

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Colne and District Community Safety Working Group  
held at Colne Town Hall on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2021  
Jerry Stanford – in the Chair**

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 Alice Mann	Pendle Town Council
Pat Maloney	Resident Bunkers Hill

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

Jerry Stanford welcomed everybody to the meeting and explained that the Chairman had a medical appointment and sent his apologies. He asked if the Group would sanction his chairing the meeting. This was approved and he thanked the Group for their support. Apologies received from Cllr M Thomas, Cllr M Chung; NPT; Tim Horsley, Roger Whitehead; Yvonne May. The latter asked to convey her thanks to the Committee for its work and indicated that she would be retiring from attending. Chair thanked Yvonne on behalf of the committee for her efforts over many years to improve safety for the community.

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

The minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021 were approved as a true and correct record.

### **3. Matters Arising**

#### **Police Actions:**

In the absence of a Police representative the Acting Chair read the following report from Sgt Banks:

Toyota van was mentioned last month and hasn't been seen by officers. (The van registration number EN 66 MDC had been passed to Sgt Hitchen two months ago.)

Knotts lane is same as last month's update; it's on going.

Speed indicator, enquiry sent to HQ I am awaiting a response. I believe this coincided with the below (see item 7)

Laneshaw Bridge parking issue difficult to process. (See item 6)

#### **Chair Actions:**

- Car parking on pavements (incl. top of Cleveland St)
  - **Chair** – wrote to Andrew Stephenson, reply received. "Government recently ran a consultation on proposals that would allow local authorities with civil parking enforcement powers to crack down on pavements being unnecessarily obstructed. The Department is currently still analysing the high volume of responses to ensure that all views are captured, and that ministers will carefully consider the consultation findings before deciding the way forward. The Government response will be published in due course."
- Pigeon detritus under road bridge by Colne Station
  - **Chair** emailed Michelle Walker PBC Tech Officer Environmental Services & Denise Bell – hand sweeper passes through most days, but detritus needs to be cleaned with a mechanical machine. UK shortage of drivers is affecting

- cleansing services. Detritus arranged to be cleaned on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November. Any future cleaning requirements need to be reported to Denise.
  - **Chair** emailed Network Rail, reply received. NR structures team have investigated and have worked planned at the location. A request has been made to reinstall pigeon netting as the one in place has been damaged. Awaiting a date from their contractors as to when the work will be carried out.
- Lighting on Castle Rd & Hereford – Steve Sanderson Ops Manager Street Lighting LCC
  - **Chair** - action still outstanding.

#### 4. Matters of Concern:

**Alice Mann** - The caravan which has been a persistent cause of problems for Colne Residents and has been legally moved-on from a number of previous locations, has reappeared on Green Rd, sited adjacent to woodland near the Hag. It appears that the wall has been broken down in order for the occupants to use the woodland as a latrine. (**Police query** – does this constitute criminal damage if provable?) Considerable concern expressed by local residents and the owner of the woodland at the behaviour of the occupants. **Action T Horsley**

Significant drug using behind the Venue, notably Thursday/Friday evenings; large collections of newish needles behind the Pine Shop, (this has been solved in the past and NPT know the person responsible. **Action NPT**

Youths persistently kicking hard on residential doors in Knotts Lane and Burnley Rd then running away; this is frightening residents and is happening after 1500 so suspect Primet youths. **Action NPT**

Millenium Green – still having problems with the man using an off-road bike on the grass and wrecking the surface. Advice to resident to phone 999 when it is occurring as recommended by NPT before; he has apparently been reluctant to do so.

**Pat Malone** – Drugs being dispensed by residents on Peel Rd, causing concern to other residents. **Action NPT to pass to Drug Squad for action**

**Ash Sutcliffe** – concern about a male individual dressing as Santa Claus and collecting ostensibly for charity. **Action: Acting Chair to speak to Sgt Banks**

#### 5. Crime Statistics & Police Priorities

##### The crime figures for Sept:

The crime figures for September together with figures for the same period in 2020: were overviewed by Chair:

	Waterside		Horsfield		Colne Rural		Vivary Bridge		Foulridge		Total		Plus/minus
	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	
Burglary – Residential	0	2	1	1	1	2	2	0	0	3	4	8	+4
Burglary – Commercial	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	1	-2
Vehicle Crime	3	4	4	6	4	0	2	3	0	1	13	14	+1
Hate Crime	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	=
Assaults	6	19	12	15	1	5	5	6	2	1	26	46	+20
Theft	13	15	9	15	3	2	8	5	0	0	33	37	+4
Criminal Damage	4	3	2	5	0	2	3	4	0	2	9	16	+7
All Crime	53	70	41	67	14	19	41	39	3	9	152	204	+52
ASB	43	20	27	35	10	5	21	12	1	3	102	75	-27

A worrying increase across the board and a pity that the NPT are not here to give background to the increases. Noted increase in assaults in Waterside (query on how much is DV and how much is multiple reports of same incident) and theft in Horsfield. All crime also showing significant increases: **Action NPT please to clarify.**

## 6. SPID Update

David reported that he had been on contact and has received a mountainous list of safety regulations and constraints before the SPIDs can be utilised from A Cox of LCC. This overburdening bureaucracy is preventing action on implementing a facility required and paid for by residents as the only practical way of protecting from boy racers using our streets as racetracks given insufficient police resource. The indicators have facilities which allow identification of place and time of offence from which local ANPR cameras can be trawled to identify suspect vehicles on that route. It appears that each site has to be authorised, making the mobility intended and requested by residents for these indicators impractical. **Action Cllr Sutcliffe to pursue with LCC; Minutes to forwarded to MP for comment.**

## 7. Cottontree Illegal Parking

Sarah advised that various email exchanges between LCC, NPT and herself following her reporting a vehicle that persistently flouts the law by parking within the double white lines at the bend by LBS on Cottontree Lane. IT appears that neither organisation is prepared to take action even though Section 22 of the Road Traffic Act makes it an offence for the person in charge to leave a vehicle or trailer on a road in such a position or condition as to cause a danger to other road users. The Highway Code makes it clear that this is such an offence and with this being a busy road also used regularly by buses it constitutes a serious risk. **Action – NPT to review**

## **8. CYAG Update:**

Sarah advised that the Group is moving into winter mode with membership growing, the new Youth Leader working hard on developing ideas and leading activities: cricket sessions are starting at Primet School and plans are in place for holiday events with food for the winter break; 16 of the 20 places already taken. Youth Club activities are starting in Trawden on Wednesdays,

Sadly, vandals have attacked the Byron Road building which has put back attempts to get it underway as a youth club. Hedge planting is about to take place round the field perimeter.

The Group was surprised and honoured to be given a Mayoral "Above and Beyond" Award at his award ceremony.

Numerous major grants have been applied for with substantial costs coming up rectifying the Byron Rd Building, supporting the employment of the Youth Leader. The group has joined the Asda green token scheme, is aiming to deliver a Forest Training School as a money generator and has received £1000 from the Climate Emergency Fund.

### **Any Other Business**

**Secretarial Support** - It was strongly recommended that we hold a publicity campaign seeking a secretary through social and other media, and via Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale Council for Voluntary Service; suggested that Mark could make a short video explaining what we do and use this to also encourage new members.

With regard to the water supply problems in the Castle Rd area – Chair reported that Mark has established an on-going dialogue with UU manager Andrew Counce, but sadly there is insufficient funding this year to renew the watermain in that area. It remains a priority to be considered for next year.

There was no further business.

**Next Meeting – 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022; at Colne TH.**

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