



Doddinghurst Neighbourhood Watch



Notes of Neighbourhood Watch Meeting on Tuesday, 2nd March 2010, Doddinghurst

Attendance

The meeting took place in the Parish room. It was attended by 16 people, including the chair Bill Reid, Kevin Sanderson, PCSO, Emma Clark, crime reduction officer and Barry Denny, Essex CC trading standards.

Kevin is moving to focus on Warley and he introduced his replacement PCSO, Dave Creckendon.

Apologies were received from Colin Freeman and Brett.

Finance

Currently funds are at £369. Robin reminded us that a year ago the Chief Constable's office gave us £500, so he has written to the ACC to see if some more money might be available this year, particularly to help implement SmartWater. Bill will try a similar approach to the Parish council to see if they might be able to offer funding for the same purpose.

No Cold Calling Zones

Bill went to the Parish Council Meeting and talked about No Cold Calling Zones, hoping to get Parish Council support for the idea.. An council member unfamiliar to Bill said that they were 'wrong'. To which Bill had replied that there are already 60 elsewhere in Essex, so they can't all be wrong.

Speed Watch

Jim reported on the Speedwatch at the end of Apple Tree Crescent on 1st March at 9:30. There were 13 offenders, with speeds from 37-42mph.

There has been no resolution yet on the issue of colour description. There was a particular issue in that on the last session, there was one car which was a slightly bronzed tint of silver. There was another which could have been either silver or light blue/grey. The best bet appears to be, if the team are not sure, to put alternative options down.

At a recent a police liaison meeting, someone in Wyatts Green had moaned about the high speeds despite the new warning signs. He hadn't noticed speed traps or Moira on patrol. Bill will raise the issue of warning signs again at the next PC meeting.

Property Marking

Peter explained that the two systems of property marking, SmartWater and SelectaDNA are similar but that there were a few advantages to SmartWater. The compound is longer lasting and is not affected by UV. It was decided to go ahead with SmartWater. The price will be £20 per unit (including VAT and delivery). We need a minimum of 10 units.

Ingrid has talked to neighbours and some are happy to subscribe up front. It was agreed that after the meeting, Robin would collect signatures and, if possible money, from anyone at the meeting wanting to join in with an initial purchase of SmartWater.

Bill will also send out an email inviting anyone else who wants to use SmartWater to contact Robin

Peter Froebel will try to get support from Smartwater for the May Fair, which we will also attend.

(After the meeting, Robin collected eight signatures (and some money) which will go quite a way toward an initial minimum purchase of ten units.)

Crime Update

Emma was pleased to report a very quiet week. There had been two car crimes - one damage and one of damage and theft of satnav etc down All Saints Close.

Ingrid reported that her car has also been attacked, resulting in the lock being damaged. She was surprised about this since the car is largeley hidden by the van. Ingrid has reported it to the police but it doesn't yet show up in the statistics. Neither does the arson attack in Peartree Lane, as details have not yet been released. We have been told that this crime has been transferred to the Serious Crime team.

Bill is keen that we continue encouraging everyone to take on the smoke detectors, especially bearing in mind that the victims of the arson attack were saved by their smoke detector. These are provided by Brentwood Fire Service, who visit the home and also give advice on fire safety.

Junior Section

Peter Fisk reported that following previous comments at this meeting that the envelope he has designed for the last big leaflet circulation lacked visual appeal, he had got the children at Junior NHW to come up with some better designs. They had done very well, but his preferred approach was to take a selection of their best ideas for the new envelope and give special credit to the children whose ideas were used. Paul B-S had also discussed the design and it had been suggested to him that a cartoon burglar with swag bag might be helpful, too.

There is no next meeting currently planned, but Paul B-S will talk to Maggi Cooper with a view to getting the trip to South Woodham Ferrers organised. Bill reminded us that there had been two companies offering playlets about distraction burglaries, and has hopes that these will be available later in the year, possibly in Doddinghurst this time, and using the school.

RingMaster

Emma is looking at Ringmaster alternatives and hopes to report later in the year. Emma reported on a trial held elsewhere. It offered the option to send out text messages to mobile 'phones and was very successful, but funding was not available to allow it to continue

Web Page

The Doddinghurst web site can be found at

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

AOB

Shops

Bill reported on a suggestion from Peter Fisk that it would be nice to get the local shopkeepers on the NHW list. He asked for a volunteer to talk to all local shopkeepers.

Introduction to new members.

Bill asked for a volunteer to create an introduction letter with NHW logo, welcoming new members and giving them some details.

Link Article

The reference to the next police meeting item in The Link refers to a meeting at the Community Church in Doddinghurst Road. This is in Brentwood, not Doddinghurst.

Essex Neighbourhood Watch Meeting.

Bill reported no interest so far. There was criticism of the advertising poster provided, and it was not at all obvious what was the exact purpose of the meeting. This was the same meeting that failed to obtain an quorum at the Brentwood Centre last year. The new venue will be a school at Coggeshall on Saturday 28th March. Volunteers to attend, please tell Bill.

Future events

- The next NHW meetings will be on Tuesday 6th April 2010 at 2pm in the Parish Room.

Peter Froebel
NHW Secretary