



Doddinghurst Neighbourhood Watch

Notes of Neighbourhood Watch Meeting on Tuesday, 4th October 2011 Parish Room, Doddinghurst

1. Apologies for absence

Seven apologies were received, including David and Ben

2. Matters arising.

Bill reported that he had attended the NHW Exec meeting at Chelmsford and circulated notes of the meeting. There is still difficulty in getting some leaflets, although we now have an excess of Scambuster leaflets. Cold calling stickers in particular are generally in short supply, although Bill has a supply. Some members believed the stickers now to have the force of law - cold callers must not call at a house displaying the sticker.

There is still difficulty in getting advice on crimes from Police. - training on what information to release still required. NHW members (Peter Fisk please note!) should be sure to report any crimes of which they become aware, to their street co-ordinator or to Bill.

Bill reported that he had attended a Neighbourhood Police (ex NAPS) meeting at Stondan Village Hall. It was poorly attended.

Theft of metals. Bill reported that if lead has been stolen from a listed building, such as a church it must be replaced with lead. Theft of BT cables is now being done by teams who look very much as if they are legitimate BT teams. Members should inform police if at all suspicious of any activity. Peter Fisk added that Dave Creckendon had asked to be told about other possibly illegal or antisocial activities such as motorcycling on the fields, even if there was little chance of apprehending the riders. Contact Dave on the Beat mobile 07896 871008 .

3. Finance

Peter Salmon reported that we had incurred no expenditure last month. We are planning some expenditure on the Junior NHW members. Peter will be asking for a further grant for JNHW from High Sheriff. As part of Junior NHW, we still want to do the no parking sign outside the school., but we may be able to get sponsorship for this instead of funding it ourselves.

4. Crime update

Emma reported 4 crimes: - theft of a 6-ton dumper truck, 2 incidents of criminal damage, one theft of copper cable. These statistics do not include the recent thefts of two land rovers.

There have been lots of burglaries , particularly in Shenfield and Hutton . Burglars are using even the smallest windows and climbing up conservatories to gain access.

Bill thanked Ingrid for distributing the Scary Be Wary notices. Ingrid reported that she puts some in the 'phone box and they always go quite quickly. However, following advice from Robin we are not going to bother with the library van .

Pat suggested that we ask whether we could get a complete Scary be Wary into The Link - Action Peter Fisk

5. Speed Watch/ training

Bill reported that Police have been doing occasional official speed checks , apparently with a beneficial effect on local speeds. Several drivers were issued fixed penalty tickets, some were given the option to do a speed training course and some given warnings.

We are still hoping to do Speedwatch training, but David has been unavailable until this week. Bill wants as many people as possible to attend. - at least four.

6. Request for assistance from Parish Council

Debbie outlined a problem that the Parish Council is facing., tied up with the government's groping unsteadily toward some compromise between the needs of localisation regarding development and the demands of the developers.

Doddinghurst need to create a Neighbourhood Plan. Without one, it will be almost impossible to reject demands from developers to develop inappropriate areas. Unfortunately, creating one will be a very expensive procedure, especially as Brentwood borough have claimed most of what little grant is available.

It will not be possible to finalise a plan until we know what will be the demands for services. For example what will be the likely population of school age children and hence the need for school places. We can't tell this without knowing something of the family sizes and ages, but there will be no results from the

national census for about three and a half years. Therefore the Parish Council will need help from at least ten volunteers to help with paperwork and to carry out some sort of local door to door census of our own.

Debbie is asking for help from NHW as we have a group of active members and a database of others whom we can contact by email to ask for help. She asked for anyone prepared to put in a bit of time, please to let Roger Blake know.

Debbie is thinking about having a village meeting and would like Bill to circulate information about these proposals to all NHW members.

7. Distribution of brochures / Door Step Selling campaign

We have distributed the Buying on the Doorstep leaflets to much of the village. Bill thanked all those members who had helped with the distribution. Too late, the Scambuster leaflets have also arrived and will need circulating at some future time.

Bill was disappointed that we are still short of active street co-ordinators. For example despite 18 NHW members in Barn Mead the recent literature distribution will have to be done by members from elsewhere., as was the distribution to The Gardens.

8. Street coordinators

Peter Salmon is preparing a document about street co-ordinator responsibilities. He has some material from a detailed document from Thurrock. Please would anyone who is prepared to become a Street Co-ordinator contact Bill

9. National Personal Safety Day 2011

Peter Salmon was keen for us to have another information/recruitment session outside Budgens to tie up with National Personal Safety Day. This time he would like to go well equipped with leaflets and to try to ensure that people actually read them. It was agreed to do this on Friday 14th October, even though this is after the official Personal Safety Day.

10. Welcome Pack

There was much praise for Peter Salmon's welcome letter. It was suggested that it should have a list of street co-ordinators provided that all street co-ordinators agree to this. Also street co-ordinators should, wherever possible, be told about new householders so that street co-ordinators could introduce themselves. Peter also reported on some helpful suggestions which he has received for additions.

11. Junior Section

Peter Fisk reported that Maggie Cooper has invited us to a planning meeting on Thursday at 9:30. There has been no other Junior Section activity since the Community Cohesion Morning back in July.

12. Any Other Business

Fly tipping - its happening in Dagwood Lane again but has been cleaned up by the Brentwood team after a small delay.

Ingrid is concerned about the legitimacy of some tree cutting (coppicing?) opposite Waterworks Spring farm.

Next Meeting

The next NHW meeting will be on **Tuesday 1st November 2011 at 1.30pm** in the Parish Room.

Web Page

The Doddinghurst web site can be found at <http://www.doddinghurst.org.uk> .
Or jump straight to the NHW pages at <http://www.doddinghurst.org.uk/nhw/nhw.html>

Notes by Peter Fisk