

Minutes for Creekmoor and Canford Heath Safer Neighbourhood Public Meeting
Canford Heath Middle School, 25th March 2009 at 1830hrs.

Persons Present

Chris Owens (chair) Service head Unit, Poole Council
Sgt Andy Jenkins, Dorset Police
PC Suzie Corsie, Creekmoor SNT, Dorset Police
Paula Wade, Community Engagement
Donna Saunders-Teague, Poole Housing Partnership
Cllr Sandra Moore
Cllr John Rampton

17 Residents.

Introduction

Chris Owens gave an introduction to the panel and an explanation of how Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNT) work.

Minutes from the last meeting (21st January 2009) were reviewed and agreed.

Police Update

PC Corsie gave an update for Creekmoor. She detailed how ASB is on a slight increase however there is not a huge concern. PC Corsie also told how the amount of thefts from motor vehicles has decreased in the past few weeks.

ASB Update

Sgt Jenkins gave an update for Canford Heath. He explained that due to the Anti-Social behaviour (ASB) by Asda, Culliford Crescent, extra CCTV has been installed which is monitored and recorded 24hrs a day, by the town centre CCTV control room. He continued to explain how this control room has access to Police Airwave radio system so can inform officers as soon as anything occurs.

Sgt Jenkins detailed the current Section 30 order that is running in Canford Heath. He explained how the order gives a constable or a PCSO the power to order groups of people to disperse or leave the area for up to 24hrs, if it is believed they have been or are likely to cause ASB. There have been 4 arrests for the offence since it began, 2 relatively early on, when the order was first made, and another 2 recently. The outcome of these is that 2 offenders have been cautioned and 2 are due to appear in court in the near future.

Sgt Jenkins then told how the Section 30 is being resourced and that officers are pulling together to ensure it is policed properly. The Police Officers from the SNT's for Canford Heath, Creekmoor and Broadstone have all changed their shifts ensure there is a double crewed vehicle patrolling all areas on a Friday night up until 0300hrs.

A resident interrupts and argues the point. Sgt Jenkins explains that one of the last priorities was to have more Police patrols at night and this is what we are trying to achieve. He continues to explain that Canford Heath now have 4 members of their team, as opposed to the two they had only a year ago.

Discussion between residents and Sgt Jenkins over historical incidents and gangs and perceived gangs in Canford Heath.

Sgt Jenkins explained that not all young people behave badly and that it is in fact the minority that cause the problems. He goes on to explain that there is a small minority of about young people on Canford Heath who cause problems and that the team are aware of them and are working with Council officers in an attempt to stop the behaviour. There is a joint approach in place whereby the Police work with the council and housing. Firstly if a young person comes to Police notice they have a letter home, on the second occurrence they have a hand delivered letter, a joint visit between police and ASB team where necessary. Then Police and council look at an acceptable behaviour contract (ABC) which is like a voluntary ASBO, but with no power of arrest. A large number of ABC's are successful. ASBO's follow an ABC, which have been very successful in Waterloo Estate, Creekmoor.

Cllr John Rampton explained that the joint approach takes time, sometimes even years just to turn one young persons life around for the better.

Further discussion on policing allocation between Sgt Jenkins and residents.

A member of public and special constable then asked about increasing the number of specials on a Friday night and that he is always keen to work and will work. Sgt Jenkins explained that we need to offer experience and sheer volume of officers will not help the situation as not all are independently able to enforce the section 30 and there are not enough regular officers to capacitate any more specials. Sgt Jenkins explained that each team has there own dedicated special constables and that they provide cover for a minimum of 2 nights of the week, as well as Fridays, which is when most of the problems occur.

Littering Update

Chris Owens gave an update on Littering in the absence of Frank Wenzel. Chris Owens explained that since the youth shelter has been put in a Verity Park the amount of litter has increased. This is partly due to the fact that the bin that is there is very small. There are now plans for that bin to be replaced by one of the new dual bins, which are a lot bigger and will be emptied regularly. Chris Owens also explained how Environment and Consumer Protection Services (ECPS) have been and will continue to go into schools to educated people from a young age, what impact littering has on the environment. There was a recent litter Pick in Millfield, Creekmoor, where a lot of litter was retrieved.

Chris Owens encouraged people to use the 'report it' option on the council website or to call 01202 261700. It was also explained that as from April 2009 all residents of Poole will receive a small booklet detailing the A-Z of services and contact details for each.

Lighting Update

Chris Owens gave an update on Lighting. He stated The Parade on Waterloo Estate and Asda were both owned by private landlords and that he has contacted them and they are making progress. The landlord of The Parade has commissioned the council to fix the lights and sort out some blocked drains.

Asda landlord has checked all of the lights and all will be updated and improved in the same as a planned overhaul of the car park.

A member of Public told how there was a light column in Chaldon park that had been there for about a year but has never worked. Chris Owens said he would look into this and the member of public was asked to get the lamppost number and use the 'report it' service.

Another member of public requested a further light in the play park in Sample Way. Cllr Moore said she would bring that up at the area committee meeting.

Setting New Priorities.

The number of votes already received for each issue was shown and the people at the meeting were asked to make three votes each to add to the total. The top three were then decided by those that had the most votes.

ASB – previously 8 votes, another 17 from the meeting = 25

Littering and Dog Fouling – previously 6 votes, another 7 from meeting = 13

Underage Drinking – previously 1 vote, another 11 from meeting = 12

Any other business

Member of public stated how they thought there should be more advertisement for the meetings.

Cllr John Rampton asked if Sgt Jenkins could bring statistics to the next meeting, as part of the problem may be perception.

Member of Public told how we may benefit if a representative from Ashdown School attended the meetings.

Next Meeting

27th May 2009 at 1830hrs at Hillbourne Social Club, Cavan Crescent, Waterloo Estate.