

COMMUNITY & POLICE PARTNERSHIP / SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD BOARD
MEETING

THE SALON, YORK HOUSE, LONDON ROAD TWICKENHAM

TUESDAY 8TH APRIL 2014 AT 7.00 PM

MINUTES

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

CA Carole Atkinson	CPP Chair, Fulwell & Hampton Hill Voluntary Care
WKP Wendy Kyle Pope	CPP Vice Chair & SM13 / LCPL
JE John Evans	Chair, Whitton & Heathfield PLG
CO Charles Owens	Chair, South Twickenham PLG, NHW, SHRA
MK Martin Kingsford	Chair, Teddington PLG
JC John Coates	Chair, South Richmond PLG
KC Kirstie Craig	Chair, Fulwell & Hampton Hill PLG
AJ Anne Johnstone	Chair Mortlake & Barnes PLG; Barnes Community Assoc. & MET Volunteers
MW Margaret Warden	NHW Co-ordinator Lindhurst Ave & Heathfield PLG
MW Michael Warden	NHW Co-ordinator Lindhurst Avenue & Heathfield PLG
DW Derek Wilson	NHW Co-ordinator Heathfield Ward
PA Pam Allen	NHW Co-ordinator Mill Road
CS Carol Sands	NHW Co-ordinator St Winifred Road
DF Doreen Finucane	NHW Co-ordinator Heathfield
PH Peter Holland	Hampton Wick Neighbourhood Watch
PBS Peter Burrows-Smith	Friends of Richmond Park & Board Member (Treasurer)
HN Helen Nichols	Friends of Twickenham Green
CG Christina Gore	Secretary, Hampton Wick PLG
TL Tony Lindsay	NHW Co-ordinator Kneller Road
DL David Loftus	Kneller Hall
GH Geoff Holden	NHW Co-ordinator Oak Lane, Twickenham
JM John Murray	Met Volunteer & NHW Member
EH Edward Hendon	Met Volunteer
DS David Shaw	Albert' Community Association & Richmond Society
MC Michael Connor	
TC Tony Cotton	Richmond Synagogue
TS Tony Speed	D of C NHW
JM Janet Marriott	Older People's Forum
RE Richard Eason	RuT LBRuT Forum
AB Anne Ball	Victim Support
AD Ashi Dhillon	EMAG
SS Sarah Simpson	Richmond 3HCF
NA Natasha Allen	LBRuT
TM Tony Meachen	NHW Normansfield Court

POLICE ATTENDING:

DT Debra Towns	Borough Commander, Richmond MPS
GS Graham Simpson	Inspector Graham Simpson
MW Mark Woodward	Acting Inspector Teddington MPS
MB Michael Boulton	Sergeant, Richmond & Bushy Parks

INVITED BY THE CHAIR

JB John Bell	Vice Chair, South Twickenham PLG & Board Member
---------------------	---

COUNCIL ATTENDING:

AA Tony Arbour	Hampton Wick Ward Councillor & GLA
LP Lesley Pollesche	Ward Councillor, West Twickenham
SS Stephen Speak	Ward Councillor, North Richmond
NA Natasha Allen	LBRuT

JH Julie Hill	Minute Secretary
----------------------	------------------

1. CHAIR'S WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

CA welcomed everyone to the Meeting and apologies were noted as follows: Sgt Ino Lobo; Maurice Press; Ravi Arora; Barbara Westmoreland; Seamus Joyce. CA explained that this is the last meeting of the Community Police Partnership.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – APPENDIX A

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 29.1.14 were agreed with the following amendments: Charles Owens and Michael Warden had sent apologies. Sarah Simpson represents 3HCF not BHCf.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

3.1 Definition of ASB to be obtained and circulated – WKP

"Behaviour by a person which causes or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons who are not of the same household as that person".

3.2 Availability of details of ASB calls recorded by satellite stations – DT

Sgt Mark Woodward reported that the issue of calls not being picked up was due to a fault on the BT line which has now been rectified.

3.3 Supply of NHW stickers – CA

CA has asked for 2000 more NHW stickers to be printed.

3.4 Questions

CA reassured attendees that the public are going to be allowed an opportunity to raise questions at the new format Safer Neighbourhood Board Meetings .

