

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT 7.30 pm ON TUESDAY 6TH JANUARY 2009
AT HARROGATE FIRE STATION

- 1. Present:** Keith Roberts (Chairman), John Parker (Secretary), Katy Piazza (Treasurer), Tina Oates, Maureen Asher, Mike Sims, Eric Walker, Peter Thornes, Betty Squires, Charlotte Elcock, Inspector Rob Bowles, Pat Turnbull
- Apologies:** Peter Dallas, Brian Booker.

Agenda Item 11. Police Report. The Chairman introduced Inspector Rob Bowles (Safer Neighbourhoods Response Team - Western Area) to the Meeting. Rob gave us a very interesting and comprehensive presentation including details of various operations currently in force in our area plus crime figures, statistics and detection rates.

The Police have been building a 'ring of steel' around Harrogate in order to deter visiting criminals and using number plate recognition (NPR) devices to facilitate monitoring of vehicles entering and leaving the area.

In Western Area, over a 2 week period in December, 15 dwelling burglaries were recorded, nine of which occurred in Harrogate, including four 2 in 1 thefts. Craven and Richmond were also targeted. Fifteen burglaries of garden sheds, garages and sheds etc were reported in Harrogate and this number does not include the rural villages.

The majority of car thefts and thefts from unattended vehicles occurred in Harrogate. The Police are working hard and are getting positive results by targeting resources.

The increased incidence of cycle thefts across the district and especially in Harrogate continues to cause concern. Here too the problem is being addressed with tracker devices aimed at locating the mastermind behind the thefts.

Personnel moves were reported and the Chairman enquired about the changing shift patterns of the PCSOs as no recent information had been made available to us. Changes are due to take effect from 9th February. Inspector Bowles was pleased to answer several questions from Committee members and also assured the Meeting that he would report concerns to Inspector John Greveson eg lack of RingMaster messages following burglaries etc.

The Chairman thanked Inspector Bowles, who had been standing in for Inspector Greveson. (Community Safety Inspector - Western Area).

- 2. Minutes of last Meeting on 4 November 2008.** Maureen Asher noted the issue of handbag alarms. (Agenda item 10) It was confirmed that there be no charge for the alarms. The Minutes were accepted.

- 3. Matters Arising.** All items were to be covered by the Agenda.

- 4. Correspondence.** No official correspondence had been received.

- 5. Chairman's Report.**

- a. The Chairman commented on the excessive amount of promotions and invitations received, few of which are local or relevant.
- b. Keith attended the Community Partnership Annual Review. Several Committee members, who had previously attended, did not receive invitations.

- c. At a Community Partnership monthly meeting, it was agreed that the NHW leaflets would be re-issued with 50% funding. The leaflets, to be printed by the Council, are now due.
- d. Community Partnership 'Assessment of Application for Funding' Keith suggested a request for 'Immobiliser' stickers which NHW Schemes should be encouraged to use.
- e. Knaresborough Police have extended an invitation to join them in an 'Environmental Visual Audit'. Observations and feedback from NHW will be welcomed.

6. Treasurer's Report. Katy Piazza presented her report: £920 received, of which: £145 donated, Smart Water sales £770 and sale of alarm £5. Closing Balance £2861. We have an outstanding bill for 50 units of Smart Water (£874). The VAT amount wrongly charged at 17.5% by NYPA, now awaits correction.

7. Peter Thornes - Ringmaster. The Chairman introduced Peter Thornes who had volunteered to help with RingMaster messaging. Peter had received a formidable list of duties from Sue Hucknall and is working his way through the instructions. Little training had been received To facilitate the production of labels for mail shots, LookOut etc, for which Peter is now responsible, the Chairman proposed that a dedicated printer be purchased. This was agreed by the Committee. Peter, who is to be contacted only by e-mail, is to receive a separate e-mail address to which Co-ordinator updates, also urgent messages, are to be sent. John Parker will organise this.

8. Reports from other Meetings. Mike Sims attended a CAP meeting on 3 December and a Safer Nidderdale meeting on 6 December.

9. Public Relations.

- a. Peter Dallas has arranged for details of H&DNWA to be published in the 'Harrogate Directory', a free publication which has a wide circulation, with the objective of encouraging the development of H&D NHW.
- b. Ackrill Newspapers have been contacted and hopefully future NHW messages will be published in good time, well ahead of effective dates eg Mischief Night, Bonfire Night, etc.
- c. LookOut: Contributions to Peter by 18 January please. Enveloping on 27th January, 11 am, at Tina Oates home.
- d. Peter has prepared two procedural documents for dealing with publicity, these will be circulated to Committee Members

10. Existing/New Schemes.

Maureen Asher held a Set Up meeting with Tina Oates in Killinghall on 15 December. Maureen reported that she had received a nice 'thank you' letter from PCSO Steve Halligan and that, as always,

Nick Widdowson made an excellent contribution.

Maureen has been unable to contact Councillor R. Cooper.

Drugs and alcohol abuse continue to be a problem in the Mayfield area.

Tina Oates receives regular PCSO e-mail updates regarding 'happenings in Pannal'.

Keith Roberts Consultation with Acting Sgt Alex Sellars concerning the suspicion of fraud reported at the Fairfax Housing Association meeting: this matter to be pursued and Alex Sellars will be talking to the other Co-ordinators to discreetly confirm their interpretation regarding setting up costs

