

Safer Neighbourhood Board – Open Meeting

MINUTES

Date: 15 September 2016

Time: 17:30 -21:00

Venue: Dagenham & Redbridge Football Club – Victoria Lounge

Chair: Stephen Thompson

Chair of Safer Neighbourhood Board

Present: Cllr. Laila Butt
Matthew Cole
Rita Giles MBE
Prince Kumar
Katherine Gilcreest
Keith Hutton
Emma Jones
Dan Neville
Jim Campe
Sean Wilson

Tracy Goddard King
Jo Philips
Nick Harrold
David Jones
Jon Reeves
Kanta Craigen-Straughn

Cabinet Member for Crime & Enforcement
Divisional Director – Public Health
Dagenham Neighbourhood
Barking Neighbourhood
Antisocial Behaviour Manager
Chair of the IAG
Victim Support
Whalebone Neighbourhood
Forum for the Elderly
Borough Commander
Temporary Chief Superintendent
Superintendent
Officer
Inspector
Inspector
Inspector
Support Officer (**Minutes**)

Apologies: Erika Jenkins
Diane Worbey
Cheryl Deane
Louise Choppy
Erika Jenkins

Barking and Dagenham CVS
Neighbourhood Watch Vice Chair
Community Payback
Victim Support
Barking & Dagenham CVS

1. Introduction

The introductions and apologies were noted.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were noted as correct.

3. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

It was reported that it had been agreed at the Safer Neighbourhood Board Annual General Meeting that Steve Thompson would remain as the Chair of the SNB and that Rita Giles M.B.E had been voted in as Vice Chair.

4. Borough Commanders Report

Borough Commander Sean Wilson provided the group an update on the tragic events that occurred in the Marks Gate area and informed the group that everything was being done to uncover those responsible.

The following borough wide data analysis was reported as below:

- A spike had been seen in May within the area of violence with injury.
- Overall burglary within the area has seen decline.
- Criminal damage has seen an increase and has been linked to Anti-Social behaviour
- A decline in activity has been seen in the area of robbery by person
- Incidents relating to domestic violence have stabilised over the period.
- Youth violence and actual bodily harm has seen an increase
- The use of noxious substances has also seen an increase and seems to be the weapon of choice currently.
- Incidents related to robbery have been lower in numbers compared to the previous year.
- Compared to other boroughs Barking and Dagenham have seen smaller numbers of dipping.
- Motor Crime is still an issue with keyless entry systems where criminals are able to capture signals and will be an ongoing problem going forward with further developments in car technology.
- Millennium burglaries remain an issue and residents being urged to keep their car keys somewhere safe following a number of high value car thefts, often these cars are either broken down for parts or taken abroad. In addition, work is being done to clamp down on companies making number plates that are not being registered.
- Moped crime has seen an increase and it was noted only specialist drivers are permitted to pursue criminals, criminals are now aware that if they remove their helmets they will not be chased.

It was noted that the priorities for the London Mayor have been revised and will cover:

1. Protecting Vulnerable People and Adults (PVP)
2. Domestic Abuse
3. Missing Persons
4. Serious Youth Violence
5. Volume Crimes

It was further noted that:

- There will be an increase of 34 Dedicated Ward Officers, 7 of which will be made available to the borough immediately, however it was noted that the officers will linguistic skills are needed to deal with the demographics of the borough.
- Schools officers are also due to be increased.
- Recruitment into the Cadet Corp and Special Constables is encouraged, which requires 16 hours of time each month.
- Public confidence has increased to 72%
- Satisfaction has slipped down to 73%, demonstrating a 4% decline on the last few years and it is a police priority is to change this.
- Awareness around anti-social behaviour has altered and this has led to an increase in reporting.
- An action day is being planned to deal with the issue of quad bikes and ANPR cameras will be used to do this within Whalebone and Chadwell Heath.
- The issues of threatening behaviour by beggars is being dealt with by the Town Centre Team

5. Questions to the Borough Commander

Q. What is being done about the increase in violent crime in the local area?

A. Violence with injury is increasing across the borough, particular focus has been given to the education of knife crimes through schools by school's officers. A successful arrest rate of those in possession of knives has been seen. An increase in the use of noxious fluids has also been seen however Barking and Dagenham is comparable with other boroughs.

Q. How are the members of the community who do not use the internet able to access information and how can they be informed of what is going on in the borough?

A. *Information is available in leaflet format and accessible through the Barking Learning Centre / Police Shop.*

6. Inspectors Reports

Barking

It was noted that the key priorities for Barking include:

- Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour and Violence with injury within the vicinity of Barking Town Centre, it was reported that the meetings held with residents of the Thames Ward would be re-introduced to address these issues.
- The second priority covered the issue of dangerous driving in the Thames Ward this would be intelligence led, working alongside the council to influence local plans.
- It was further noted that the street racing had been problematic and the council were looking to impose a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) to address this as well as enforce fines for those watching. Additionally the council were also considering traffic calming measure to deter street racing such as road humps, and changes to roads.
- Over the period 12 injunctions have been against street drinkers
- Beggars in the town centre and around supermarkets is also being addressed.
- The police event that took place on Sept 10th was well attended.

Dagenham

The key priorities for Dagenham were reported to be as the following:

- Violence with injury and Drugs
- Issues in Heathway and the surrounding areas
- Additional maintenance of CCTV within the area
- Increasing patrols within ASB hotspots
- Year on year statistics show that violence with injury has seen a decline of 12%
- Vehicle offences are also being closely monitored.

Whalebone

Priorities within Whalebone are reported as:

- Burglaries across the five wards is currently a focus, MET trace kits have been issued to residents with a total of 12075 kits being issued to date.
- Motor vehicle crime in Beacontree ward has been a persistent issue in the area. Activity in motor vehicle crime has seen a slight increase over the last three months.
- ASB activity in relation to motorcycles, mopeds, quad bikes and other inconsiderate is also a priority.

It was agreed by the group that priorities presented by the inspectors reports fully met the needs of the areas to resolve the issues highlighted.

7. Any Other Business

Q. How are we able to stop lorries double parked or parked incorrectly, as disabled members of the community are unable to pass by on the footpath.

A. Members of the community should contact the council with registration numbers for enforcement on parking.

8. Date of Next Meeting

SNB Open Meeting

Thursday 12 January 2017, 19:30 – 21:00

Dagenham & Redbridge Football Club – Victoria Lounge

