

MINUTES OF NORTH RICHMOND PLG MEETING

WEDNESDAY 20th JULY 2011

LONDON WELSH RUGBY GROUND 7:30pm

19:45 Introduction to the meeting by Stephen Speak, acting PLG Chair in John Dodds' absence.

Barinder Gill is introduced as Sergeant of North Richmond SNT, due to Sergeant Robin Edwards being off work due to foot operation. Stephen Speak then introduces the guest speaker for the night, PC Bob Mitchell from the Counter Terrorism Focus Desk.

PC Mitchell started his talk by discussing with PLG attendants about the Olympics which are due to be held in London in 2012 and how the events could have an effect on the Borough of Richmond. He explained that on 14th August the Olympic Cyclists will be using many areas within the Richmond Borough as their cycle route, which will have an understandable effect on the local community.

The attendants of the meeting were then told by PC Mitchell, that the Security Level for England has recently dropped from SEVERE to SUBSTANTIAL, which means that, although a Terrorist attack is no longer inevitable, there is still a very strong possibility of an attack happening in the country. PC Mitchell stressed to the attendants, that Richmond does host a lot of touristic and historical sights which could very possibly be a target for Terrorist activity in the future.

PC Mitchell went on to talk about the situation in Northern Ireland and Eire. He explained that although there has been a lot of press attention to the recent attacks in Ireland, there have been many incidents that have gone unreported. As of now there has been an estimated 50 attacks throughout Northern Ireland and Eire, many which have resulted in deaths. PC Mitchell makes a reference to a recent incident whereby Irish Terrorists claimed to have placed a bomb in London about three months ago. Fortunately nothing tragic happened with this threat. Another issue briefly raised was that since the death of Osama Bin Laden, Al-Qaeda has come under new leadership and they are still a very strong threat.

At 19:53 the attendants of the PLG meeting are shown a film produced by the Metropolitan Police Service's Operation Target Team. The film is set around a terrorist attack on a fictional shopping centre and highlights how to report any suspicious activity and what to look out for regarding possible terrorist activities.

The film ends at around 20:14 and PC Mitchell uses this opportunity to stress the importance of noticing possible suspicious behaviour, such as seeing people using garages at odd times. Threat of terrorism is especially true for people living in the locality of Kew Gardens and the National Archives. PLG attendants given a run through of the best and most effective ways of passing over basic information to police if suspicious activity is seen. At this point, PC Mitchell finishes his speech and opens up the floor for any questions or queries.

Q: Do you feel that a film like this could teach possible terrorists ways of not being identified?

A: No. This film was originally made 4 years ago, and was made only for police. Only recently has this film been allowed to be shown to members of the public. Ultimately terrorists are often very intelligent people; they plan their activities for a very long time and are extremely determined to reach their goals. There are many different ways people can get radicalised into terrorism and learning how to make things like bombs have become very easy, especially by using the internet.

Stephen Speak takes an opportunity to remind attendants that remaining vigilant is absolutely essential to making sure crime doesn't happen in the local area. He reminds people that even if something seems normal at the time, it is always worth keeping an eye on it.

At 20:26 Stephen Speak passes onto PS Gill to start the agenda. To begin with PS Gill refers everybody to the growing media attention around an attempted abduction and the panic and anxiousness it has caused members of public. He explained to everybody that although there have been stories and texts saying that there have been many different incidents, only one incident has actually taken place and is being investigated by the police. PS Gill makes reference to another reported incident in Murray Park in Twickenham, which turned out to have been innocent. - Increase in high visibility patrols. Number to be given for info. Go to Met website for time updates. Dawes refers to email.

Crime Figures

Residential Burglary gone up.

Newly **re?.....** burglary done as 3. Since April decrease from 17-14%

Drugs -7% even after 4 separate cannabis incidents. Asked about seizure of cannabis, which was possession.

Personal Robbery - 40%

Business Robbery - 100%

Sex Offences - 50%

TFMV - 7% - 3 offences due to unlocked vehicles. Team to carry letters to give to people who have insecure vehicles. Poster hung up V.A.P.

