

High Street Ward Panel Meeting – Draft minutes

23rd May 2017 The Mall Offices, Walthamstow @ 7pm

Attendees:

Elizabeth Horn, CTRA - EH

Ian Capes - IC

Lynne Keys -- LK

Fiona Martin- - FM

PC Scott Defreitas - scott.defreitas@met.pnn.police.uk SD

Inspector Jason Clugston -- IJC

Phil Herlihy, Acting Chair WP – PH

Clr Clare Coghill (Leader Elect at the time) LBWF -- CII CC

Catherine Mears – Met Volunteer and acting secretary for minutes at meeting.
CM

Apologies:

Frances Shoemith, St Lukes

Andre Henry, Chair WP

Introduction:

PH explained he was acting chair for this meeting at short notice and introduced himself. He apologised for there being no previous minutes and Steve said he would obtain the minutes of the previous meeting for the next meeting so that they can get approved. (Action Steve).

Scott said he would send the note-take the soft copy of the crime figures for inclusion in these draft minutes (Action Scott).

No agenda was available and the meeting proceeded without introductions.

The following items were discussed.

1. It was agreed that there were no actions to review from the previous minutes by all.
2. Previous priorities were discussed as follows:
Drugs and drinking in St James Street, Cleveland Park and Coppermill

Lane.

3. PH introduced AOB about the harassment of women on the High Street as a concern and LK mentioned the problem of begging.
4. Scott presented the crime figures and passed detailed handouts around and said he would supply these for inclusion in the draft minutes to the acting secretary – CM. (action SD).

- Section 35 ASB orders despatched in St James Street – and he is meeting with Probation Officers and doing Stop and Searches and two people had been charged and three boys arrested. The Mali boys gang were discussed and photographs shown at the meeting.

With regard to the loss of life three people had been arrested and maybe charged.

The Shooting at the bank was discussed.

With regard to Coppermill Lane and Cleveland Park he said NBW is helping.

Ian said that there was a gang hanging around this area and they are still about and seen regularly and he gave a description. There was concern about the dangerous activity going on in the area and how the young gang members seem to get away and how these gang members are easily replaced.

Inspector IJC gave assurances about staffing levels and activities in the area and that there is zero tolerance and a pan-board resource will be set up by mid-June 2017. There was a discussion about the situation and visibility.

Harassment of women in Walthamstow was discussed.

A Male flasher had been caught.

The Essex Road, High Street area need attention especially the fencing that needs fixing near the Turkish shop.

Scott has a contact for George and a busker has been identified and arrested under a Civil Protection warning.

There was discussion about a joint planned meeting with Markhouse Ward on the 7th June-17 that was happening.

Licencing offences are being followed up but not always re-enforceable and there was keen awareness and emphasis on this matter.

Shop keepers in in the High Street and other areas are limiting access to their premises to two children at a time.

Hoe Street Macdonald's was discussed again as a serious concern and is a big issue in Walthamstow. Leytonstone Macdonald's is a problem too and as much as trouble is not good for business this is still occurring.

Schools and cross border concerns were discussed. It was noted that free Wifi is an attraction at these premises.

IJC talked about the schools taking responsibility.

Checking CCTV and taking a photograph and sending it to the school was discussed but not putting yourself at risk to do so.

The discretion of bus drivers were discussed.

IJC confirmed that resources had been cut back and talked about inviting the Heads of schools to attend the WP.

Ian talked about CFS.

There had been a Mall Meeting and school pupils are banned from the Mall.

Scott's produced his report for the last 12 weeks and this was passed around for consultation and questioning.

CLlr Clare Coghill arrived and PH did the introductions for the meeting.

Fiona said there are lots of vehicle collisions and this was discussed.

5. AOB (Any Other Business)

Harassment of women in Walthamstow is a serious issue and this needs to be reported to 101 as much as possible and complaints need to be filed.

Steve explained the difference between stalking and public order offences and when to call 999.

There were complaints about the quality of the call answering, length of wait and general call handling on 101 and this was discussed.

Cllr CC gave details of FaceBook.

PH said there is usually a lack of IT education to do with these matters and he gave a description.

It was agreed that women should empower themselves and Cllr CC suggested doing something on the International Day of Violence against women in November.

Beggars:

There is an increase in begging in the area and it was discussed that the beggars were 'shipped' in to do the begging work. Main target for begging operations is the High Street at the top. There is an African at the entrance of the Mall and descriptions were provided.

PH said begging had been dealt with in Leytonstone quite successfully. However, the team were not focussed on this at the moment but it will be re-visited. Drinking is associated with begging and all reports must be brought to the SNB if necessary.

Scott said they can be arrested and issued with CPA's.

Cllr CC discussed the replacement for George Pringle.

Public Space Protection Order was discussed.

Drugs: (Class A)

Blackhorse Road, James Street, Pretoria Avenue – a meeting that BC attended and how residents were telling horror stories at this meeting about the level of intimidation going on. The stabbing was discussed and there had been 13 arrests and intelligence was building up.

IJC described the supply network and the DCI involvement he also said there were 6 PC's and 1 Sargent. There are 150 Class A users in LBWF and drug incidents at any level need to be reported.

Lyn said she always did regular reports but the Market Police Office where not always interested and IJC said he would look into this.

PH asked IJC about the size and effectiveness of the team and the Inspector explained the staffing levels again.

PH asked IJC what was happening and what the Inspector was going to do and emphasised how important the police controls in the area are. PH also said that Mark Simmons was impressive at City Hall.

Cllr CC said about the important event with joint senior Civil Servants came down and raided a series of properties including Gillard Mews.

Date of next meeting to follow.