

Pudsey and Swinnow Forum

Date: 29th June 2011

Present: Becky Gunn (Swinnow Community Development Worker), A Prince, J Prince, Mavis Gregory, John Rider, Inspector R Cawkwell, PC Gary Bartlett, Nigel Conder (Town Centre Manager), Clare Wiggins (Area Management), Claire Ducker, Paul Ayers, Blanche Warton, F Simpson, David Myers, Gwen Stephens, R Stephens, Cllr Richard Lewis.

	Action
1.0 Apologies: Cllr Josephine Jarosz, Carol Myers, Mrs E Thomas, B Young.	
2.0 Minutes/Matters Arising:	
2.1 Wednesday 13 th July – this is the date for the judging of the PIB.	
2.2 Regarding point 7.2, there is 1 additional bin outside the Greggs shop.	
2.3 Regarding Cemetery Road and Hillfoot, Chris Way should have received notification for this work to go ahead. Clare to check with Chris.	CW
3.0 Police – Insp. Cawkwell / PC Gary Bartlett	
3.1 Cuts in Police personnel will mainly be in the form of voluntary redundancies in support departments – not PCSOs. The front line service should not be affected.	
3.2 On the whole, there has been a fall in crime in the area, particularly vehicle crime. However, metal theft continues to be a problem, especially lead and copper. Insp. Cawkwell has invited scrap metal dealers to come to Pudsey Police Station on 13 th and 14 th July for a presentation on the impact of this type of crime and to provide photos of known metal thieves.	
3.3 There has been a few incidents of ASB around the Pudsey bus station, Owlcoates and Waterloos and damage to cars near the cricket club.	
3.4 A member of the forum enquired how promptly the Police respond to cases of ASB. Insp. Cawkwell replied that response times are recorded on cases and emergencies are responded to immediately.	
3.5 An enquiry was made regarding Smartwater. Insp. Cawkwell confirmed that it is effective, though at present there are no Smartwater kits available in the division.	
3.6 Stone theft was also discussed.	
3.7 Police explained the “Faithwatch” scheme and indicated Sue Needham as the contact person. Rev. Paul Ayers was urged to attend these meetings.	
3.8 There have been repeat burglaries on Wellstone Garth, satnavs being target items.	
3.9 Regarding burglary, Police have been warning the public against sneak-in thefts in the run up to summer.	
3.10 One resident commented on the good work that PCSO Mick Cox has done and expressed concern at the cutbacks. The resident highlighted the good rapport that Mick has with the youths on the estate, and that the Swinnow play area is an excellent facility but has of late been seeing some drunken youths around it. Insp. Cawkwell confirmed there will be no reduction in the PCSO service and he will ensure the PCSOs will be monitoring any ASB on the estate.	

Another resident mentioned not having seen a PCSO in 3 months along Harewood Way. The Inspector noted all concerns and agreed to check the deployment of PCSOs with his Sergeants. The Inspector also confirmed that the Police are obliged to respond to crises such as the one on Nutting Groves in Farnley.

3.11 PC Gary Bartlett reported on local issues in Ward 28 (Pudsey, Swinnow and Tyersal):

- There has been a significant increase in burglary dwelling but a reduction in the number of sheds being broken into, which is probably due to the warm weather. Gary emphasised that opportunist thieves are very quick and urged residents to ensure that all doors and windows are closed, especially at night.
- Barclays???
- Theft Of Motor Vehicle has been steady in the area.
- Criminal Damage has been slightly more concentrated in this area than last year but otherwise steady. In particular there were parking issues near Pudsey Social Club on match day.
- Calls regarding ASB have fallen: 147 over a 3 month period compared to 214 last year, which makes the total no of crimes 594 compared to 685 last year.
- Investigations into the Barclays bank robbery are ongoing. E-fits of the suspects have been circulated.
- Regarding the Santander robbery, 3 people have been arrested.
- There have been some sneak-in burglaries in Swinnow.
- Gary emphasised the need to report ASB, eg Noise Nuisance. In terms of Police contact no's, 999 is to be rung if life or property is at risk or a crime is in progress and Police will be in attendance within 15 minutes. 0845 is to be dialled in case of non-emergency and the caller will get a response time.
- In Pudsey, the incidents of damage to motor vehicles on Perseverance Street has now abated. There have been no further reports of youths drinking alcohol around Fulneck School.
- Gary explained that, in partnership with the ALMO, Police can take steps to evict Council tenants who persistently offend.
- As regards "Softer Policing", Insp. Cawkwell explained that this partnership approach is successful with diversionary work and is also cost effective.
- A youth club was suggested as a facility to consider for the local youths, though it was pointed out that they could get bored and end up destroying it.
- Cllr Lewis expressed his satisfaction at the keen interest the Police are taking in ASB compared with 15 years ago.
- Insp. Cawkwell mentioned that burglary is particularly bad in West Yorkshire - Leeds especially. However, he also emphasised that this crime is a priority for the regional Police teams, particularly the target group of young men aged 15-19 years who are involved in this crime. It is an major issue for both Leeds and Bradford as there exists a prevalence of poor housing stock around areas such as Armley, Harehills, Beeston etc that are easy for burglars to break into.
- Cllr Lewis voiced his concern at the shortage of irreplaceable Yorkshire stone which is part of our heritage.

4.0 Pudsey Health & Wellbeing Centre

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