

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Colne and District Community Safety Working Group  
held at Colne Town Hall on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> Sept 2021  
Jerry Stanford – in the Chair**

Cllr Kevin McNulty	Colne Town Council
Cllr Pat Howarth	Colne Town Council
PCSO Ivan Hartley	NPT
PCSO Natasha Etherington	NPT
Cllr Ash Sutcliffe	LCC, Pendle Borough Council & Colne Town Council
Cllr D Cockburn-Price	Pendle Borough Council & Colne Town Council
Cllr S Cockburn-Price	Pendle Borough Council & Colne Town Council
Cllr D Lord	Pendle Borough Council & Colne Town Council
Cllr Alice Mann	Pendle Town Council
Mary Peden	Resident
Yvonne May	Resident Primet Heights
Pat Maloney	Resident Bunkers Hill

### **1. Welcomes and Apologies**

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting, Sad news to report that Sgt Tim Hitchen is leaving us as he is required to manage a major case soon to come to Court and will then be retiring, he hopes to come to our next meeting to say farewell personally. We welcome Sgt Stu Banks in his place, and he should be with us for a decent period of time. We welcome Ivan and Natasha tonight  
Apologies received from Tim Hitchen, Tim Horsley.

### **2. Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> Aug 2021 were approved as a true and correct record.

### **3. Matters Arising**

#### **Police Actions:**

With regard to the actions regarding youth ASB in Wycollar, Trawden and Cottontree Lane, Sgt Hitchen gave the following response:

*I have spoken to Andy Sarchet regarding the Trawden and Wycoller ASB and he tells me he has met with all those involved. In relation to the Pepper Mill Barn and the Ranger, they are happy that this was a short term issue and they are happy he does not take any further action. The Trawden issues appear to be not as serious as raised on Facebook and the cat being abused was not as first thought. The team have been spending more time at the relevant locations (including Natasha so she will be able to update) and there is a plan to facilitate some diversionary activities for the youths in that area. Apparently, they are not overly keen on some of the CYAG activities, possibly due to the distance or that they just don't want to participate. The main request from them is for an area to "hang out" with power, wi-fi, shelter and lighting rather than many organised activities. Could be a nice cheap fix if the right location can be found ??*

*In relation to the Cotton Tree address backing onto the river, we are probably not going to be able to deal with that one. It will only be an issue on very hot days and shouldn't cause any more problems for the next 9 months. There is obviously an issue around the behaviour which could be sorted by changing the geographic features but that's an issue for the council, one of the utility companies and waterways groups. Whilst I appreciate that the resident is concerned for the safety of the youths, they must appreciate it should be reported but should not try and intervene themselves, as this is likely to get a reaction from the kids. Once upon a time this would have been every kids recreation in the summer but we seem at lot more risk averse, as a society. Definitely something that we (not me obviously but the team as a whole) will look to address, with engagement and visibility as the weather picks up next year.*

Sarah commented that CYAG is arranging a special one day a week event, similar to that held in Waterside, at Trawden Community Centre with Stephen Wilcock's agreement, and this is hoped to provide a satisfactory temporary solution.

**Cllr A Sutcliffe: Newmarket St wall at risk to public:**

LCC have surveyed the wall and then returned to push back in the protruding bricks without attempting to re-mortar whilst leaving detritus from the work behind and declared the task complete. Members expressed concern that as use of the rails and path above continues vibration will cause the bricks to again protrude and reactivate risk and at the slipshod nature of the repair. **Action Cllr A Sutcliffe to raise at County**

**Cllrs D & S Cockburn-Price - Update in Speed Indicator Devices (SIDS) – this matter deferred to next meeting.**

**4. Matters of Concern:**

**Dorothy** – Young child perhaps 10yrs, scrawling hate crime on signs in Parsonage St and Peel Gardens areas; after removal same child repeated the offence. Impossible to pursue because of lack of identification.

