



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

7.15 pm, Monday 6th July 2015

Harrogate Fire Station

MINUTES

Present: Catherine Park Peyton (chair), Katy Piazza, Tina Oates, Richard Kirby, Nick Andralojc, Graham Slights, Derek Benbow.

1. Apologies for absence & welcome to guests

Apologies were received from Maureen Asher.

2. Last Minutes & Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 27th April 2015 were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting. MA had been given an action point to check on the arrangements for securing a venue for the next AGM. There were no other matters arising.

3. Update from the Chair and Deputy Chair

The Chair explained that progress on some items had been temporarily halted as a result of her recent illness from which she was still recovering. There had been further external meetings – the Chair had had meetings at Knaresborough and Ripon Police Stations and the Chair and Deputy Chair had meetings at Harrogate police station and with the North Yorkshire NHW. They had been invited to sit on the Ringmaster Committee that was currently considering four different systems to replace the current process. The Chair had also been invited to a meeting of the Regional NHW.

Trading Standards are hoping to designate an entire area of Harrogate as a “No Cold Calling Zone” and had requested assistance from NHW. RK suggested that information on this be spread through an article in Look Out and that Co-ordinators be asked to deliver leaflets. The Chair intended to blanket e-mail Co-ordinators in the affected area to seek their support. The Community Safety team had been seeking the participation of NHW in their “burglary clinics”. Following a proposal from NA the Committee agreed that the Chair should e-mail Co-ordinators in order to ascertain the level of interest.

The Police had asked that Coordinators in the Woodfield Road & Bilton areas be reminded to raise awareness of thefts from vehicles

The Chair had also met Julia Mulligan, Police Complaints Commissioner, who was an enthusiastic supporter of NHW. We had been reminded that a claim could be made on the next PCC budget. The Chair had thought of making a claim for the provision of a “Rural Watch car” to tour the Association’s areas.

The Chair or Deputy Chair would be attending a meeting of the Community Safety Local Delivery Group next week.

4. Crime Report

There would be a crime report for the Committee’s September meeting. There seemed to have been an upsurge in certain classes of crime e.g. car damage and vandalism in Bilton, burglaries in Rossett and thefts of tools from sheds and produce from allotments in the Ripon area. The police had conducted a number of drugs raids across the area resulting in a number of arrests.

5. Vision for the Future

A draft "mission Statement" prepared by NA had previously been circulated to the Committee. RK's suggestion that it be incorporated with the forthcoming discussion on the Constitution between the Chair and Deputy Chair was accepted by the Committee.

6. Marketing & Publicity

There had been some interest from the local media for an article/interview. Holly Bone from the Harrogate Advertiser wanted to do an article on the NHW and Patrick Dunlop from Stray FM was also interested in doing an interview. The Chair was happy to cooperate with the production of these articles though she wanted a project, campaign or message to run alongside them. RK counselled caution in terms of what the media's objectives might be.

Articles for next edition of Look Out:

- Information on thefts from sheds, gardens and allotments – "get sheducated"
- Importance of reporting crimes
- Thefts from vehicles

The Chair suggested that a summer campaign should be launched (such as "summer safety") including posters. Two or three volunteers would be required to get the project underway – it would need to launch during the early part of August.

The Committee agreed to the Chair's request for the expenditure of £100.00 to cover the cost of H & D Rural Watch notices at the Boroughbridge Agricultural Show.

7. Treasurer's Report

NA provided details of income and expenditure since the AGM. The accounts were as follows:

Balance b/f from 27 April 2015	-	£4,481.53
Receipts	£0.00	
Payments	(£240.42)	
Balance at 26 April 2015		£4,231.11

8. Expenditure and Approval Process

NA presented documents relating to the expenditure and approval process:

- (i) Approval Process for Committing and Spending Money
- (ii) Proposal for what Trustee Expenses are Reclaimable from H & D NHW
- (iii) H & D NHW Expenses Claim Form

The Committee discussed the proposals and suggested a minor adjustment to the proposed process for spending sums in excess of £50.00. Subject to this amendment the Committee agreed the adoption of these documents with immediate effect.

9. Dates of Future Meetings

The next meeting will take place at 7.15 p.m. on Monday 7th September 2015. There may however be a requirement for an informal, interim meeting(s).

Meeting closed at 9.56 p.m.