



## Doddinghurst Neighbourhood Watch



### Notes of Neighbourhood Watch Meeting on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2011 Parish Room, Doddinghurst

#### **Introduction**

The meeting was attended by 14 people. Bill Reid was in the chair.

Apologies for absence were received from Peter Fisk.

The meeting started at 1.30pm, a new, earlier time to try to encourage a few more people, especially parents, to attend.

#### **Finance**

Peter Salmon reported that our bank balance is currently £1116.43, including £274.19 for Digital Switchover, £200 from the High Sheriff fund and £250 from the Dagworth Trust. Tesco have announced that we were not successful in our bid for funds. We have still not heard from Ford.

#### **Crime Report**

Emma reported that crime levels are low in Doddinghurst. There have been no incidents so far during June. There were 2 incidents in May; a nasty break-in in Dagwood Lane and the theft of a bumper and number plates from a Fiesta.

It appears that the group of youths which congregates outside Budgens has not been so visible recently.

#### **Speed Watch**

At our recent SpeedWatch activity on 31<sup>st</sup> May, 22 speeding motorists were identified. Several did not slow down on seeing us. This may be because they think the speed limit on Doddinghurst Road is still 40 mph, not 30.

Bill explained that we had received a Memorandum of Understanding for Community SpeedWatch. This describes the processes that we should follow and also states that we will be funded, at least for this year. We believe that we do already follow the correct processes for this activity.

#### **SmartWater**

We will be including SmartWater in our NHW campaigns this summer. We should emphasise that we can provide the kits for £20 each, which is a very good price. Competitors are selling similar systems for £37 or more.

Peter Fisk demonstrated SmartWater to the children at the recent school event, to get them to think about applications for its use.

### **Digital Switchover**

Peter Salmon advised that we had involved 430 people so far in our briefings, including a recent event to the WI. We will be giving out information at the NHW event on 24<sup>th</sup> June outside Budgens.

### **NHW Junior Section**

There is no feedback yet from the Community Cohesion morning held at the school on 19<sup>th</sup> May. Many thanks to all who helped, particularly Maggi Cooper, Peter Fisk and Colin Freeman (with his waistcoat).

Maggi is not sure if she can fit in a visit to the police museum this term. She will let us know. Another potential activity for the school is a poster competition about parking outside the school.

Emma is looking at a series of activities relating to an imagined crime scene. This would involve the Police and a group of children.

Bill is still looking to get certificates for the junior members and give these out together with a questionnaire to be completed with their parents.

### **Exhibition Trailer in June**

The exhibition trailer will be outside Budgens on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June, from 9am until 3pm. We are looking for volunteers to help with the event.

### **Publicity Material**

Bill has run out of time switches. These are popular at our events. Emma will contact Colin to see if some are available for us.

### **NHW Exhibition in Brentwood**

Emma is planning an event on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July, from 9am to 4pm, outside the Baytree Centre. It will include NHW, Fire and Rescue, library services and other organisations. There will be a marquee in case of bad weather.

### **AOB**

There was a question about whether bonfires are allowed in Doddinghurst, particularly in evenings. Debbie Dicker said that there are limits, including on how many, possibly 2 a year. Bill asked Eileen to report back next month on what she finds out.

Emma advised that there are active NHW groups in Hutton, Shenfield and Ingrave. We do not currently have knowledge of them or contact with them. This is something Colin should help us with.

Emma also advised us to mark all our property such as plant pots, garden tools and lawn mowers with a permanent marker. This will deter thieves. Also, plant pots at the front of houses should be fastened down, if at all possible. There has been a spate of thefts of these in Brentwood.

Bill showed an Incident Report card which he can distribute. It enables people to capture key information in the event they see a crime or suspicious incident.

Bill currently prepares a report for the Link magazine each month. He would like someone to help him with the preparation of this. If you are able to help, please do contact Bill.

**Web Page**

The Doddinghurst web site can be found at

<http://www.doddinghurst.org.uk/nhw/nhw.html>

**Future events**

The next NHW meeting will be on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2011** at **1.30pm** in the Parish Room.  
Please note the new start time.

Note that we plan to defer meetings when they would immediately follow a bank holiday.

Peter Froebel  
NHW Secretary