Mayor of London is an advocate for NW

iii) Officers get training to develop neighbourhood teams & help to develop them & help them to grow.

Q: Problem of low level crime such as peeing on streets.

A: There is no such thing as low level crime, all must work together and target any crime, especially where people feel threatened and intimidated. Suggested approaching the appropriate Council Dept for access to extra toilets where they are needed.

Q: There is a presumption people having access to internet to contact Police

A: Contact details for the police will be posted up at contact points and will be delivered to all Haringey doors.

Q: Visible policing around Black Boy Lane and would like to see more police on streets.

A: Police bikes being mended at present.

Q: Some community workers are hearing uncomplimentary comments about the Police, especially from young people. People do not know what to do when they see something such as people looking through bins.

A Call 101

Q. Could Post Offices and Supermarkets be points of information for Community needs and contact numbers?

A: There is a space being negotiated for this at the new Spurs site.

4.0 Guest Speaker: Tracy Tempest, Police Inspector for Safer Neighbourhoods

Many Neighbourhood Watches have now included their local Haringey Parks in their Watches. Members are asked to report any problems relating to their park just as they do in their own street/Watch area.

Many of our local parks have again achieved Green Flag status this year (this is a parks award of excellence).

There are now 318 NW watches in Haringey, 65% in west of Borough, 35% in the East. 18% of watch co-ordinators are not on email.

4.1 £500M savings have to be made in the Met Police budget

4.2 The Structure of the Police Team was explained:

The borough is divided into three clusters:

West Cluster (SNT Inspector Natalie Shaw)

Alexandra, Crouch End, Fortis Green, Harringay, Highgate, Hornsey, Muswell Hill, St Ann's and Stroud Green.

North Cluster (SNT Inspector Neil Billany):

Bounds Green, Noel Park, Northumberland Park, White Hart lane and Woodside.

East Cluster (SNT Inspector Tracy Tempest)

Bruce Grove, Seven Sisters, Tottenham Hale, Tottenham Green and West Green.

There will continue to be a SNT on each ward which will consist of both Dedicated Ward Officers (who are ring-fenced and will only work within their ward), plus other officers who will be attached to a specific SNT, but could be called on to help on another ward within their cluster if needs require.

Some Safer Neighbourhood Teams will be moving offices.

Tottenham Police Station will continue to have a 24 hour public access station office.

Hornsey Police Station and Fishmongers Arms (Wood Green) station offices will have shorter opening times and will no longer be open 24 hours to the public.

4 Officers are not being lost from front line – back office cuts instead.

4 Safer Neighbourhoods Teams will be reminded about cyclists on footpaths to discourage this.

Some wards worried about local knowledge being lost because of changes but reassurance given that Ward Officers and PCSOs will be made aware of important local knowledge.

5.0 Jennifer Bell: Sharing Success

Item postponed due to lack of time but this will be 1st item at the next meeting.

6.0 A.O.B.

A link will be send out regarding the results of the NW survey, technology permitting.

Meeting ended at 9pm

Next Meeting Date: Thursday 24th October 2013 @ 7pm at the Civic Centre