

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Haringey Community & Police Consultative Group
19 September 2007 - Civic Centre, Wood Green, London N22

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Chair, Fred Ellis, welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced firstly the Mayor of Haringey, Cllr Sheik followed by C/Supt Wayne Morrison, the Group's Treasurer, David Singh and the Group's Director, Enid Ledgister and finally Dr Samuel Wynter.
- 1.2 The Chair announced apologies from Lynne Featherstone, MP; Cllr Khan, Haringey Council; Farouk Beekhan, Islamic Community Centre; PC John Neate, MPS; Dr Viv Manheim, HC&PCG; Andy Kilpatrick, Northumberland Park Community School; Lindsey Pinnick, Highgate Wood Girl School; Shirley Husband, Neighbourhood Watch; Terry Husband, Neighbourhood Watch; Christina Gradowski, St Ann's Hospital; Claude Moraes, MEP; Kirsten Hearn, MPA; Peter Thompson, Local Resident; Cllr John Oakes, Haringey Council; David Bird, Safer Neighbourhood Team; Sally Mustoe, HCPCG; Chris Hannington, HC&PCG; Mr R A Islam, Bangladesh Women Association; Jaynay Corchane, HC&PCG; Sabba Kerr-Armstrong, HC&PCG; Gladstone Virgo, Youth Worker; Fred Williams, Neighbourhood Watch and Ian Seagrave Ladder Community Safety Partnership
- 1.3 Apologies for lateness were given on behalf of the Leader of the Council who was attending another meeting.

2. MAYOR OF HARINGEY

- 2.1 The Mayor said the Police Consultative Group was one to which he had given his energy when arriving in the Borough and that during his time many improvements had been made. On behalf of the Council he said that the safety of the people of Haringey was of paramount importance and that this consultative body had helped bring a better understanding of Police activities and their impact on the community. He read a brief statement highlighting the partnership between the Council and the HC&PCG and the HC&PCG's role in the strategic partnership. He spoke particularly of the conference organised in 2006 to give young people a voice in the Borough and the Group's important liaison role in the introduction of Safer Neighbourhood Teams. He concluded by urging those attending the meeting to support its work. He thanked those involved in managing the Group, both in executive and in voluntary capacities and drew attention to specific Councillors, Police Officers, the Metropolitan Police and Her Majesty the Queen.

3. MINUTES OF THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - (20 September 2006)

- 3.1 A member of the audience asked about the Sylvester case and the Chair said that the matter would be discussed later.
- 3.2 Item 6.9 to note the correct spelling of Knowle Park.
- 3.3 Item 14, the meeting was held on 21 November 2006.
- 3.4 The Minutes of the AGM held on 20 September 2006 were approved.

3.5 RATIFICATION OF THE MEMORANDUM AND ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

- 3.5.1 Mr Petrou asked why a new constitution had been introduced and pointed out the many punctuation errors in the document.

- 3.5.2 The Chair advised that the document which had been drafted and approved by solicitors acting for the Group was needed firstly to change the Group's legal status to a company limited by guarantee and secondly to apply for Charity status.
- 3.5.3 The Chair put forward the resolution that the Memorandum and Articles of Association be adopted by the meeting and that a company limited by guarantee be set up. The resolution was carried unanimously: 31 people voted in favour, with none against.

4. ELECTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 4.1.1 The Chairman read the names of the Board, Fred Ellis, David Singh, Dr Samuel Wynter, Chris Hannington, Gerard McGrath, Viv Manhiem, Fred Williams, Nevil Hartly and C/Supt Simon O'Brien

6.0 REPORTS

- 6.1 **Chairman's & Treasurer's Report** - The Chairman's and Treasurer's Reports were agreed by the Group's members.
- 6.2 **Director's Report** - The Director informed the meeting that the key work of the Group for the coming year was to concentrate on the Youth Project. She informed the meeting that there would be a Gun & Knife Crime summit on 3 November 2007. The Chair emphasised the importance of youth involvement and drew attention to specific people working in the youth arena.
- 6.3 **Police Report** - Apologising for the absence of the C/Supt Simon O'Brien, C/Supt Wayne Morrison said he had responsibility for uniformed officers. In respect of the Police Report, he picked out the salient points emphasising that this was the only time in his working career of 19 years that he had witnessed partnership working so well – all targets met and within budgets. He highlighted some statistics, specifically: 31,600 crimes were dealt with in Haringey, a reduction of 9% in the year which equated to 3,099 fewer victims of crime. Of those, 1,950 were robbery (9% reduction); burglary 260 fewer than last year; 329 fewer victims of car crime; 5555 violent crimes – 945 fewer victims. He reported 7 murders during the year and said that the Service was working hard to eradicate youth on youth crime. In the year 124,278 calls for assistance had been received of which 26,000 were responded to within 12 minutes. He said, however, that the Service was not complacent. He advised the meeting that 1007 people are employed in the Service including support staff.
- 6.4 C/Supt Morrison said that the Service had continued to build on its existing programmes: Operation Tailgate, partnership enforcement activity;); Operation Cubit to remove abandoned cars; Off the Street - Less Heat, a youth diversion initiative; the Boxing Club; the Haringey Beat newsletter and the St Ann's Road Police Station Open Day
- 6.5 He reported that the Wood Green, Hollywood Green Area had become a very, very challenging area in the night-time with people scared to go into the area. To redress the problem he had brought in a number of measures. He deployed officers from responding to 999 calls to policing the area between 3 and 7pm in January and February 2007. A team of young, enthusiastic officers, PCSOs and Town Team with the CCTV vehicle was formed which received good media coverage. Drug sniffer dogs are taken into pubs. Since the measures had started, robbery was down 56%, drugs 15% down, and violence against the person 20% down on the 100 yards of pavement involved.

