



COMMUNITY & POLICE PARTNERSHIP: Ham & Petersham Police Liaison Group (PLG) Minutes

Meeting Date: Thursday 6 October 2011
Venue: Ashburnham Children's Centre

PRESENT: Sgnt Phil Ure, PC Steven Pratley, PC Claire Taylor, PCSO Anthony Elsmere, Acting Chief Inspector Hannah Wheeler Jean Loveland (Chair) and David Williams (Vice Chair) + 31 members (see Attendance list for details)

No:	Minutes
1.0	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: were received from Inspector Dave George.
2.0	CHAIR'S UPDATE: Jean Loveland opened the meeting and reported on the key points raised at the Community Police Partnership (CPP) meeting in September.
3.0	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: on 7 July 2011 were approved and there were no matters arising.
4.0	POLICE REPORT
4.1	Sgnt Ure gave a verbal report for the last quarter and highlighted the following issues:
4.2	<p>Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB): An update on ASB was given by the Acting Chief Inspector, Hannah Wheeler, who is the chair of the ASB Panel in the Borough. It was noted that the ASB issues on Ashburnham Road had been discussed and the Police are aware that ASB is a serious problem in Ham with officers from other forces having been drafted in to help.</p> <p>Members were advised that ASB had dropped by 20% in Ham (figures given were 101 incidents reported in July 2010 vs. 80 incidents reported in August 2011) This was attributed to the extra police activity.</p> <p>The Police have been working closely with Richmond Housing Partnership to reduce ASB and it was noted that a local resident had been convicted of burglary as the result of using ASB legislation resulting in an 18 month sentence.</p>
4.3	<p>ASB in other areas: Members raised a query regarding ASB on Ham Common, Ham Common Woods, Ferrymoor and the Breamwater Gardens passage.</p> <p>The police recognise that it can be intimidating and quite frightening to come across large groups but confirmed that it is also very difficult for the Police to be effective, highlighting that it was legal to congregate and even drink in the open space if over 18 yrs. It was noted that only when behaviour changed to criminality could the Police intervene. Sgnt Ure recognised the concerns raised and promised to make the most of CCTV and lighting in a bid to reduce ASB in these areas. He also advised that the SNT are working to educate people on the effects of noise on the community as often the groups involved did not realise how loud and intimidating they can be.</p>
4.4	CCTV Cameras: Sgnt Ure confirmed that the Police now obtained a list from the Council of all CCTV cameras in the area.
4.5	Ham Parade: Cllr Sue Jones raised concerns on behalf of Ham Parade Traders Association who have had thefts and suffered from ASB. It was noted that the traders have even asked for benches to be removed so that the drunks were not encouraged. Cllr Jones will look into.
4.6	Graffiti: The Police confirmed that a graffiti/ tag notice board had been set up in the police station window to try and help with identification of the perpetrators. As a result of this, a suspect has been identified and the Police are compiling evidence to make an arrest for much of the tagging in Ham.
4.7	Communication: A frustrated member raised the issue of poor communication with the SNT

	<p>and advised that he had had a lot of problems with getting in contact with the team. This was recognised by the Police who stated that the email link from the MET website was broken. Coupled with a fault on the SNT office telephone line made things worse. Sgnt Ure wished to promote the use of the new non-emergency phone number being : 101</p> <p>It was agreed to meet outside the meeting to discuss concerns regarding the ongoing vandalism of the cricket pitch.</p>
4.8	<p>Grey Court School: The Police have been working closely with the school and 2 students had been excluded for ASB. There has been an emphasis to prevent ASB from students by providing a police presence at the beginning and end of each day within a 500yard radius of the school. This has proved positive.</p> <p>Action: Sgnt Ure agreed to change coverage of officers with more resources deployed to police Ham Parade after school breaks up.</p>
4.9	<p>Drugs: It was noted that 4 warrants, 13 arrests and multiple seizures have been made by the Police, including that of a cannabis factory, which was likely to be the main source of the drugs in Ham. Intelligence continues to be gained from the community and Sgnt Ure advised that this was good news.</p>
4.10	<p>Ham Lands: An effective user group has now been set up on Ham Lands. The LGBT are engaging with the Police who have clear standards and expectations. It was noted that complaints about Ham Land had dropped considerably.</p>
4.11	<p>Halloween: The Police gave assurance that the whole team would be on call-out by foot during Halloween and Guy Fawkes so that a visible police presence would be felt. It was hoped that this would deter any criminal/ASB activity. It was noted that the Police had run checks on some shops and that large fireworks, which are illegal, would be seized. Members were encourage to report any cases of large fireworks on sale.</p>
4.12	<p>Crime figures: Sgnt Ure agreed to produce crime figures for the next meeting so some perspective could be given to the percentage increases or decreases discussed.</p>
4.13	<p>Changes in government policy: It was noted that staff cuts of Police at a national level will have an effect all the way to the SNT. Currently, the SNT are operating at full strength with mentoring of special constables as an ongoing project.</p>
5.0	<p>Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 12 January 2012 at 7pm – Russell School, Meadlands Drive.</p> <p>Future meeting dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring - 19th April 2012 (Ashburnham Children's Centre) • Summer - 5th July (Russell School) • Autumn - 4th October (Ashburnham Children's Centre) • Winter - 10th January 2013 (Russell School) <p>Contact details for the SNT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0208 247 7074 – MAIN NUMBER (has answering machine attached to this number) • 0208 948 8571 / 0208 247 7073 – SNT office numbers • 0776 817 8552 – SNT mobile • 101 - is the new number to be used to report a non-emergency crime • 999 - in an Emergency