

**Minutes of the High Street Ward SNT Meeting held at
The Mall Walthamstow
25th of March 2015**

Present	Philip Herlihy, Chair (PH) Sergeant Jay Champion (JC) PC Matt Fletcher (MF) Themis Kyprianou – Ascham Homes (TK) Norman Minter (NM) Sandra da Costa (SdC) Bob Wheatley (BW) Andre Henry (AH) Patricia Monksfield (PM)	Apologies	Frances Shoesmith Mahmood Hussain Jeff Fernandez Tommy Anderson (TA) Katy Andrews (KA)
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Meeting opened at 1905 hours
Meeting closed at 2040 hours

Point	Details	Action
1.	<p>Introduction & Welcome</p> <p>PM introduced herself to the group as a new member of the Ward Panel. PH started the introductions of the other members present and also explained the current format adopted in the meeting.</p> <p>PH also explained that at a Management Meeting he had attended advice was given to help effectively run a meeting. It was considered by those present to adhere to the following rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) We listen to each other respectfully avoiding interruption b) Members should give way to the Chair c) We continually aim to improve what we do and are open to new ideas. <p>There were no dissents to these suggestions and so have been adopted by the Ward Panel.</p> <p>It was reaffirmed by PH that he would like considerations for those who could take over the role of Chair but that he is happy to continue this role until November when he will be moving to a different ward.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting</p> <p>The previous minutes were agreed.</p> <p>NM sought clarification about the confidentiality of the minutes when they were published in a public forum. It was explained by PH that certain items that would be discussed may not be appropriate to record in case they affect crime strategies adopted by the Met or provide personal data not appropriate to be seen by the general public. The minutes would be checked to make sure nothing confidential was visible.</p>	

<p>3.</p>	<p>Police recruitment and presence.</p> <p>JC updated that recruitment is still taking place and will continue at least to July. Recruitment is expected to reduce, and the numbers after July are not currently known. It was reiterated that the Street Duties still has the obvious advantage for the ward of an obvious visible presence in the ward and surrounding area in a whole. This continues to help reduce crime and maintain it at lower levels without the officers.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>Promises & Updates from previous meeting</p> <p>The Ward Promises for the next period are :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Personal Theft - Street Drinkers/ASB - Violence Against the Person <p>These were considered still appropriate from the last meeting, SdC was initially interested in adding Drugs to the Promises. The Cluster Priorities were explained (overarching issues to be dealt with by all teams on the Central Cluster) and that Drugs was one of the Cluster Priorities. SdC was then happy to keep the Promises as they were.</p> <p>Crime Figures (12 week reporting period)</p> <p>Burglary: = 16 Previous 12 week figures (17) (13) (15) (29) Robbery: = 14 (13) (12) (15) (22) MV Crime: = 20 (18) (18) (22) (30)</p> <p>This was explained by JC to show that whilst the figures had increased slightly, there was not a large increase and the figures were holding at a steady lower rate compared to last year. It was also explained that Theft figures were also consistent compared to last year but that Violence Against the person had risen. The reason was attributed to new reporting methods to allow transparency to Police figures. Crimes that may have not been recorded in the past due to no victims or suspects are now being recorded as a crime due to a witness calling a Police, even if victims or suspects are not located.</p> <p>Sec 35 Banning Orders</p> <p>17 bans issued during these two days of action. Alcohol seized and people stopped ordered to leave the area and not return for 48 hours.</p> <p>Town Centre Team / High St NPT Arrests</p> <p>JC advised that the Town Centre and High Street NPT had a combined 96 arrests over the last 3 months. These offences were across a broad range of arrests including drugs, fraud, Handling Stolen Goods (HSG), Possession With Intent To Supply (PWITS) and Grievous Bodily Harm (GBH).</p>	