As a result, members of the public are now articulating how grateful they are and how less fearful they feel.

- 6.6 C/Supt Morrison reported that the Search Arches that are deployed as part of Operation Blunt is taking knives and guns off the street. In one week, he told the meeting, unarmed officers took loaded armed guns off the street.
- 6.7 C/Supt Morrison concluded by saying that of the 96% of residents who completed the Community Survey, 88% said they had more confidence in the police and they felt safer at night and that this feedback represented one of the highest levels in London.
- 6.8 **QUESTION:** Gerard McGrath said that the statistics outlined were impressive but that there was concern about McDonalds' intention to open a 24-hour service which might contribute to violent outbursts from clubs. **ANSWER:** Cllr Patel, the chair of the Licensing Committee said that the Committee was aware of the concerns and Cllr Canver said that when the issue was raised her views would be made known.
- 6.9 **QUESTION:** Mario Petrou asked what the figure of the 31,600 crimes included. **ANSWER:** C/Supt Morrison said that calls to centres could be anything from cats in trees to serious crimes.
- 6.10 **QUESTION:** Mario Petrou said that if these crimes were divided by the number of officers it works out at around 1 a week which did not seem like good progress. **ANSWER:** C/Supt Morrison said that some crimes take months to resolve.
- 6.11 **QUESTION:** Cllr Jayanti Patel Chair of licensing committee asked if the Constable of the Year award had ceased.
- 6.12 Cllr Canver asked that everyone pass on the word not to leave personal belongings in cars.
- 6.13 **QUESTION:** The LibDem opposition spokesperson on the Council asked C/Supt Morrison to comment on Stop and Search programmes, in particular why young black and ethnic minority people are involved. He also asked for C/Supt Morrison's views on employing private security guards in residential areas as he understood one street were considering this action.
- 6.14 C/Supt Morrison said there were 3 stop and search powers: Section 60 – used for gangs of youths trying to convene and/or may have offensive articles on them when a blanket stops and search authority is used. Section 44 relates to terrorism and is being used in Haringey and Section 43 for when the Service has good grounds that it is dealing with a terrorist. He informed the meeting that it is believed that the 7/7 terrorists had some links in Haringey and there have been people who allegedly had ricine in the Borough. He said that it is known that terrorists use public transport to do dummy runs and that it was important that officers are able to monitor and stop people in these circumstances.
- 6.15 As for black and ethnic minorities, C/Supt Morrison said that reports would be published within the week and that they will show a different picture from that imagined. He advised that Stop and search statistics could be obtained from him by an email and said that he believed the community and the Service could work together on burglaries by reporting matters to the Safer Neighbourhoods Panels.
- 6.16 **QUESTION:** A member of the audience asked what measures were being taken later at night when the pubs and clubs come out.

- 6.17 **ANSWER:** C/Supt Morrison said that 3-7pm is the hot spot time for youth crime. At weekends teams work 6pm – 2am and the Service works with the local Safer Neighbourhood Teams. He advised the meeting that pubs have communication systems which enable them to communicate pub to pub to club forewarning other premises about potential problem people. He ended by saying that there will be an opportunity to discuss the proposed opening of McDonalds.
- 6.18 **QUESTION:** A member of the audience asked if officers will be carrying Tazer guns in Haringey.
- 6.19 **ANSWER:** C/Supt Morrison said that Tazers were very useful but that they required much training and that currently only officers trained in arms use were using them.
- 6.20 **QUESTION:** A member of the audience said that although Muswell Hill Safer Neighbourhood Team is made up of good people, they do not have cycles, one team member is pregnant and cannot walk on the streets and a sergeant has been unwell has just returned. In addition the Team is being “loaned out” but no-one is never loaned back in. As a result, the area is considering private security contractors. He asked C/Supt Morrison how he planned to improve the local Safer Neighbourhood Team.
- 6.21 **QUESTION:** C/Supt Morrison said that the SNT officers are loaned out for football matches and other major events in the Borough and in London.
- 6.22 **QUESTION:** A member of the audience asked if the PCSOs would be furnished with handcuffs and other equipment given to police officers.
- 6.23 **QUESTION:** A member of the audience asked for C/Supt Morrison’s views about police travelling fast in squad cars.
- 6.24 **ANSWER:** C/Supt Morrison said that when he first came to Haringey he was astounded with the lawlessness of some drivers of cycles and scooters. In response the Service bought motor cycles that were more powerful and ridden by highly trained officers. As a result there was no longer this kind of activity. He informed the meeting that the Service has a full time media liaison person in order to ensure that accurate information is published in the press.
- 6.25 C/Supt Morrison said that certain PCSOs and Officers have had special training to handle big events and have asked to continue to be involved so that they can retain their skills. He assured the meeting that they were not taken to football matches.
- 6.26 As for private security, C/Supt Morrison said that he was not in favour and asked members of the audience to meet with him so that he could motivate his teams to work in partnership.
- 6.27 **ACTION:** C/Supt Morrison said that he had not heard whether PCSOs were getting hand-cuffs or CS spray, but agreed to report back.
- 6.28 **Independent Custody Visitors Report** - Dr Samuel Wynter spoke briefly on his report for the Independent Custody Visitors and advised that from 24 September 2007, ICV meetings will be open to the public and members of this Group. He thanked the police service for their co-operation.
- 6.29 Cllr Canver asked that in the 2007-08 report the Police include statistics on domestic violence and rape.

7.0 APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

7.1 The Chair asked that Hager Stenhouse & Co be re-appointed as auditors and this was agreed.

8.0 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.** The next meeting will be held on 21st November
8.0.1 2007 when Independent Police Complaint Commission will be speaking on the Sylvester case.

The Meeting closed at 9pm.