



Ladden Brook Safer Stronger Community Group

Chair: Cllr. Howard Gawler
Date: 30 April 2014
Venue: Rangeworthy Village Hall
Time: 7.30 pm

Present

Cllr Howard Gawler	Chair
Michelle Sparano	SGC – Community Engagement Team
PCSO Haley Bromley	Avon & Somerset Police
PC Dave Ashford	Avon & Somerset Police
Fire Officer	Avon Fire Service
Fire Officer	Avon Fire Service
Fire Officer	Avon Fire Service
Terry Proffitt	Wickwar PC/Vice Chair
Roger Stimpson	Wickwar PC
Kay Stimpson	Wickwar Neighbourhood Watch

1. Welcome & Introduction

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

None received.

3. Results of the Chair & Vice Chair Elections

Nominations are now closed. Going forward Terry Proffitt will be the chair of the group and Cllr Howard Gawler will be vice-chair. Thanks were given to Cllr Gawler for chairing the group since the group started.

4. Update from Avon Fire & Rescue

All primary and secondary schools have been contacted and where requested education visits booked, including Key stage 1 presentations and activities and 'wrecked' presentation for young person's soon to be driving. It is up to schools to take up the offer of a visit. The presentations can also be offered to scout and other youth groups.

Action: PCSO Bromley to speak to local primary schools and scout groups to encourage them to participate. Terry Proffitt to remind youth club that they can have 'wrecked' presentations.

Home fire safety visits have been carried out in all areas of station ground targeting high risk areas (geographic) during March & April. This area is being targeted for free smoke alarm visits – now available to everyone.

Statistically Yate fire station is down on incidences of recorded deliberate and accidental fires compared to this time last year, possibly due to proactive approach, free smoke alarms, fire advice etc. There has been a slight increase in Road traffic collisions.

There has been an increase in special service calls such as flooding and wind damage due to the winter weather.

Fire Officer reminded the group that white goods/electrical appliances can be a fire hazard. They should be used, and maintained, according to the manufacturer's instructions, turned off when not in use and not used at night or when there is nobody at home (due to fire risk).

See the website <http://www.avonfire.gov.uk/safety-advice> for more advice.

Industrial action starts 2 May 2014, but there will still be fire cover from Yate fire station.

4. Crime Prevention advice with PC Dave Ashford

PC Ashford introduced himself as a crime prevention design advisor. There are 2 of these advisors in the South Glos area. They work closely with secondary schools running information workshops e.g. personal safety, internet safety and crime for year 7 school children; illegal drugs for year 8; anti-crime days for year 9.

Their other role involves looking at security of schools, new builds, large developments etc to design out crime. They also go to commercial burglaries and areas of anti social behaviour.

Secured by design website (<http://www.securedbydesign.com/>) is a recommended site with lists and links to police approved products and standards.

Question: what are the requirements for a fire door? New fire doors need a 3 point locking action. Important that fire doors are secured when the building is empty but very important that they are immediately unlocked when building is in use.

For sheds, the fabric of the building is important plus the door. Sold secure products (<http://www.soldsecure.com/>) can be used to secure sheds, provide anchorage points within sheds for bikes etc.

Important to property mark valuables with postcode (concealed and visible markings). Also recommended to use the <https://www.immobilise.com/index.php> website to register valuables. If your items get stolen it is easier for Police to track down owners.

In summer lawnmowers are targeted (mark with postcode) and unlocked windows, doors, garden gates are targeted by thieves. Remember, prevention should be the priority.

4. Update from Avon and Somerset Police

PCSO Bromley has been asked to gather information on the public's view of the 'stop and search' policy. Key points from the discussion:

- The public think it is for prevention and most people think it is to catch someone.
- It is actually to avoid unnecessary arrest
- There is a perceived abuse of stop and search in other areas, including accusations of an overzealous approach in some areas
- The group felt that there should be a reason/suspicion (evidence base) for stop and search; however, if you had to have evidence to stop and search then some crimes could be missed
- There have been 3 incidents of stop and search in last 2 months in this area:
 - 1 near Cromhall with 2 arrests for diesel theft (had equip in nearby vehicle)
 - 1 suspicious male going door to door; found to be legitimately collecting for charity
 - 1 in early hours of morning in Wickwar, resulted in cannabis warning
- According to stop and search stats, South Glos is on target (based on what Govt thinks is reasonable for area's population and make-up)
- In rural areas it will happen less often than urban areas
- Can understand that people may have a problem if police do not need evidence and need to meet targets
- Group felt that people would object if nothing was found

- Group felt that if Police did not use stop and search then public could turn round and say police were not doing their job
- Media always find examples of people who have been stopped and searched numerous times

PCSO Bromley also advised recent slight increase in thefts at this time of year due to stable thefts plus thefts of lawnmowers, chainsaws, minimotos and bikes.

There was discussion about the new Beat Team set up. Shifts have now changed with beat teams working more closely with local response team. Also each beat team works the same shift so that teams can work better together. However Haley needs to cover in other areas when other teams are not on shift so she is busier and spread over a wider area. Overall the changes mean better coverage, better team working and more responsive teams.

5. Agree Minutes of 29 January 2014

The minutes of 29 January 2014 were signed as a true and accurate copy.

6. Review priorities from previous meeting

See attached

7. New Local Community Issues and Priorities

	Issue and Location	Requests for Action	Comments
	Green waste bins not collected from cemetery		Cllr Gawler has asked SGC to contact Parish Councils direct regarding the collections.
	Grass verge opposite youth club		Pat Trull has emailed Streetcare.
	Lack of dog bins and lack of information to residents	Parish Council needs to establish the position with SGC. Each Parish council needs to be clear regarding costs, frequency of collections etc.	This is the responsibility of the Parish Council to check policy with SGC.
	Footpath on Frith Lane	Cllr Gawler hoping to get information for the next Parish Council meeting	Waiting for S106 monies.
	30mph speed limit on Sodbury Road	Cllr Gawler to feed back to Parish Council	The first section will be easy to sort, however the extension will need consultation. The change from 40mph to 30mph will not need a traffic order
	Police presence requested on speedwatch sessions	PCSO Bromley to action	

9. AOB

Applications for SGC Community Grants (previously known as small revenue grant and capital grant) are now open. Deadline is 2 June 2014. More info at South Gloucestershire Council website (www.southglos.gov.uk).

10. Next Meeting

30th July 2014 at 19.30 – Wickwar Community Centre

Issue and Location	Requests for Action	Comments
Police are currently investigating a slight rise in the percentage of burglaries in the area. This is an active open investigation; further details will be available when appropriate.	Please see links below that may be helpful: NHW https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/services/watch-community-schemes/neighbourhood-watch-scheme/ Property Marking and registration site: https://www.immobilise.com/index.php	This investigation is now closed. The Wickwar burglaries were linked to some in Hawkesbury, Yate and Chipping Sodbury – no perpetrator found.
Building security – Youth club, Village Hall & School	PC Dave Ashford met with Pat Trull to discuss security. Action: Terry Proffitt to follow up with Pat Trull	Improve & update security
Youth Shelter	For Wickwar area	Terry Proffitt raised this issue with the Youth Club committee. It is not something they will be looking into at the moment but it may be something for the future.
Potholes – Inglestone Rd	Pat Trull report to StreetCare with photos. Action: Michelle Sparano to check with Pat Trull on progress	
Lorry watch continues well	Ongoing – Lorry watch continue to report to SGC	