

CHORLEYWOOD – CRIME REDUCTION MEETING

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT CHORLEYWOOD PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2009

1. PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

PRESENT:

Chairman: Yvonne Merritt	Clerk, Chorleywood Parish Council
Mrs Barbara Christie	WRVS
Ms Carol Ewen	Neighbourhood Watch (Valley)
David Clark	Neighbourhood Watch
PCSO Tania Stabler	West Herts Police

APOLOGIES:

Mr John Sheldon	Neighbourhood Watch (West Chorleywood)
Mr David Harrison	Grovewood
Mrs Jackie Hale	Chorleywood House Estate
Cllr Martin Trevett	Three Rivers District Council
Cllr Jackie Worrall,	CWPC
Cllr Margaret Jarrett	CWPC
Steve Jones	Neighbourhood Watch (West Chorleywood)

2. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 2ND MARCH 2009

These were accepted as a true and correct record and duly signed by the Chairman.

3. MATTERS ARISING

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and apologised for having to have changed the date which had obviously had an effect on the attendance rate.

1. David presented comments on behalf of John Sheldon, and advised that car crime was featured in the recent newsletter and special notes had been sent out to residents in vulnerable roads.
2. 2000 of the special cards produced by Phillipa Scott from TRDC went out with the West Chorleywood newsletter and reports indicate that this was well received. The card will now be distributed throughout the whole of Three Rivers.
3. New volunteers had come forward for road co-ordinators for Chenies Road and new schemes had also been set up in Woodland Lane and the rest of Common Road from Darvells Yard to the traffic lights.

Carol Ewen asked what the purpose of the meeting was for, the Chairman advised that it was an opportunity for interested parties to get together to discuss crime

and ways of reducing it. Usually this information was then disseminated to the local population through various newsletters etc.

4. CRIME STATISTICS UPDATE

The Chairman welcomed PCSO Tania Stabler, who had joined the Chorleywood Team, nearly a year ago. She advised that Operation Tarantula was being carried out in the area and as a result 219 letters had been issued to car owners who had had valuables on show within their vehicles.

She advised the Nat West bank in Lower Road has had its ATM tampered with a skimming device, and had also had an attempted theft of the same ATM. It would appear however that this was not reported to the police until a few days later.

A young lad had been mugged on the Common for his mobile phone and iPod. The perpetrators had however been caught and charged.

The Crime statistics are attached in Appendix 1 of this report. These have been updated since the meeting, as there appeared to be some confusion on what was Chorleywood and what was Chorleywood west, this had now been resolved and both the police and Neighbourhood Watch areas are the same.

The crime figures were slightly up on the previous year. The criminal damage figures were up on the previous year in Chorleywood West although there had been a drop in reports of anti-social behaviour.

The figures for Chorleywood remained similar from last year but with a slight increase in reports of Anti-social behaviour.

The figures in relation to other areas still remained low.

Tania advised that PCSO Gareth Williams had been absent from work due to ill health, and was still not fully recovered, however he was currently on paternity leave following the birth of his baby daughter. Congratulations and best wishes for a speedy recovery were recorded.

5. PRESENTATION FROM COMMUNITY FIRE SAFETY TASK FORCE

Nick Ashman who had agreed to come and speak to the Committee had recently changed jobs. His replacement from Green Watch did not attend.

The Chairman advised she would contact the Fire Brigade inviting them to a future meeting, and stated that with hindsight as there was such a poor attendance it may have been a blessing.

6. MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST

Barbara Christie advised that there had been a number of incidents in Carpenters Wood of youths lighting fires. She said that at present local residents were able to control the situation, however if this got out of hand the police would have to be informed. Tania suggested that residents should do this anyway. Barbara also advised that bollards had been put up at each of the entrance ways to prohibit vehicle access which may prohibit access for the fire engine or police car; however the Chairman advised that these bollards had been put in place by the district council and had Cisa locks. All local authorities and the emergency services carried these types of keys, therefore in an emergency access should not be prohibited.

David Clark circulated the most recent Neighbourhood Watch newsletter, which had a leaflet enclosed the National Policing Pledge. There was an area for the community to advise the police of their local policing priorities. Tania advised that there had been a good response.

John Sheldon felt it should be said that he getting really good help from the PCSOs in developing the NhW in West Chorleywood and they are in frequent contact with him, also making calls on some of the Road Co-ordinators.

It was agreed that there should be a separate agenda item on future meetings for Neighbourhood Watch.

The Chairman advised that this years Late Night Shopping Evening would take place on Friday 4th December.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 25th January at 7.30pm. It is proposed to try again for someone from the Fire Service to attend.

8. CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked the attendees and the meeting closed at 9.00pm