

Minutes of the Wimborne & Colehill Home Watch Annual General Meeting 2017

In the Village Green Café at The Allendale Centre, on Wednesday 17th May 2017 from 7p.m.

- 1 Introduction: Graham Mallett, Chairman, welcomed everyone. The number of attendees including Committee Members and PCSO Jess Allen was 25.

Apologies from: Peter Shenton (Contact, West St) and Tony Matthews of West Borough.

- 2 Policing update plus Q&A: PCSO Jess Allen was in attendance. As she was on call, this item was conducted prior to the AGM business.

She informed us about new PC Matthew Littlefair, then gave a summary of local issues:

a) Advice on how to avoid being a victim of car crime: Keep vehicles locked, do not leave anything of value in the vehicle and put valuables out of sight BEFORE parking, when you might be observed. Also workmen's unattended vans have been targeted.

b) Burglaries: there have been several in the Colehill area. Home security checks are available if requested. Police & Home Watch Crime Prevention Team has been door-to-door in roads affected, to give advice.

c) Leigh Park is an area where there has been a number of incidents of ASB particularly around Waters Edge. Be vigilant.

d) Rogue Traders have targeted the area.

e) Community Speed Watch. Some speed checks have taken place, more volunteers needed. If there is a speeding issue, contact Jess for Colehill or Scott Kishere for Wimborne.

f) Dorset Alert. Members are encouraged to join this as it is a very useful service, keeping members aware of any incidents in the local area.

g) PCSO Jess Allen then invited questions:

Anne Wells raised speeding on Middlehill Road and the SID device halfway down. The Chairman advised that SID data was typically collected for a week then the device might appear to be 'off' until it was moved to the next location; there are ca. 8 poles in our area.

Keith Baker questioned the outcome regarding motorists who have been caught and warned about dangerous driving; the PCSO explained the system of three warnings before instituting further action. Offenders are 'written to' for speeds above 36 in a 30 limit.

John Shave advised that Martha Perry is now the Police's Dorset Road Safe Coordinator.

Brian Burt raised speeding on Allenvue Road, which was being used as a short cut.

Heather Bartlett raised a problem with boys on 'push' scooters on Stone Lane. Also what was the outcome of the break-in at the Chapel store at the Cemetery?

John Burden raised the issue of drug dealing in Leigh Park.

Anne Wells raised the fact of a number of people doing roadworks on Martindale Avenue; all wear yellow jackets so that it is difficult to differentiate between workers and loiterers; householders leaving garages open while working at the back were inviting trouble.

Jess made a note of all the issues and stated that she would bring them to the attention of the relevant authority.

- 3 Chairman's Report:

The big task this year has, of course, been subs collection. Thank you to all our volunteers for getting the subs in a little quicker than usual. Depending on our income & expenditure up to

2020 the aim is to collect subs every 3-4 years thereafter. However this does rely on Contacts keeping me informed of changes to membership as they occur.

Plea for Deputy Contacts (again!). It would be a great help if all Contacts had a nominated deputy, to fill in during absence and/or to take over the group if needed. There is then a much better prospect of groups being able to continue.

We still have a vacancy for a Co-ordinator for the Leigh Road area (currently 4 groups).

We still want people to join up to the Dorset Alert messaging system – only a small proportion of members are on it.

Police / Home Watch Surgeries in Wimborne and Colehill are continuing, and an occasional surgery in Leigh Park. The Police run a drop-in Surgery in Costa on Saturday afternoons too. PACT Panels (Wimborne rep John Shave, Colehill & Stour rep Graham Mallett) meet quarterly.

Speed Watches in Colehill and Wimborne are still looking for more volunteers.

Crime Prevention Teams. This year we started targeting areas that had suffered a crime by going door-to-door with the Police and handing out crime prevention advice. We usually spend around an hour in the road/s affected. This takes place as and when the need arises – we have done 3 in 2017. We could do with more volunteers for this – it only needs one person each time, for about an hour, to assist the Contact or Co-ordinator for the area.

Officers. We have a ‘volunteer’ for the Treasurer post but still need other volunteers.

As Home Watch is run entirely by volunteers, it only works with YOUR help!

*Reminder: The **Sheducation** display will be at Wimborne Market on Saturday 17th June.*

- 4 Matters Arising from May 2016 AGM: There being no matters arising, Anne Wells proposed the Minutes be accepted and they were adopted unanimously.
- 5 Financial Report: The Treasurer, Keith Baker, highlighted the main items of income & expenditure. He asked if there were any questions regarding the balance sheet and there were none. The accounts were adopted unanimously.
- 6 Appointment of Independent Examiner: The Chairman stated that Ian Dickins had agreed to undertake the work again for one more year. He was appointed unanimously.
- 7 2017 - 2018 Funding: The Chairman stated we have limited funds available to support relevant projects. For example we recently gave ‘Sheducation’ a grant of £100. We will review requests for say £50 - £100; there were no requests/suggestions for any funding, so the Chairman stated that the Committee would consider any new requests which arise.
- 8 Election of Officers: The Chairman stated that John Poat had been volunteered to be Treasurer! As there were no other nominations for other posts, the Officers for 2017-19 were ratified as follows:
Chairman – Graham Mallett, Vice Chairman – Keith Baker, Treasurer – John Poat, Secretary – vacancy. This was approved by a unanimous show of hands.
- 9 There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.