

HAMPTON WICK POLICE LIAISON GROUP MEETING & A.G.M.

Wednesday 2nd November 2011 at 7.30pm

Bullen Hall, Bennett Close, Hampton Wick

MINUTES

ATTENDEES:

Carole Atkinson (Acting Chair); Christina Gore (Secretary); Julie Hill (Minute Taker); Sgt Anthony Lovegrove; PC Grant Cranshaw; PC Dan Holden; PCSO Dave Auld; Cllr. Arbour; Cllr.Mathias; Pat Parsons; David Holland; Diana Simons; David MacClean; Jerry Hockin; Vanessa Hockin; Nicola Colley; June Honey; Christine Musgrove; Anne Forest; Barbara Pitcher; Jenny Bourne; Jem Negus; Nicholas Garbutt; James Lavender.

APOLOGIES:

Maurice Press (Chair); Cllr G. Evans.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Acting Chair Carole Atkinson welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

2. To Agree Minutes of the last meeting

These were agreed as being a true record.

3. Matters Arising that don't appear on the Agenda

There were no matters arising.

4. A.G.M.

Maurice Press and Christine Gore were unanimously re-elected as Chair and Secretary.

5. Guest Speaker : Sgt Tom Knox

Sgt Tom Knox gave an informative talk about the work of the Counter Terrorism Unit. Although we are one of the safest Boroughs we should not be complacent. Terrorism presents a serious and sustained threat to the UK and UK interests abroad. The current threat level is assessed as "Substantial" – an attack is a strong possibility. In the Borough of Richmond there are crowded places, iconic locations such as The National Archives, Hampton Water Works, the Rugby ground; the transport infrastructure – rail, road, river and airport - and a potential international impact, as we are seen as London. With the Olympics next year and the Borough used for both training and competitions, we could be seen as a soft target.

A presentation followed entitled "Operation Langley 2", which showed real CCTV footage of two illegal immigrants who were arrested after being observed carrying out "hostile intelligence" on the rail and tube networks and also at various shopping centres. They were both arrested and subsequently charged with a recommendation for deportation – although it was not known if they were actually deported. Sgt Knox said Police had a dilemma in knowing when to intervene.

This example brings it home that the fight against terrorism is down to everyone. With the Olympics next year, residents should be vigilant. The threat is severe which means there is a strong possibility of an attack, not just by Al Qaeda but also Irish dissident groups.

Protect computers and not to put any personal details in the dustbin – ensure that they are shredded or burnt. River Watch launches in the New Year and will focus on the traffic on the towpaths and River, of which there are 21 miles in Richmond. Boats can currently travel up the River as far as Teddington unchallenged.

Sgt Knox said everyone had a part to play and asked people to think about their local environment, including The Bental Centre in Kingston and the Riverside and if they suspect anything, to contact the Safer Neighbourhood Team or the Counter Terrorism Unit. The telephone is manned 24 hours a day and is: 0800 789 321 or 020 8247 7163.

6. General Reports from the Police

Sgt Tony Lovegrove is now the Safer Neighbourhood Team Sergeant for both Hampton Wick and Teddington said he took great pride in the role. If residents write to him with a concern, he will give an assurance that he will either help to resolve it or will find someone who can. Sgt Lovegrove thanked PC Grant Cranshaw and PC Dan Holden for all their hard work on the Ward as both will be leaving on 14th November. Thanks were also recorded from the community in recognition of all their hard work. They will be replaced in the first instance by one PC. There are currently 3 PCSOs, although one is working in the Property Store as she is pregnant. Sgt Lovegrove assured residents that if he needed to bring in extra personnel from one Ward to another, he could do so. Safer Neighbourhood Policing is here to stay and the new Metropolitan Police Commissioner fully supports community policing.

Crime figures from 1 April – 1 November to same period this year	Last year : 367 reported crimes	This year : 386 reported crimes	+ / -
Violence - ABH/ GBH – mainly domestic	23	19	-4
Burglary residential	19	22	+3
Robbery	6	5	-1
General theft from motor vehicles	33	34	+1

People are still leaving cars unlocked and expensive bicycles outside houses. Most of the perpetrators are coming in from outside the Borough.

