

The Harrogate & District Neighbourhood Watch Association
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting
held on Tuesday 1 May 2012 at Harrogate Fire Station

Present: Peter Dallas, Chris Oates, Tina Oates, Katy Piazza, Keith Roberts (Chair), David Siddans, Graham Slights.

Also Present: PC Dan Walker, beat officer, Bilton and Woodfield.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Catherine Peyton, Maureen Asher and Eric Walker.

2. Minutes of meeting held on 13 March 2012.

These minutes were approved. (Proposed TO, seconded KP)

3. Matters arising

Item 4 Monthly meetings have now been reinstated

Training sessions for “superusers” on Ringmaster to take place soon.

Item 14.1: Action still to be taken on label printing machine.

4. Police Report

PC Walker explained how changes in staffing levels have led to a “less than perfect” situation with respect to Ringmaster. After the loss of Gwen Baines, there have been insufficient remaining civilian staff to focus on delivering the system. In addition, beat officers, whilst regularly using Twitter, have less time to file Ringmaster reports. Although it would be possible to monitor Twitter messages and link these into Ringmaster, in practice this is difficult to achieve comprehensively

KR reported that the Ringmaster system was still not up and running after it had been taken down on Monday 30 April for upgrading. He had raised the problem with Insp Penny Taylor at the HPS tasking meeting.

It was suggested that messages should be assembled and fed out as a weekly bulletin.

KR thanked PC Walker for attending and for being so informative.

5. Chairman’s report

KR reported on his activities since the last meeting:

| | |
|--------|---|
| 14 Mar | STOP Crime event - Fairfax |
| 16 Mar | STOP Crime event – St Marks, Leeds Road |
| 22 Mar | STOP Theft event – Ripon Town Hall |
| 27 Mar | Independent Advisory Group (IAG) meeting – Bilton |
| 3 Apr | NY NHTWA meeting, Harrogate |
| 4 Apr | STOP Crime review meeting, HBC Council Offices |

| | |
|--------|-----------------------------------|
| 12 Apr | H&D NHWA Review meeting |
| 23 Apr | H&D NHWA MSM meeting, Kestrel Inn |
| 25 Apr | Police Tasking Meeting HPS |
| 25 Apr | Granby SNG meeting |

He also reported correspondence from Ripon Museums (thanking H&D NHWA for attendance at recent event), HBC Environmental Protection (requesting members to report incidents of dog fouling) and Cllr John Fox (forwarding list of people in Granby ward interested in becoming involved with NHWA).

6. Treasurer's report

6.1. Income and expenditure

KP submitted the following report of accounts since 13 March 2012:

INCOME

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Donations | £55.00 |
| SmartWater Sales | £164.00 |
| Other Sales | £15.50 |
| Bank Interest | £0.47 |
| TOTAL INCOME | £234.97 |

EXPENSES

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Bilton Gala Committee (for stall) | £25.00 |
| Purchase of signs (70 no) | £36.10 |
| Purchases of SmartWater units (25 no) | £462.00 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | £523.10 |

Current Bank Balance **£4,504.16**

KP reported that invoices are awaited for the recent purchase of a gazebo, table and literature display equipment totaling £239.46.

Further expenditure is anticipated on a roller banner stand and business cards, subject to further enquiries.

7. Report from North Yorkshire NHWA

TO reported on the NY NHWA held on Tuesday 3 April at Harrogate Fire Station.

The report referred to reductions in government funding, latest figures for watch schemes, advice from Trading Standards on scams and progress on No Cold Calling Zones.

The full report is available on our website - www.nwatchharrogate.org.uk under Minutes of Meetings or on the county website www.nynhwa.co.uk

The next meeting is on Tuesday 19 June at Newby Wiske. This will be the AGM.

8. Reports from other meetings

There were no reports from other meetings.

9. Existing and new schemes

KR reported that a comprehensive list of forthcoming schemes is in the process of being drawn up.

10. Member support meetings

A Members' Support Meeting which took place on 23 April at The Kestrel pub, south Harrogate, was reasonably well attended (especially in view of the publicity problems) and was considered successful.

The next meeting is planned for Ripon. The best form of publicity for this is to be considered. KR is to consult Insp Rob Thorpe. The date of the meeting to be determined.

11. Attendance at Events

Events as previously noted:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Bilton Gala | 7 May |
| Oatlands Gala | 22 June |
| Boroughbridge and Aldborough Show | 22 July |
| "Bike Show/Event" | details to be confirmed |

12. SmartWater

CO reported that 8 units had been sold in the last two months.

It was agreed that the three "out of time" units could be offered with other security products in a free draw at the forthcoming Galas/shows.

13. CCTV System

KR is to attend a demonstration of the system reported at the last meeting at the supplier's base in Wakefield.

He also reported that the Safer Communities Partnership has suggested that a system in its possession may be suitable for our purposes. He will evaluate this too.

14. Publicity

14.1. Newsletter – LOOK OUT

Members unanimously praised PD for the excellent current edition of LOOK OUT.

PD is to review the dates for the next edition, bearing in mind the uncertainty over the date of the next MSM.

It was agreed to look at ways of encouraging more coordinators to receive the newsletter by email in view of the large rise in postage costs.

14.2. Web Site

The site is now fully developed and updating procedures seem to be working satisfactorily.

It was pointed out that the 2011 AGM minutes are missing from the site. DS will correct this.

14.3. Twitter

No comments were made under this heading.

14.4. Press

There were no comments under this heading, other than noting the difficulty of ensuring coverage of forthcoming events.

15. Any other business

KR reported that he is to attend the official opening of the new Harrogate Police Station on Wednesday 9 May.

PD reported on his consultations with the street lighting and highways departments on the problem of NHW signs slipping down the new steel lighting columns. Highways advice is to use double sided tape between the sign and the column in addition to the plastic ties.

16. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be Tuesday 3 July 2012 at 7.15 pm at Harrogate Fire Station.

The meeting was closed at 10.03 pm.