

Minutes Community Safety Working Group

Zoom Meeting –Thursday 7 December 2023

Present: Cllr Kay Wesley (Chair) Cllr Susan Mead, Cllr Shaun Radcliffe, Cllr Richard Walton, Cllr Glen Williams, Sgt John Roberts (Cheshire Police), Julia Hassell Pestall (CEC) Jackie MacArthur (CTC). Rachel McCarthy from item ..

| Agenda item | Subject /Issue | Action | By Whom | When |
|-------------|--|---|---|------|
| 1. | Receive Apologies for meeting | Cllr Sally Holland, Cllr Robert Brittian, Cllr Amanda Martin, Cllr Robert Moreton | | |
| 2. | Approved notes of meeting 12/10/23 | Approved notes. | | |
| 3. | Approve Draft Agenda – any changes needed | Added Swan Street Parking to 5e, added Transgender stickers to hate crime article. | | |
| 4. | <p>Action Log Liked the action log. –</p> <p>Focused on issues around the Meadows as from the public perspective nothing has changed. Still a concern for residents and businesses in the locality.</p> <p>Noted work on the Community Safety Charter is progressing and should be available on the website this month</p> <p>Still some funding to spend from the Crime Commissioner on encouraging Neighbourhood Watch.</p> <p>Trading Standards needs more information about the Vaping sales to get authorisation for test sales.</p> | <p>Send out Action Log with each agenda/minutes</p> <p>Extend contact in Cheshire East to include licensing and building control. Write to CEC asking for answers on what is happening. Offer roundtable meeting at CTH with site visit – alternatively a meeting with Cllrs Wesley and Walton. Find out where to advise people to add complaints. Compile public update statement</p> <p>Continue to add Community Safety Information to Website</p> <p>Consider this in the New Year . Shaun and Jackie to put together information</p> | <p>Jackie</p> <p>Jackie</p> <p>Jackie</p> | |

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| 5. | <p>Police Report - John Roberts talked the group through the report for October and November. In the 2 month period dealt with 792 crimes compared to 769 in the same period last year. Increase in sexual offences and significant work around sexting.</p> <p>Uplift of theft from cars and of cars during very cold spell.</p> <p>Shoplifting – 13 cases – couple of prolific offenders.</p> <p>Drugs – every town has issues – noticeable because of the size of the town.</p> <p>Domestic Abuse – violence against women and girls remains the number one priority. 75 incidents in Oct/ Nov and 32 arrests. (compared to 84 incidents and 37 arrests in Oct/Nov</p> <p>No major issues with ASB – lowest for 3 years. Not reoccurring sites.</p> <p>Issue raised about parking problems around Swan Street and Nelson Street – double parking means bins are not being emptied and concerns for emergency vehicles.</p> | <p>PC Andy Cornell and White Ribbon team going into schools to talk to young people on the 19th December.</p> <p>Social media posts to warn people not to leave cars when defrosting.</p> <p>Police hoping to be able to take action on one PO very soon – need the support of CPS to prosecute. Encourage shops to report theft.</p> <p>Encourage people to report issues to 101 to help the police to build a fuller picture. All evidence helps.</p> <p>More of a civil than criminal offence. Publicise the problem – but people need to be more considerate.</p> <p>Police may be able to put this area forward for a residents voice event – knock on doors.</p> | <p>Debbie</p> <p>Rach</p> <p>BN</p> <p>BN</p> | <p>Next cold snap</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Next edition</p> |
| 6. | <p>Police Team – Currently only one PCSO – Karen Linton. Scott Watson on sick leave. New PC Matt Steele joining in January but losing PC Anna ***</p> | | | |
| 7. | <p>CEC ASB Team updates - No updates to add. Has been a quiet</p> | | | |

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| 8. | CEC – CCTV Updates - Congleton being upgraded before Christmas. New cameras should be in place on Lawton Street and West Street. | Arrange visits to the CCTV HQ in January/ February – 3-4 people at a time. When Q3 report comes through send to group | Jackie Jackie | Jan/ Feb 2024 |
| 9. | Community Safety Charter - We have received details about the 'Be the Change' module. | Deferred to next meeting | Jackie | Before next meeting |
| 10. | ShopWatch - Less cases in past two months. In Jan looking to expand to outlying areas. Police praised the work that CTC and shops doing on this. | Rachel to continue to support the traders to help the scheme grow. | Rachel | Jan/Feb |
| 11. | AOB a) Hate Crime Stickers - spate of hateful stickers added around the town around Remembrance time. Not able to tell who from CCTV. Be aware that it may happen again at key dates in the pride calendar and be prepared to remove and look for culprits. | To be alert to key dates. | Police/ CTC | |
| 10 | Suggested Next Meeting | Thursday 2 nd February 3.30pm – 5pm | Jackie | |