4. PRESENTATION: Youth Council Stop and Search Questionnaire

Celia Duncan and Joseph Aulsford (JA), Richmond Youth Council, gave an excellent Presentation on Stop and Search. They began by giving the definition: *"It allows police officers to stop and search a person or vehicle for stolen or prohibited articles. The power can only be exercised if the officer has "reasonable grounds" for suspicion."* They explained they had modified the Brent Borough questionnaire and those taking part were from varied ethnicities via face to face, phone or via social media. There were 10 questions to be answered including details about the person stopped, format of the search, their age, how many times they had been stopped and whether they felt it was justified. Respondents who attended the Focus Group held to discuss the information from the questionnaire were given a shopping voucher for taking part. The results were analysed. Out of 82 responses, 62 had been stopped and searched, 43 in the borough of Richmond upon Thames and the remainder in other London boroughs. 48 said the police had given reason for the stop and search. 22 thought they had not been treated fairly and said why. More than half of the respondents did not know how to complain. Respondents felt that Stop and Search was a useful tool for the police did think Stop & Search could cut gun and knife crime. Those at the Focus Group felt they could talk to the local police.

Recommendations from the project are: avoid stereotyping (eg certain Estates in Richmond and Barnes), ensure there are reasonable grounds based on intelligence, update and distribute the Know Your Rights booklet and give to anyone who is stopped and search. Make sure the 5090 record is offered and explain what it is, explain properly the reason for the search and run community projects in schools. It was also suggested that this be run in a year's time.

The Borough Commander thanked Joseph and Celia for their Presentation and spoke about Stop and Search from a Police context. 48% are stops around crime searches and are higher in this Borough as much crime is carried out by people coming in from other Boroughs.

JE asked if any respondents thought there was anything positive to Stop and Search. Although the people interviewed did not find it a positive experience if they were searched, they had said they understood the reason for it.

CA said the Report contained more information and that there were many positive experiences quoted and that the Report will be circulated in due course.

WKP said we would look to add the independent complaints line phone number to the 5090 form. She also suggested that Officers should be aware what affect a “jump out” might have on those whose first language is not English.

JB suggested Stop & Search be an Agenda item for a future Meeting.

PBS asked about the age profile. **DT** advised that the number of those under 25s is generally higher than over 25s and confirmed that Officers do not have targets regarding the number of Stop and Searches carried out. **JA** said that one person had been arrested as a result of Stop and Search, because of how he had reacted and not as a result of anything in his possession.

For clarification, the 5090 Form is a receipt for the Stop & Search, recording details of the Stop. The person stopped should be offered a copy, or told where to get one from.

Joseph and Celia were once again thanked for their excellent Presentation.

AT this point **CA** invited Cllr Arbour to say a few words. Cllr Arbour said he was concerned to hear that people were to put their hands in their pockets to pay for rooms for PLGs. He praised the work that the PLGs do and confirmed that there would be funding for any Meetings where funding was an issue, which would come from the council, and was very sorry if anyone had been put in this position. Cllr Arbour was thanked for this very welcome news.

5. UPDATE ON SNB – WENDY KYRLE-POPE

WKP confirmed that the new Safer Neighbourhood Boards have far more power than the former Community Police Partnership. Various elections will be held later in the next few weeks, bringing in representatives from Police Liaison Groups, Neighbourhood Watch and other Borough-wide groups, the intention being to cover as widely as possible everyone who lives in the Borough. The Board will meet four times a year to discuss public confidence, complaints and hear from independent custody visitors, other advisers and to look at the crime figures, which will then give rise to setting the Priorities. The Board will then adjourn and members of the public can then ask questions of the Police. Richmond will very much remain a partnership. **WKP** suggested we welcome the concept of the Board and handed over to **CA** for the first topic of the new SNB.

6. PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

Debra Towns (**DT**), Borough Commander gave the Performance Overview for the period 1st April 2013 – 31st March 2014. 84% of people surveyed in a rolling 12 month period believed the Police are doing a good job. This is an increase of +14% on this time last year and exceeds the overall MPS position of 67%. **WKP** added that public confidence in the community will also be measured through the PLGs.

7. INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITING – UPDATE

On occasions we will have a Custody Visitor attending Meetings.

