

OLD WINDSOR
NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP
Meeting at 10.00 am Monday 6th October 2008
At the Parish Meeting Room, Church Road, Old Windsor

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Cllr Tony Troughton (OWPC) (TT), NW Administrator Jeffrey Pick (JP), Esther Deacon RBWM (ED), PC Marc Phillips (MP), PC Steve Parker (SP), PCSO Andy Aldridge (AA), Cllr Chris Beaver, OWPC (CB), Cllr Tony Peach OWPC (TP)

Apologies: John Lee, Insp. Littlewood, Sgt Mike Darrah, Susan Cook, PCSO Frances Ailward

Introduction: MP introduced PC Steve Parker who will shortly replace him as Neighbourhood Specialist Officer for Old Windsor and Eton.

1. Minutes of previous meeting (1st September 2008)

Were accepted as an accurate record.

2. The proposed Police Post

Was still under discussion. The Parish will pay all the capital costs, but need TVP to fund furnishing and any secure computer / telephone lines they need. Although warned not expect a rapid response from TVP acceptance of the proposal to convert the building is still awaiting their agreement and specification

Action: TT & TVP

3. Alcohol Ban

ED explained that there had been a change in the procedure for obtaining an Alcohol Free Zone which should speed up the procedure enormously. If it works, the Ban should be in place by January 2009.

4. The Petard Camera

Was installed and has been operating for a week. It's beneficial impact was felt immediately and since its installation ASB has reduced enormously. The fact that the gate to the REC is now always locked at night, may also have helped. It has been agreed that it will remain in place through Halloween and Bonfire Night.

PC Paul Dredge who has now been appointed to the Police Licensing Team and has some responsibility for ASB is responsible for the camera and is on hand in case of need. If anyone becomes aware of any incident can they please contact him at Windsor Police Station on 0845 8 505 505 so that he can arrange to attend and download any relevant footage – or re-align the camera view.

5. Crime Reporting

MP gave the crime figures as 42 reported crimes since the last meeting. Of which damage to 1 car and 4 garages. This against 69 in the same period last year.

6. Police Visibility

The police are doing all they can, considering the many changes that have occurred and the resources available. The Chairman referred to information provided by the Deputy Chief Constable at a recent public meeting when he stated that TVP have one of the lowest ratios of Police Officers per 1000 population in the country despite having a middle ranging income. This had resulted in correspondence between the Chairman and

the local MP, Mr Adam Afryie, who had sought clarification from the Home Secretary. The first reply from the Home Office had proved misleading and Mr Afryie has been asked to pursue the matter. As this is a Neighbourhood Priority, TT felt that the NAG should explore every avenue.

Action: TT

7. Parking

There was still concern about cars parked for long periods awaiting their owners' return from the airport and cars parked up for long periods were being reported as suspicious. ED said that parking attendants had recorded 60 visits to Old Windsor, 55 cars were recorded and observed, a number of tickets had been issued.

8. Anti Social Behaviour

Reports of ASB are well down and it is believed this is as a result of PCSOs' being a visible deterrent on the streets. There was a general lessening of ASB throughout the region.

The Youth Club needed improvement to attract more members. Some modifications are being suggested with a view to making the youth club more attractive to an older age group. The junior youth club is still well attended. JP suggested contacting Ronnie Wilkie, Director of Ascot Racecourse, who runs the innovative and successful Kotch Club in Ascot, for exchange of ideas and best practise.

Action: TT

9. Community Consultation Meeting

TT had booked the Day Centre for late October, the only date of available for some time. The event will be published by way of the village website. JP suggested sending questionnaires as well which are being developed by other areas, aiming at those residents unable to attend on the day. Hire cost will be met by NW and Mike Darrah will liaise with TT about the presentation. SP thought TVP had a sound system that could be used, as well as a loop system for anyone hard of hearing.

Action: TT & TVP

10. AOB

- MP outlined the measures already taken by the police for Halloween: Shops warned not to sell eggs and flour prior to the night. All members of the Neighbourhood Team will be on duty and areas have been allocated to them. A mobile telephone number has been circulated to Members of NW as well as KINs for use on the night. This will be answered by PCSO Terri Parker-James who will then direct police officers via the police Airwave system. This will enable police officers to respond within minutes. TPJ will then log the calls with the PEC so that the information is not lost.

- AA was concerned about the poor lighting in some areas. It might prove costly to alter the existing lighting design as the poles were of a very old fashioned design. ED will enquire from RBWM regarding any upgrade. TT also pointed out the low level light emissions – they have standard 80w bulbs may be due to a build up of dirt. Washing the lamps may help as an initial step.

There is a question mark over whether or not planning permission is need for the new lighting to be installed on the Rec. If they are over 5 metres high it is clear it would be needed. If the lamps were that height, they would be in the trees, so this was thought to be easily dealt with.

Action: ED

Date of next meeting: Monday 3rd November 2008 at 10.00 am, in the Parish Meeting Room, Church Road, Old Windsor.

