



Doddinghurst Neighbourhood Watch



Notes of Neighbourhood Watch Meeting on Tuesday, 6th December 2011 Parish Room, Doddinghurst

Introduction

The meeting was attended by 15 people. Bill Reid was in the chair. Apologies for absence were received from Colin Freeman and Darell McAusland, who has taken over from Sgt Ben Felton.

Matters arising from the Minutes

Bill reported that one session of SpeedWatch training has been held, so we now have more trained members. However, the weather had not been reliable enough recently to book a risk-free session.

A NAPS meeting will be held Wednesday 7th December at 7pm in the Parish Room. Bill expressed concern that although the room was booked in June, neither NHW nor the Parish council were aware of the meeting until yesterday.

Adam Pipe had sent out messages about Christmas drink driving and also the incidents of the dropping of concrete-blocks onto cars travelling on the A12.

Bill has been unable to locate the remaining unused NHW signs.

Finance

Peter Salmon reported that he has sent a cheque to the school for the purchase of torches for the children. The remaining balance is £509.54, which includes £118.02 of Dagwood Trust money.

Peter will be applying again for money from the High Sherriff.

Crime update

Emma reported that burglary is currently the biggest issue. There had been four burglaries and a theft of a digger reported during November. One burglary took advantage of an insecurely locked door and resulted in the theft of keys and hence a car. Another burglary was thwarted by a properly locked door but the door suffered some damage. Two of the burglaries were to sheds. Items were stolen from one of them.

Emma also stated that this relative lack of burglary in Doddinghurst is a stark contrast to around Shenfield and Hutton where there are now as many as three or four a day.

Peter Fisk will make a feature of burglary in the next Scary-be-Wary poster.

SpeedWatch

Bill reported that although our activity had been limited during the past month, he had seen the police motor cycle speed patrol discretely operational in Ongar Road recently.

Junior Section

Emma reported that there have been no meetings this term again since Mrs Cooper has been so busy following the loss of her deputy. However, Emma is hopeful of being able to run a couple of sessions next term and has emailed Mrs Cooper to try to get this set up.

Debbie Dicker reported that she had previously run a Citizen session at the school and it was well received. She hopes to repeat this next year

Street Coordinators

Bill reported little or no response to his emails about the meeting on the 10th January from some parts of the village. He proposes to contact other members to see whether they might be able to take on the responsibility.

The proposed meeting for Street Coordinators, arranged for Tuesday 10th January at 8pm in the Parish Council Meeting Room, may clash with the awards meeting.

NHW Co-ordinators Award

Bill reported that entries for this closed on 2nd December. We have made one nomination, which is Bill. The decisions would be made on 20th December and the presentations would be on 10th January (hopefully not timed to clash with our NHW meeting!)

AOB

Bill reported that the previous NAPS meeting was held with no agenda or minutes. Debbie reported that the Parish Council are normally involved but had not been informed of the meeting. Debbie and Bill feel that the police are no longer able to allocate dedicated resources to specific communities, and we no longer have any reliable contact with the police. Dave Creckendon, for example is no longer effectively our PCSO, but sent wherever there is the greatest need for policing in Brentwood.

The meeting puzzled over the fact that a normal citizen is entitled to make a citizen's arrest if they see a crime in progress, but a PCSO is not allowed to do this, it seems. The meeting also deprecated the way in which, after the local lads had launched fireworks at the police around Halloween or 5th November, no attempt was made to catch the culprits when they ran off into the woods.

Bill has been told that Daryl McAusland has taken over from Ben as our acting police sergeant. Debbie has been told that Dan Tan has responsibility for us but he denies it.

Future events

The next NHW meeting will be on **Tuesday 10th January 2012 at 8pm** in the Parish Room. Please note that this is the second Tuesday of the month and also an evening meeting. It is combined with the Street Coordinators meeting.

Peter Froebel
NHW Secretary