8. COMPLAINTS

DT distributed copies of complaints figures, giving an overview of the year's data and said she hoped that complaints would be successfully dealt with on the Borough. In answer to the question as to what constitutes a complaint, this is defined by the actions of an individual, for example, oppressive behaviour, discrimination, malpractice or failure in duty.

JB raised the matter of the length of time to resolve complaints, asking how many and how long it is taking to resolve them. **DT** advised that a complaint could be swiftly dealt with by Front Counter staff or it could be a complex complaint that goes on for years. There are two main categories: mis-conduct – dealt with locally by Professional Standards Chief Inspector Graham Simpson and gross mis-conduct which is referred to the Director of Professional Standards.

Members of the new Safer Neighbourhood Board who are representing this complex area will be given thorough training.

9. CRIME FIGURES - CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Praise was given to the Police for the attention that the Richmond synagogue receives from them. **DT** gave an example of a letter of praise the Police had received from a member of the Public but stressed that if Police receive any negative feedback they do act on it.

Public Satisfaction – 82% of victims in a 12 month period agreed that police are doing a good job. Satisfaction for victims of violence increased by +8% in the last six months to 81%.

Violence with injury – 689 reported crimes compared to 698 previous period, showing a reduction of -1.6% (target being -5.8%). The detection rate is currently 41.2% exceeding the 40% target.

Serious Youth Violence – There had been 69 reported Serious Youth Violence crimes.

Domestic Abuse Offences – 687 reported; a reduction of -0.6% on the 691 previous year.

Knife Crime – 74 knife crimes reported, which is a decrease of -26% from the previous year to date.

Property Portfolio – 183 robberies, which is a reduction on the 193 in the previous year.

Theft Person 1 Apr – 31 Mar – Richmond recorded 203 offences; a reduction of -20.1% on the 254 offences from the previous year. The SNTs have done a great deal of work to help reduce this figure. Today's figures: down 22%, 199 instead of 255. Mobile phones down 16%.

Residential Burglary - 864 crimes; a -26.7% reduction on 1.178 recorded from the previous year.

Non Residential Burglary- 955 offences compared to 977, a -2.3% reduction. Shed and bike and high value tool thefts remain a challenge.

Motor vehicle Crime – today's figures - theft from 4% down on last year, theft of 7% down. Many people are still leaving their cars unlocked.

Homophobic Hate Crime – 11 homophobic crimes have been recorded in the year to date; a reduction of -21%. The current detection rate is 100%.

Racist and Religious Hate Crime – 107 recorded in the year to date; a -4.5% reduction.

DT encouraged everyone to come together to reinvigorate the Hate Crime Forum. “Stop Hate UK” is currently Council funded but this money will be lost if it is not used.

EMAC has a Community Stand Together Event on Tuesday 20th May. Booking forms are available.

Criminal Damage – 1,101 year to date; a reduction of -7.8%. Richmond is achieving the 15% detection target on this crime area.

Anti Social Behaviour – 5,178 calls compared to 5,622; a reduction of -7.9%. Repeat callers are down from 103 to 93. **DT** thanked Inspector Simpson for his and his Sergeants hard work in reducing ASB, which as a result, is the lowest in London.

I & S Calls – 93.1% of all I Call graded responses on a rolling 12 month period were attended within 15 minutes; an increase against the 90% reported to CPP in Jan 2014.

The Safer Neighbourhood Board Meeting was then adjourned for public questions.

10. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND RAISED BY MEMBERS

Q. Are there any particular crimes that attract “visitors” to the Borough?

A. Yes. Non residential burglaries – sheds and bikes.

Q. How many Members will be elected to the new SNB?

A. There will be grass roots local representation through PLG clusters and community and interest groups. **CA** has written to all PLG Chairs. Elections will take place each year and the maximum tenure will be for three years.. **JB** added that there is no intention to exclude anyone from the Meetings. The Council is funding adverts, room and refreshments for the Meetings and the Board recorded its thanks to the Council.

Q. John Coates Chair South Richmond Ward, spoke about being in the crime hot spot of the Borough and asked about the way that Priorities will be set within the Forum.