<p>4. Cont.</p>	<p>Street Drinking arrests</p> <p>JC advised that there were 10 arrests that were related to street drinking, including Breach of S.35 Order and Public Order Offences.</p> <p>Good News stories</p> <p>JC explained about an Operation run involving the Gangs Task Force over the last three months to target drug problems in the High Street/St James Street area. From this 29 people were arrested and charged for PWITS of Class A Drugs. 17 warrants were issued also resulting in a large quantity of cash and drugs being seized. 1 firearm was also seized.</p> <p>JC mentioned about Street Duties Officers arresting three females of which one had been waving a butchers knife around at the Bus Hub in Walthamstow.</p> <p>PH also mentioned about a Cannabis Factory that was closed in Campbell Road following a call from a concerned local resident.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>AOB</p> <p>Drug Dealing St James Street End of the High Street</p> <p>SdC brought up that drug dealing is still happening at the bottom end of the High Street around Leucha Road. JC advised about the Operation that had occurred (See Point 4) and advised that the more calls we have the higher likelihood is that we will be able to have resources to help with this. Patrols will continue and officers will continue to tackle the problem with the help of calls from the public.</p> <p>Rate Your PC Cards</p> <p>SdC brought up that her neighbour who was burgled had not received a Rate Your PC (RYPC) Card when she had been previously advised in another meeting that they were mandatory. JC advised they should be done and MF explained that the new Criminal Investigation Booklets (CIB) contained this and a Victim Care Card inside them now so that Officers were not carrying around too much paperwork and should always have one on them. PH suggested that these could have an identifying number on them so it was easier to trace if they had been given or not. A new CIB was shown around the room so that the Members could see the forms included.</p> <p>Christian Kitchen and ASB/Violence</p> <p>PM stated that she volunteered at the Christian Kitchen and was wondering if there was any immediate link to ASB or Violence from the users of this. PH advised that whilst there could be a link with some of those that use it, there is no absolute evidence to support users of the Christian Kitchen increase ASB/Violence in the area. It was remarked that this has been brought up many times in the past at Ward Panel Meetings. BW and NM also showed support of the Christian Kitchen and advised that this had not been dealt with properly by the Council and that they were pleased it would be staying.</p>	

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Cont.**

Street Pastors

BM asked if Street Pastors still were working in the area to help those with alcohol problems/homelessness. JC stated that he was not aware of them out at night, but that London Rescue were involved. PH mentioned that on Sunday St Luke's in the High Street is running a drinks stand in the Farmer's market which people do attend. For more information see <http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk/stories/stlukesinthehighstreet>

Selling of Alcohol to those who are Drunk

NM asked what measures were in place regarding selling of alcohol to those who are drunk. JC explained that there is a joint enterprise between the Police and Local Council Licensing Teams to combat this problem. BW asked if there would be any street-side breathalyser tests that could be administered, however JC explained that the breathalyser is only for Road Traffic Act Legislation at present.

Bike Sheds

SdC wanted information about the large Bike Shed that was in Leucha Road. TK and AH advised that this was in relation to the "Mini Holland" Scheme currently trying to renovate the local area. AH asked if they would be likely to put one in Caley Court but PH stated they may have to be put in locations likely for all Waltham Forest residents to know and use. For more information see: <http://www.enjoywalthamforest.co.uk/areas-of-development/blackhorse-village/>

Local Tensions following Police Inquiries/Trials

PH asked if there had been any noticeable problems or concerns following decisions into the Mark Duggan Inquiry, the Montague Road Murder or a trial currently being held in Dagenham. None of the Panel had noticed any concerns.

Met Trace

PH advised that from a local meeting 1 out of 7 Londoners are to be given access to Smart Water that can be put on items belonging to them to make for easy identification in case of theft and to deter criminals. It is not explained how the properties are chosen. AH brought up problems relating to forensic transfer which PH advised has been discussed at the previous meeting. To read more see: <http://content.met.police.uk/News/Launch-of-Met-Trace-initiative/1400030612080/1257246745756>

DWO increase

JC explained that the Top 100 Wards for Crime in the Met will be gaining a second Dedicated Ward Officer (DWO) alongside MF to help tackle the issue. The High Street Ward is in this Top 100 so a second DWO will be announced shortly.

<p>5. Cont.</p>	<p>Police Now</p> <p>MF explained briefly about a new recruitment system for graduates into the DWO role. The role is a fixed post for two years and puts graduates in a challenging role to help improve problem areas. Whilst Waltham Forest will not be receiving any recruits this year, it is expected that there will be recruits from this in the future. AH asked how this will work with budget cuts, however as this is a new scheme MF was not able to explain. MF will feed back more information in the next meeting</p> <p>Survey</p> <p>SdC had not received the results of the survey into how safe young people feel in the borough and will hopefully be able to update in the next meeting.</p> <p>Visibility of Ward Panel Meetings</p> <p>PH asked if as a Ward Panel whether we could do more to help our Ward. AH stated that he felt the Ward Panel Meetings were not public enough and did not have enough advertisement. PH explained about the relative costs for advertisement. AH also raised the point that unless people are actively looking for Waltham Forest on Social Media such as Facebook, Twitter etc. they would probably miss these meetings/discussions. A low-cost choice presented by AH was to put posters in local shops and pubs to advertise this. The Ward Panel agreed. AH stated that he would investigate local sources of funding. To be followed up next meeting for progress.</p>	<p>MF</p> <p>SdC</p> <p>AH</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Arranged for 14/05/15.</p>	<p>All</p>