**Pat H** – Pigeon-droppings on benches outside Library (unusable) and on the surrounding pedestrian area, rendering it slippery underfoot. This chiefly the fault of persons observed feeding the birds, including taxi drivers. This is a problem from some years ago when posters were used to deter feeding. **Actions – Chair to contact BID – possible visit by a bird of prey, contact PBC Taxi coordinator re drivers and PBC Services about underfoot conditions on flags.**

**Pat M** – Significant drug-dealing on Peel Rd area – Police commented they are aware. North Valley Community Centre is due to open end of September subject to finding sufficient volunteers to form a committee. Group asked to advise contacts and seek help for this worthwhile public facility.

**Alice** – Queried if there is a right for vehicles to park at a junction, notably Knotts Lane/Primet Hill junction, which creates additional risk for road users. Highway Code states **DO NOT stop or park: opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space.** This is not supported by a road traffic act so is not enforceable. However it also states: **You MUST NOT leave your vehicle or trailer in a dangerous position or where it causes any unnecessary obstruction of the road.** **Laws [RTA 1988 sect 22](#) & [CUR reg 103](#)** but this is difficult to prove.

Alice also reported that used drug needles were regularly being found in the Nelson St Car park area. Police advised they were aware and are patrolling the area. Children in the 12 – 15 yrs bracket are playing chicken in the Knotts Lane area between 6 and 8 pm. This was confirmed by Kevin who also observed this. Police advised that when they appeared in the marked (or unmarked) cars the children reverted to normal behaviour until they had moved away.

**Kevin** - observed a man on an electric bike, with no helmet, going at an unreasonable speed down Knotts Lane; Police advised that helmets are not required by law. He questioned the continued closure of the Burnley Rd section to the ASDA roundabout following the mains burst which has been repaired but not reinstated. Ash advised that the closure had to be reopened by 10<sup>th</sup> September and will pursue if this does not happen.

**Ash** – Raised the issue of the Fountain's Lane caravan user with his family who have been a thorn in the Town's side for some years. The user has children and his dogs are known to have bitten children, and is reported to be defecating in the street; it also alleged that he walks about with spades and other implements in a threatening and aggressive manner, and drives an untaxed and uninsured car and has no driving licence; he has refused offered housing and will not admit his name so as to avoid official scrutiny. He has been moved on from other sites by order but just repositions elsewhere. It seems beyond belief that officialdom cannot take more positive and sustainable action to take this person from the streets permanently. **ACTION Local residents to phone 999 when observing illegal activities occurring and to attempt to take photographic evidence without putting themselves at risk; Tim Horsley to pursue legal process to move them on; NPT to please attempt covert surveillance to spot offences.**

**Sarah** – Resident concern expressed at the Methodist Chapel corner of the A6068 at Laneshaw Bridge following last Saturday evening's RTA involving parked cars. The illegal parking of cars adjacent and within the double- continuous line hatching has to be better policed if further incidents are to be minimised. **Action NPT to monitor.**

An action from a previous meeting asked that NPT take action to stop a local shop-owner from illegally driving-on and then parking on the footpath at the top of Craven St. Th person concerned has stopped for a few days after being spoken-to and then resumes his behaviour. Surely it is time firmer action was taken. **Action NPT;** Sarah advised that having obtained funding from Ccommunity Action, an event will be advertised and held at Sainsbury's car park to maintain and repair bikes and where requested fit lighting. Date to be advised.

**Chair** – Following a further burst water main at Hill Lane chair has further written to UU Network Delivery Manager Caunce suggesting that the point the Group had made about making a complete replacement rather bits and pieces repairs would make more economic sense is seen to be right. No answer as yet. Rubbish has been reported Back Hawley St/ Knotts Drive and PBC advised. At the same time a vehicle involved in drug-dealing was recorded and reported to Police for action. NPT attention drawn to regular drug-dealing occurring in Ball Grove and the need to maintain patrols there. **Action – Chair to contact Friends of BG to try and obtain car details.** Members were asked to be vigilant for two young men committing opportunistically trying car and house doors and where open stealing valuables in the early hours; crimes have been committed in Vivary, Horsfield and Waterside and it reminds everyone to keep all property securely locked when unattended.

