



Doddinghurst Neighbourhood Watch



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

Introduction

The meeting was attended by 12 people. Bill Reid was in the chair.
4 apologies for absence were received from Emma, Colin, Edna & Ray.

Matters arising

Bill reported that Colin has delivered boxes of leaflets for our next campaign but some are not what we were expecting.

As expected, nothing has moved forward on satisfying the request at the Executive meeting for details of vulnerable people who might need extra support

Bill has received a detailed specification of the roles of a Street Co-ordinator from Thurrock, but felt that it was too long and detailed for Doddinghurst use. Peter Salmon agreed to review this to see if he could simplify it for us.

Crime update. P.S. Ben Felton

Ben reported four thefts from motor vehicles in July. This included one where the whole number plate was removed. Also one where a car window broken and (an all too visible) handbag was stolen. In the period 1st - 13th August there has been very little recorded crime - just one burglary and one incident where stones were thrown at a car.

Shenfield & Hutton are currently suffering from burglaries. Ben reckons that the criminals target areas for a while and then move on. Theft of lead & copper is common - particularly telephone cables. This is because scrap metal prices have increased 5 fold.

Bill asked if there might be any way that any victims could be asked if they could contact NHW to help us with our warnings to other members.

Regarding the motor cycles being ridden illegally around the village, Ben reported that one youngster was recently arrested. Ben thinks he knows who some of the others are and where the bikes are being stored, but does not have the evidence to effect an arrest. We would request that anyone seeing these bikes please report every bit of detail that they can to enable Ben to trace the bikes and their drivers.

Finance

Peter Salmon reported that funds currently stand at £841.52, which includes £450 from the High Sheriff and the Dagwood Trust. Some or all of this money may need to be returned if it not used for the benefit of the local children.

There is no information yet on whether we will fund a sign at the school.

Speed Watch

Bill reported that there has been little activity of late . There have been various cancellations due to weather or lack of volunteers during the holiday period.

Dave has agreed to do some training on 24th Sept. Anyone who wishes to attend please let Bill know.

Note: Dave cannot now make this date. We are looking for an alternative and will send out details when available.

Theft from St Thomas Church / Warning

Bill has been publicising the theft of lead from St Thomas's around the village. He is asking for everyone to watch out for lead thieves, particularly near our church.

Circulation of Brochures around the area. / Assistance required

Hopefully we will receive a few more suitable brochures, but the Home Office are cutting back and cannot supply any more at present. We are short of scam brochures.

Note: Bill has now received further supplies of brochures.

Distributors are required particularly for The Gardens where there is no street co-ordinator.

AOB

Robin reported that the 'Your Computer has a problem' scam is still going round.

On Monday 10th Oct The Suzy Lamplugh Trust is holding a Personal Safety day. Leaflets and posters are available. Peter Salmon proposes to get some posters but Peter Fisk and Bill Reid were not impressed with the leaflets and would not propose to circulate them.

Bill reported on recent extensive graffiti which has mostly been quickly painted over. Ben reported that the police know the names of the youngsters within the group who carry out these acts, but are unable to catch them and hence prosecute the individuals.

The electricity supply to the scout hut has been vandalised. It is proposed that the service box will be moved to a safer place.

There was a question about whether the move to the earlier start time had increased numbers attending the meetings. Bill said that it had not but we would continue with the earlier start time of 1:30 for the present.

Ben was sorry to report that police numbers are now extremely limited throughout the Brentwood area. The meeting thanked him for all his recent efforts on our behalf.

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 4th October 2011** at **1.30pm** in the Parish Room.
Please note the new, earlier start time.

Peter Froebel
NHW Secretary