



Doddinghurst Neighbourhood Watch



Notes of Neighbourhood Watch Meeting on Tuesday, 5th May 2009, Doddinghurst

Attendance

The meeting took place in the Parish room. It was attended by 17 people, including the chair, Bill Reid and Colin Freeman.

Apologies received from Jody, Moira and Susan.

Bill reported that our former PCSO, John Venner, is seriously ill. We send him our best wishes.

Finance

Robin reported that we have received a cheque for £600 from the Police Authority. The current net balance on our account is £564 after all outstanding bills have been paid. Eileen recently did a sponsored bike ride around the local villages and raised £50. £28 was raised at the May Day event. Many thanks to Eileen and all who contributed.

Speed Watch

Jim Smith gave an update on Speed Watch. A total of 175 speeders have been identified since we started. There were 55 driving between 40 and 50 mph, 1 over 60 mph and most between 35 and 40 mph. We are concerned how we can take more specific action over the motorist driving in excess of 60 mph. It is suggested that we should ask the police to do a formal speed trap so that these excessive speeders can be prosecuted. Jim expressed thanks to all who are helping with Speed Watch.

Crime Update

Colin gave the crime update. A campaign will start soon on rogue traders. There are thefts of pot plants and hanging baskets from gardens. He advised to take care of everything in the garden, including furniture. One suggestion was to fasten down hanging baskets with plastic cable ties.

Thefts are still occurring with entry through UPVC doors which have not been locked properly at night.

Colin has ordered supplies of various leaflets which will be available to us for future distribution.

Jody has advised that 3 cars were broken into in Wyatts Green. The owners said they were locked, but the police suspect that they may not have been.

Susan has stated that there were 2 burglaries in the village but we have no further details.

Neighbourhood Watch Signs

Bill has found that we need permission from Brentwood Council to erect the signs. We must provide details of the signs, their dimensions and where they are all to be fitted. Peter Fisk will do this then go ahead with the installation.

Junior NHW

- Bill advised that the police are actively recruiting a new schools' officer to replace Dawn.
- Peter Fisk recently went to the police museum in Chelmsford. He said that it would make a worthwhile visit for the Junior section. They could manage up to 12 children plus supervision. Maggi Cooper will look into this.
- Peter Fisk has viewed the video, If Only I Had Known, to assess its suitability. He thinks that it is aimed at Years 7 & 8, rather than the younger children in the junior school. It is also better viewed with a tutor or mentor so that the issues raised can be discussed. There is also a technical issue with the DVD which Peter will try to resolve.

Web Page

The Doddinghurst web site can be found at <http://www.pdfisk.co.uk>.

AOB

- The suggestion box is ready to be installed in the Post Office. Bill is looking to get some publicity for it - local press and pictures. Robin and Peter Froebel will put together some words for a sign on the box.
- We have recently been distributing a set of NHW and police leaflets to homes throughout Doddinghurst. There is a total of 1217 dwellings in the village and we have delivered to over 1000 of these.
- Bill reported that a new Ringmaster system has been successfully trialled in Thurrock. A senior officer is making a report and will recommend whether Essex Police will go ahead with this.
- Several members said that there had been an incident on Church Lane involving several youths. The police were called but the youths had gone by the time they arrived.
- Ingrid reported that the problems with her front border are continuing. The police have stated that they can do nothing if they do not see the offenders.
- Bill has received a catalogue of security goods to purchase. However, the items must be bought in quantities of 100 or 200. The meeting view was that this is too high a quantity for us to purchase.
- The May Day event was successful with 12 new members signed up.

Future events

- The next NHW meeting will be on Tuesday 2nd June 2009 at 2pm.
- The Doddinghurst Fun Day will be held on Sunday 5th July 2009.

Peter Froebel
NHW Secretary