

CHORLEYWOOD – CRIME REDUCTION MEETING

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT CHORLEYWOOD PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2010

1. PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

PRESENT:

Chairman: Yvonne Merritt	Clerk, Chorleywood Parish Council
Cllr. Max Green	CWPC
Cllr Mrs Susan Stibbs	CWPC
Cllr Martin Trevett	Three Rivers District Council
Mr David Harrison	Groewood
Mrs Carol Ewen	Neighbourhood Watch (Valley)
Mrs Rosemary Vickery	Neighbourhood Watch (Solesbridge)
Mr John Sheldon	Neighbourhood Watch (West Chorleywood)
PCSO Gareth Williams	West Herts Police
Ms Nikki Stageman	West Herts Against Crime
Ms Jackie Chambers	West Herts Against Crime

APOLOGIES:

Cllr Rodney Kipps	CWPC
Cllr Chris Haywood	Three Rivers District Council
Barbara Christie	WRVS
Jackie Hale	Chorleywood House Estate
Steve Jones	Neighbourhood Watch (West Chorleywood)

2. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14TH SEPTEMBER 2009.

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

3. MATTERS ARISING

It was generally felt that there was a good atmosphere at the Late Night Shopping event and that it had gone well. There had been no criminal problems reported that night.

4. CRIME STATISTICS UPDATE

PCSO Gareth Williams distributed the enclosed crime statistics for Chorleywood West and East. for the April 2009 – January 2010 period. The decrease in Chorleywood East was very encouraging, helped by the setting up of a number of NhW schemes by Carol Ewen. Criminal damage accounted for a large part of the increase in West Chorleywood. NhW members had been encouraged to report all crimes which may have influenced the figures.

David Harrison asked about “Other Criminal Damage” and Gareth Williams explained that this mainly included graffiti and damage to walls and fences. It would be helpful for photos to be taken if possible when reporting these types of crime to the Police.

John Sheldon commented on the very good relationship between the Police and Neighbourhood Watch.

Action: The NhW Area Co-ordinators will refer to the action to be taken with criminal damage incidents in their next newsletters.

5. SMARTWATER

A new method of coding property and belongings to help catch crooks has been unveiled in Three Rivers.

SmartWater is a colourless liquid solution that can be dabbed on to personal possessions and valuables. It can be used on a wide variety of items including jewellery, ornaments, electrical equipment including TVs, computers, mobile phones and DVD players as well as garden and outdoor equipment.. Once something is marked, it can be traced back to its true owner if lost or stolen.

Each container (of approx. 40 – 60 applications) has its own unique chemical ‘code’ which is registered to an owner’s address – so anything marked with it can be traced back. The cost of each container is £10.80.

One test has already been carried out in Rural Watch and it is proposed to carry another test with houses in the Valley Triangle.

6. PRESENTATION BY WEST HERTS AGAINST CRIME (WHAC)

Nikki Stageman supported by Jackie Chambers gave an interesting presentation on the work of WHAC. A number of practical suggestions were made on home security and fire safety checks. Fire safety checks are available to everybody regardless of age.

Nikki referred to a recent successful exercise giving security advice to the NhW members in Bullsland Gardens and Ryman Court.

Full details about WHAC are enclosed and also a leaflet.

Action: Yvonne Merritt suggested that the service provided by WHAC should be promoted with the WRVS and similar organisations and she will talk to Barbara Christie about this.

7. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT

The Area Co-ordinators reported on the situation in their areas. John Sheldon mentioned that NhW schemes had recently been arranged in Globe House and Tolvir House.

8. MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST

Sue Stibbs felt that it might help the unsocial behaviour problems if older people made more effort to speak to the young people in the village.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 13th September 2010

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