

Minutes of the Haringey Community & Police Consultative Group Meeting
Wednesday 31 January 2007 at the Civic Centre, Wood Green, London N22

1. WELCOME TO THE MEETING

- 1.1 The Chair introduced himself and welcomed everyone to the meeting, in particular Zena Brabazon Head of Neighbourhood Management for Haringey Council and the Borough Commander Chief Superintendent Simon O'Brien.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 2.1 Apologies for absence were received from Fred Ellis, Chico Pacheco, Terry & Shirley Husband, Kirsten Hearn, Natasha Porter, Lynne Featherstone, Joanne McCartney, Samuel Wynter, Mario Petrou, Cllr Nilgun Canver, Nevil Hartley, Gerard McGrath, Pastor Nims Obunge, Randall Francis, and John Oakes

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (29 NOVEMBER 2006)

- 3.1 Subject to the inclusion of Cllr Khan name for apologies for absence the Minutes of the meeting held on 29th November 2006 was agreed as a true record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

- 4.1 Chief Superintendent Simon O'Brien gave further clarification on the position of Muswell Hill police station regarding whether it will remain an open station.

5. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW MEMBERS

- 5.1 The new members of the Group were announced as Sue Brown Noel Park North Area Residents Association and Pastor Nims Obunge Haringey Peace Alliance.

6. NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT - Zena Brabazon

- 6.1 Zena Brabazon began by introducing herself and explaining her role as Head of Partnership for Haringey Council.
- 6.2 She explained how the Council and the Police participate widely together. Stating, that they had to re-think how they worked jointly with communities in light of the recommendations that emerged from the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry.
- 6.3 In partnership with the police safer neighbourhood have considered ways of tackling problems in the community such as closing crack houses, designing out programmes about working across the borough and using intelligence.

Zena Brabazon said that there are seven Area Assemblies within the borough and Haringey have 19 Wards. The teams work with the police to fight crime on the borough, tackle issues relating to street lighting parking, as well as organised job fares to get young people into work without criminalising them. They have held safety community days, and have secured funds for a town centre manager.

- 6.4 She said that the Area Assemblies report to the community four

times a year and that these meetings are held at local community venues. The meetings are chaired by Councillors. The Safer Neighbourhood Management teams inform communities on what is going on.

6.5 Questions

- 6.6 A member of the public asked why their neighbourhood is a hotspot for crime and there seems to be no help. The police appear to be focussing on other areas in Haringey. Zena Brabazon said she doesn't believe that it is the case; however, the issues of concern will be looked at first thing in the morning.
- 6.7 A member of the public wanted to know the opening hours for Safer Neighbourhood Shops? It was said that they were opened for short-time over the Christmas period. We are trying to open one in Turnpike Lane and there are business support teams in Wood Green. Some Officers are working from small offices within the community.
- 6.8 A member of the public wanted to know how many of the SN Police Sergeants are from the Ethnic Minorities. It was confirmed that there are two, which is a true reflection of the Police Force as a whole. Plans are in place to recruit and train more officers from the ethnic minorities.
- 6.9 The Chair thanked Zena Brabazon for attending and addressing the meeting.
- 7. POLICE REPORT Chief Superintendent Simon O'Brien**
- 7.1 C/Supt Simon O'Brien began by announcing that as of 31st December 2006 the borough has a full team of Safer Neighbourhood Officers on each ward.
- 7.2 He said that crime rate and robberies have gone down considerably. This year the police have closed down a 100 'crack houses' using anti-social behaviour Act legislation and conducted 25 searches of suspected drugs dealers addresses in the last month.
- 7.3 This Christmas marked the first safer neighbourhood Carol Service, which was well attended by many members of the community. The Carol Service was held on 21st December at St Ann's Church in Ann's' Road.
- 7.4 C/Supt O'Brien said the borough police are working in partnership with the HC&PCG to create a bigger opportunity for people to attend meetings and include representative from the gay, ethnic minorities and aged communities. The proposed date for the initial meeting of this arrangement is Wednesday 21st March 2007.
- 7.5 C/Supt O'Brien said that police stations in the borough shall change from different locations, where stations will be situated will be decided after a public debate.
- Muswell Hill police station does not fit in with today's modern purpose. Wood Green Police Station is to close down for redevelopment.
- 7.6 C/Supt O'Brien drew reference to the Haringey Community Boxing Club saying that there have been boxing clubs around Haringey and he hopes to enter one young man to represent England in the 2012 Olympics.

7.7 **Questions**

7.8 A member of the public said that he has suffered racist hate crime/behaviour from Haringey Victims Support Group. A member of the audience refuted the allegation.

The Chairman, Chris Hannington said the HC&PCG is not a suitable forum to deliberate the allegations.

7.9 The meeting praised the work being done by the borough safer neighbourhood teams. They welcomed the idea of a new community engagement/consultation structure under the auspice of the HC&PCG and said they look forward to being part of the process and receiving information on the developmental work.

8. **WEBSITE**

8.1 The Chairman announced that the Group re-launched it's website in the New Year. He encouraged the audience to visit the reconstructed site which has been designed specifically for their purpose.

9. **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

9.1 The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th March 2007 at the Civic Centre Wood Green.

9.2 Chair drew meeting to a close at 20:50hrs.