

MINUTES OF ST ANN'S WARD PANEL MEETING HELD AT 7.00pm MONDAY 8 DECEMBER 2008

Present: Gordon Keenan (Chair), Sgt Tim Hannah, Geoff Amabilino (Minutes), PC Adam Boyd, Julie Davies, Paul Formosa, Anne Goodhew, Cllr Haley, Liz Heaton, PCSO Sheela Kalkan, Profu Matebele, Madge McKinney, Jamie Miller, PCSO Yasin Yaman, Liz Pine, Jean Johnson, Chris Laver, Brian Hilliard.

Apologies: Dasos Maliotis, Graham Day.

1. Welcome: Gordon welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes and matters arising from the meeting 29th September 2008

The minutes were agreed as being a true and accurate record.

Item 3.5 from 12 May meeting: Tim Hannah was asked if there was any news about the signs in the area indicating the presence of plain clothed police officers. He replied that they were left over from an earlier campaign and would be removed shortly.

Item 3: Brian Haley asked how long Tim would remain with the team, given that we had had two changes since the team's formation. Tim replied that he had no plans to move on.

Item 9: Gordon apologised for the short notice of the change of venue of the meeting. This had been caused by a PCT consultation meeting being held at The Laurels.

3. Update on what's been happening on the ward since the last meeting

Tim provided a summary of activity on the Ward:

3.1 There had been 46 burglaries since 1st October, although only 1 had been reported since 25 November. Paul Formosa had obtained extra funding for improving door locks, and the team would be going around fitting these. Tim had obtained some letter box guards for use where locks had been improved - fitted on the inside of the door, these prevented 'fishing' for keys etc. through letter boxes.

3.2 The team had moved to doing night-time plain clothes patrols as well as the usual visible reassurance patrols. In the run-up to Xmas, they would be doing minimum 12hr shifts combining plain clothes work with high visibility patrols. PCSOs would be doing a leaflet drop on crime prevention.

3.3 Motor vehicle crime had not significantly increased since the last meeting, and was in fact lower than last year.

3.4 Robberies - these were not area-specific, but were mainly 'follow-offs' from West Green Road.

3.5 The team had assisted with Operation Reclaim, which targets uninsured vehicles. 20 motor vehicles had been reclaimed since 1st October. The costs to the car owner (once they have valid insurance etc.) are £120 release fee, plus £20/day storage costs up to 7 days. After that time the vehicle will usually be crushed.

3.6 A brothel had been closed on St Ann's Road, and Nick had arrested a prostitute near Grand Parade.

3.7 There had been a nasty incident on Stanhope Gardens where a local resident had been racially abused and spat at. Fortunately another resident had managed to get the registration no. of the car involved, and a male had been arrested for assault and the car seized.

3.8 Adam had recently arrested a male for the supply of Class A drugs - the person had been dealing around local schools.

3.9 In all, the team had made 17 arrests over the period, and had been involved in a further 6.

3.10 The team had conducted numerous crime search warrants in conjunction with drugs/burglary squads, and were due to conduct more in the run-up to Xmas concentrating on the addresses of known burglars and 'safe houses'.

3.11 The team had been involved in weapons and estate sweeps.

3.12 Visits to schools had been going ahead as usual, and Tim thanked the schools for their co-operation.

Brian Hilliard commented that he hardly ever saw PCSOs patrolling around South Grove. He passed on details of a vehicle possibly involved in drug dealing to Tim.

Liz Pine asked about the possibility of increasing residents' street awareness, following a course she had attended earlier in the year. Paul and Tim were looking at further events - for example, basic self defence. Anyone interested should let Gordon know.

Anne highlighted continued problems with 164 Edgecote Grove, and commented that residents were feeling neglected by the team. She felt that Tim ought to meet with the Chair of the residents' group. Tim responded that he is willing to meet with any group, and asked that they contact him. **(Action- Anne/Tim)**

Anne commented that the SNT seemed less proactive; previously the team sergeants had made a point of introducing themselves to local groups. Julie wondered whether too much reliance was being placed on communication via email.

Adam noted that the team had achieved more in policing terms since Tim's arrival.

4. Review of recent consultation and setting of new priorities

Tim distributed copies of the November 2008 consultation results to the Panel, and gave a brief presentation on the results. The main priorities to come from the consultation were:

- Burglary
- Drugs and Alcohol Misuse/Disorder
- Personal Safety/Violence

Tim highlighted the cluster of hate crime mentions around Green Lanes and Stanhope Gardens as being new to the ward. Geoff noted that these might be related to the incident reported at 3.7 above being well known to local residents, although Sheela commented that this was also the location of the Kurdish Community Centre and that there had been a number of Kurdish vs. Turkish incidents.

Brian Haley asked whether any comparison had been made of the perceived threat levels on neighbouring wards, and if so whether there was any correlation between them. Tim replied that this had not been done at that time. He added that there were new Sergeants of both West Green and Seven Sisters wards who were like-minded and he hoped to be working more closely with them.

Gordon asked Tim to gather the statistics for the neighbouring wards and send them to panel members by email. **(Action- Tim)**

The Panel agreed that the team's priorities should be based on those arising from the consultation, that is:

- Burglary
- Drugs and Alcohol Misuse/Disorder
- Personal Safety/Violence

5. Items for Newsletter/Good news stories

Julie asked that the next SNT newsletter publicise useful telephone numbers, for example:

- the new Police non-emergency number
- Domestic violence/child protection
- Non-police related numbers (eg. Reporting fly-tipping)

Tim Hannah agreed to co-ordinate the publication of these numbers in the next edition. **(Action Tim)**

Gordon suggested reporting on the cycle workshops which had been run over several months, culminating in a number of workshops at Chestnuts Community Centre. He asked that a similar forthcoming event on Sunday, 25th January 2009 for children and parents be publicised. **(Action Gordon/Tim)**

Liz asked whether guidance for online-safety could be provided.

Gordon mentioned that there had been a multi-faith occasion at CONEL to which all panel chairs had been invited, but that he had not been able to attend. He advised that he had asked the organisers to send him any relevant info & would pass on anything he subsequently received.

Any other items of interest should be sent to the team as and when they are available.

6. Any other business

Jamie said that she thought that she had found a possible panel representative from the Polish community but that she might not be able to make every meeting.

Gordon said that he was flexible regarding attendance, particularly that which broadened representation to new community or ethnic groups & providing advance notice of potential new attendees be given.

There was general consensus in favour of the proposal & Gordon asked Jamie to invite the person concerned to the next meeting. (**Action - Jamie**)

Gordon thanked everyone for their contributions at the meeting & wished everyone a peaceful Christmas & New Year. Meeting ended 8.30pm .

9. Venue and date of next meeting

TBC - 7.00pm, Monday 2nd February 2009 at The Laurels, St Ann's Road