Common Assault - 16%. ?..... / Wounding - 100%. Fri - Sat late turn shifts.

Low ASB / Rowdy issues.

Q: Do you have figures for successful results against crime?

A: Not to hand. Hard to get figures and to get it right. (*Amor*) Regarding vehicles, CCTV picked up a male checking car doors. Arrested for 4 thefts. ?..... hand to other crimes. Usually one or two people committing crimes.

(*Speak*) Q: Whole series of vehicles damaged in local streets? Same person?

(*Amor*) A: No, but almost always one person. Possible drunk people. Refer to Manor Road incident, 2 dangerous males damaging. Arrested. Kew Road and off roads most regular.

(*Harvey*) Q: Gang of car thieves caught doing fishing offences?

(*Gill*) A: Yes we are aware it does happen, burglary where people broke into house to take keys.

(*Amor*) 4 Audis taken in last week. (*Gill*) Letterbox deflectors.

20:44 21st June - Road safety carried out at school crossing patrol. 50 kids advised.

22nd June ANPR operation carried out

Brief: Explanation of operation. 1 car seized. Tickets issued, cannabis warning.

12th July - PCSO Harrison conducted 2 school talks.

20:46 Harrison introduces himself, talks about letterbox thefts, school talks, ?..... at local schools.

20:50 (*Gill* resumes) Male asks about traffic, how we haven't dealt with speeding and the ?... / drives that cause the accidents. (*Gill*) corrects regarding speeding / blacked out windows. Also traffic dedicating a day to help on ANPR. Hopefully once every 2 weeks. Try to split it up to cover all times of day, long-term plan. (*Amor*) May sound like we deal with it only when told. We cover it all day every time we're on patrol. Use of speed-gun training. A316 worse area for speeding (*Dawes*) the problem is being continuously brought up. (*Hodges*) Under assumption progress was being made (*Amor*) It is "explains."

20:57 Discussion about speeding on A316.

Q: Do TFL come to borough?

A: Yes, all the time.

Q: Can we get them to a meeting?

A: Agreement to try and get to TFL meeting.

20:59 (*Gill*) Theft in Manor Road / shops - 5% decrease. All offenders caught by staff at Homebase. Team have been working with staff in shops. Regular surgeries for public. (*Hatton E*) Regarding trolleys being taken from shop? **A:** Talk to management and work out best way to handle it.

Events & operations in the area. Cairns talks about event (Rugby Rocks). Amor talks about vagrants in Michel Row. Made worse by closing at Vineyard and opening of Speare. Been r?..... and made on arrest. Now in prison, waiting for charge which could be 5 years. No reports since.

21:10 Questions open to floor:

Q: Would you like to discuss 101/999 number? When to use it?

(*James*) **A:** If suspicious circumstances do call it. 999 if not sure (*Amor*) 0300/101 to be used to free up resources.

Q: Charge on phone call?

A: No comment (*Amor*)

Q: Graffiti on Manor Grove area?

A: (*Amor*) Big clean up scheme to be conducted. (*Gill*) team to look and add any extra to list. (*Amor*) Dee Road, Argyle House being worked on with councillors. High on agenda (*Speak*) ?..... in talks with Network Rail.

Q: Proposed lanes in East London on our side?

A: Not to our knowledge

Q: Groups gathering in Sainsburys after car park?

A: We are aware, paying attention to area.

Q: Comments about Kew Festival?

A: (*Hodges*) Happy with parking from Kew. Traffic management handled very well. Slight issues with people avoiding barriers to cross road.

21:26 *Gill* concludes meeting. **Next meeting 26/10/11**

21:40 PLG Chair gather to discuss priorities for next term.

Current priorities: Residential burglary, Road Safety, Theft - Manor Road
Anything needs to be added? No, stay the same. Burg No1. Road Safety affect everyone Chalkers Corner. No entry signs in Somerton Avenue.

Can police / council provide car camera for area. Amor advises to keep log of incidents. Theft - Manor Road, agreed to keep it

21:54 *Gill* calls meeting to a close.