A. **CA** confirmed that Ward PLGs will set “Promises” which will feed up through the PLG Minutes to the SNB. What could be a high Ward priority might be a low Borough priority. **DT** explained why there are high numbers in Richmond – hot spots are discussed at “tasking meetings” and actions taken forward as necessary. **JB** added that PLG Priorities are pretty consistent across the Borough so concerns at South Richmond for example, will show. **WKP** requested that PLG Minutes are promptly issued so that Priorities can be quickly identified. **MW** gave two examples of victims of crime on her Ward and was concerned that no contact details or Victim Cards were left by the attending Officers and in one instance involving a child, the officer did not introduce himself. **DT** confirmed that Officers in Uniform are not obliged to show Warrant Cards unless asked to do so and said she would ask Chief Inspector Simpson to look into the concern. **UPDATE: these matters have now been resolved. The first was incorrectly reported to MW and the second concern had been explained.*

Q. PBS suggested that for consistency when setting Priorities, a “menu” of options could be drawn up for the PLGs.

A. This was thought to be a good idea and would be produced.

Q. JE asked about dialling 101 or 999 and finding that attending officers were not necessarily from the Borough.

A. DT advised that the Control Room would automatically look for a TW Officer. However, depending on the location, it may be that an Officer from a neighbouring Borough is closer.

11. ROYAL PARKS REPORT

This Report had been omitted from the Agenda but **WKP** said that in future, there will be a Report from the Parks Police and where possible, the Transport Police.

Sgt Michael Boulton circulated the Report by Inspector Bob Woulfe. Police have been targeting unlicensed dog walkers and unlicensed personal trainers. In Richmond Park there were 610 interventions from verbal warnings to prosecutions.

Current Objectives – Richmond Park

Protection of ground nesting birds, young deer and prevention of anti social cycling.

Current Objectives – Bushy Park

Speeding vehicles, parking and trade vehicles.

On Saturday 21st June there will be a Cycle Awareness Day at Roehampton Gate organised by Richmond Transport Team. The main factor for this location is that there will be an articulated lorry in which people can illustrate how difficult it can be to see cyclists. Free bike checks are also taking place.

The number of Skylarks, which are ground nesters, has been drastically reducing. Two breeding areas have been established above Pen Ponds and one in Bushy Park. Notices are in place requiring dogs to be on leads in these areas and where they are not, owners have been written to.

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator Pam Allen praised the Police in Bushy Park who had been extremely helpful and polite and asked that this be passed on to them.

Details of Park surgeries to be circulated with the Minutes.

WKP added that another duty of the Board is to rev up Dog Watch and River Watch and that she and Chief Inspector Simpson would be discussing this.

12. SETTING PRIORITIES

The following priorities were set for the borough:

Burglary

Anti Social Behaviour

Motor Vehicle Crime

13. BOARD RECONVENES FOR CONFIRMATION OF PRIORITIES

All were agreed, but an additional priority was requested. **JB** said that a lot of PLG members were concerned about dangerous cycling and parking around schools and suggested that this be added as a Priority. **DT** said cycling enforcement is a police issue but that parking around schools is the responsibility of Traffic Enforcement Officers, which falls in the lap of the council. **JB** asked that the Council and Police work in partnership to resolve these issues rather than just pass them back to each other.

It was agreed that PLGs should ask their respective Councillors first and if there was no result, issues would be escalated to the SNB. **CA** said she would write to Councillors to confirm this and ask them to take such concerns back to the Council.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Keith Free, CCTV & Careline Manager's Report had been circulated. CCTV continues to provide an important support to the Police and rapid deployment cameras continue to be used to great effect.

David Noakes, Community Safety Partnership Newsletter was circulated and had also been widely circulated by email.

EMAC – Hate Crime Forum Meeting “Communities Standing Together” will be held at RHP HQ on Tuesday 20th May. Booking required. Tel: 020 8893 9000.

Cycling Awareness Event – Roehampton Gate – Saturday 21st June.

The Public is encouraged to follow Richmond MET on Twitter: @MPSRichmond

CO thanked **WKP** for all her hard work in bringing the Safer Neighbourhood Board to fruition.

CA reiterated this thanks to **WKP** and thanked everyone for coming and closed the Meeting at 20.57.

15. DATE OF NEXT SNB MEETINGS

July, October, January and March - tbc

Venue: **tbc, York House, Richmond Road, Twickenham**