PC Grant Cranshaw reported that an initiative has been organised with Surrey Police and Marine Support Units and Environment Agency, whose responsibility begins at Teddington Lock. Numerous boats were found not to have appropriate licenses and paperwork and legislation had been enforced. The Royal Parks Act, which can be used on Barge Walk, had also been used successfully.

Regular patrols have been operating along the River and a few prosecutions for fishing without a licence are pending. Stop and Search has been successful, with a number of fishermen found to be in possession of drugs. Stop and Account has also been used and drunks moved on.

Some boats were still presenting a problem by Teddington Rec. Affected residents were encouraged to write to their Councillors as this area was the responsibility of the Council Parks Department. All in all, it has been significantly quieter along the River this year and this was recognised by residents.

A resident asked who to contact in the event of a fire in Bushy Park. The direct line telephone number of the Police Station office by Hampton Court gate 020 7161 9733 but this is not always manned. For anything urgent, dial 999 or 111. Concern was raised about police operators not knowing where Bushy Park was and assuming it is in Hertfordshire. Sgt Lovegrove said he would look into this and Acting Chair, Carole Atkinson said she would take this back to the Central Communication Command. **ACTION: SNT & CAROLE ATKINSON**

7. Concerns from the Community

Home Park – A resident thanked Police for dealing effectively with anti social behaviour in Home Park.

Skate Park – The site is now well managed and as a result, incidents have reduced significantly. In early days many of the attendees had been from boroughs from further afield. Issues across the road with skateboarders using the private land under the university halls, sitting on walls and throwing rubbish, had also been addressed. Sgt Lovegrove said Police were continuing to monitor the situation.

Skateboarding and cycling on pavements – Lisa Milton-White from Hampton Hill has taken over from PC Lindsay as the point of contact and will soon be starting a regular surgery at the Halls of Residence.

Royal Paddocks Allotments – There had been Summer break-ins and vandalism.

Theft of metal – This is a nationwide problem and people need to take personal responsibility. An example was given of a company who could have hired private security for the same amount as that of lead stolen from its premises. Residents were asked to be vigilant and note the registration number of any vehicles being used to take metals and contact their SNT or ring 999 as appropriate.

Petal Cycle theft – This continues to be a problem. Vans are being driven round, bike locks cut and bikes stolen. Again, residents were asked to be vigilant and note registrations.

Cashpoints – A resident had fallen victim to a cashpoint scam. Residents were advised to use the machines inside banks whenever possible and to be aware of anyone watching as they carried out their transactions.

8. Report on and set priorities for the Wards

After discussion it was agreed the Priorities would be:

Anti Social Behaviour
Burglary
River related issues

9. Any Other Business

Parking illegally outside schools – There were problems at St John’s and Hampton Wick Schools, although it was understood the Headteacher was trying to stop the problem. The SNT will speak to the Schools and if the problem is not sorted the SNT can take further action and use cameras. **ACTION: SNT**

Abandoned bikes – The number of bikes was growing, some of which were obstacles on the pavements. Residents were asked to give the details to PCSO Dave Auld and action will be taken. **ACTION: SNT**

10. Date of Next Meetings

25 January 2012*	18 April 2012	20 June 2012	3 October 2012
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The Hall will be open at 7.00pm and meetings will commence at **7.15pm** prompt.

*A Senior Police Officer will be speaking at the January meeting.

Carle Atkinson thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting at 2100.

USEFUL EMAILS & TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Maurice Press, PLG Chair: maurice@disabilityresourceteam.com

Richmond Council Parking: 0208 744 0462 7 days a week 8-8

Reporting Graffiti: www.richmond.gov.uk/streetscene 0845 612 2660

Urgent out of hours: Careline: 020 8744 2442

Safer Neighbourhood Team: HamptonWick.snt@met.police.uk
020 8721 2908 / 07879 430359

The Cinnamon Trust admin@cinnamon.org.uk 01736 757900
(charity for the elderly & terminally ill who need pets looking after)

Mark Taplin mark.taplin@richmond.gov.uk 020 8891 7059
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Kingston University h.kukadia@kingston.ac.uk 020 8417 3023
Hema Kukadia
(issues with students)