## 5. Crime Statistics & Police Priorities

### The crime figures for Aug:

The crime figures for August together with figures for the same period in 2020: were overviewed by PCSOs Ivan Hartley, & Natasha Harris

	Waterside		Horsfield		Colne Rural		Vivary Bridge		Foulridge		Total		Plus/minus
	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	
Burglary – Residential	1	2	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	4	3	-1
Burglary – Commercial	2	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	3	4	+1
Vehicle Crime	5	10	1	7	3	2	0	6	1	0	10	25	+15
Hate Crime	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	+1
Assaults	17	12	18	11	2	4	10	6	2	0	49	33	-16
Theft	14	6	9	1	5	2	12	13	0	0	36	22	-14
Criminal Damage	7	2	9	6	5	2	3	5	0	0	24	15	-9
All Crime	81	70	78	58	26	23	59	53	6	1	250	205	-45
ASB	68	24	36	42	21	3	39	19	3	3	167	91	-76

This excellent set of figures were only marred by the two young men committing car thefts as mentioned in item 4.

Members asked for contact details for the NPT. These are given below:

<b>INSPECTOR ANDY AINSWORTH</b>
<b>PENDLE EAST (COLNE &amp; WEST CRAVEN)</b>
<b>SGT 2915 Stuart Banks <a href="mailto:3200@lancashire.police.uk">3200@lancashire.police.uk</a> 07967 816875</b>
<b>COLNE NORTH (HORSFIELD, VIVARY BRIDGE)</b>
<b>PC 3272 DAVID CLEAL <a href="mailto:3272@lancashire.police.uk">3272@lancashire.police.uk</a> 07966 577144</b>
<b>PCSO 7156 AMY STEVENSON <a href="mailto:7156@lancashire.police.uk">7156@lancashire.police.uk</a> 07970 600493</b>
<b>PCSO 7830 IVAN HARTLEY <a href="mailto:7830@lancashire.police.uk">7830@lancashire.police.uk</a> 07815 448087</b>
<b>COLNE SOUTH (WATERSIDE, TRAWDEN &amp; LANESHAWBRIDGE)</b>
<b>PC 2559 ANDREW SARCHET <a href="mailto:2559@lancashire.police.uk">2559@lancashire.police.uk</a> 07966 934922</b>
<b>PCSO 7083 NATASHA ETHERINGTON <a href="mailto:7083@lancashire.police.uk">7083@lancashire.police.uk</a> 07815 449046</b>
<b>PCSO 7198 KAREN LONSDALE <a href="mailto:7198@lancashire.police.uk">7198@lancashire.police.uk</a> 07811 849935</b>

## **6. CYAG Update:**

Sarah reported that discussions over the leasing of the Byron Road Youth Centre with LCC were going well and it is hoped positive news will be announced soon. A person has been employed by CYAG to start in October; the postholder is a qualified teacher with a youth training qualification and considerable experience and enthusiasm. Further it is hoped that a University undergraduate will be able to undertake some duties as part of their degree.

The summer activities are concluded with the exception of Martial Arts, biking and football, but new, indoor oriented activities are to commence soon including possible roller-skating and war-gaming, in addition to the previously mentioned localised activities at Trawden, Waterside and Foulridge.

## **7. Any Other Business**

**Chair** advised the Group that following his as-yet undiagnosed period of ill-health it would be wise if they should consider appointing a new Chairman to take over the Working Group. An e-mail capability is essential, and It would be beneficial if a Secretary could also be found to ease the load imposed on the Chair. Could members please take some time to explore their contacts with this in mind.

There was no further business.

**Next Meeting – 7<sup>th</sup> October; at Colne TH.**

**Please note that attendance is limited to 20 persons until the pandemic situation eases so will members please let me know if they are intending to be there.**

**Tel 07979 906975**

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