

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Colne and District Community Safety Working Group  
held at Colne Town Hall on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2022  
Jerry Stanford – in the Chair**

Cllr A. Sutcliffe	LCC & Pendle Borough 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
Cllr A. Mann	Colne Town Council & Waterside Action Group
Roger Whitehead	Waterside Residents' Association
Aneesa McGladdery	Colne BID
Sgt John Sutcliffe	Neighbourhood Police Team
PCSO Keely Evans	Neighbourhood Police Team

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

Jerry Stanford took the chair with the agreement of the group and welcomed everyone, thanking them for their attendance. Apologies recorded from K. McNulty, T. Horsley (Pendle Borough Council's Localities and Policy Unit), Sergeant James Cooper, Mark Chung

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

The minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022 were approved as a true and correct record.

### **3. Matters Arising**

#### **Police Actions:**

**Sgt Sutcliffe** brought the drugs issues at Lord St/ Brown St West, Briercliffe Crescent and Ball Grove together by explaining that the intelligence was shared with the Drugs Squad who are dealing directly with these areas.

Similarly, he explained that ASB at Bridge St/Knotts Lane, Castle Rd and Skipton Rd were all being addressed by the Joint NPT team of Nelson and Colne which makes concerted drives on specific areas as a regular feature in both Centres, based on intel fed from residents.

Speeding has now become a special task for PC Thomson who is trained to use the new hand-held camera and is targeting areas again based on intel received. Residents are asked to continue feeding information through the Working Group, and other sources, to the Police in order for these various actions to be properly directed. The Group was impressed by the new approach to neighbourhood policing and look forward to working to support it.

With regard to the failure of Police to utilise available CCTV at the St Andrew's Close burglaries, Sgt Sutcliffe explained that the directions from HQ have been altered, but that it has always been his direction to NPT to attend every residential burglary and collate any evidence. Residents should not be put off from reporting burglaries and can help by ascertaining if any CCTV evidence might be available.

The WAG website figures indicating that Colne is the third most dangerous place to live in Lancashire is not known to him but he pointed out that Colne was nothing like the third most dangerous area and questioned the source of such figures. The chair pointed out that the crime figures over the last six months were extremely reassuring and certainly did not support such a view.

**Chair Actions:** There is no further information from Network Rail. On pigeon nuisance there is a hope that hobbyist hawk owners may be able to assist in clearing them.

#### **4. Matters of Concern:**

**Dorothy Lord** – A motorbike, probably of the scrambler type, continues to cause noise and behaviour nuisance in the town, with reports from the Lakes, Castle Rd, Knotts Lane/ Lenches and west Colne. Sgt Sutcliffe asked that residents try to obtain a photo of the bike so that they can be identified by them.

##### **Action Residents**

**Alice Mann** – The junction where Notts Drive enters Knotts Lane is unmarked and unconstrained, so vehicles are exiting without regard to the main road traffic. Ash will attempt to secure LCC to see to road marking.

##### **Action Cllr Sutcliffe**

**Roger Whiteley** – Asked that attention be brought to redirect the floodlights at the rear of Colne Police Station which are committing a light nuisance to houses in South Valley.

##### **Action Sgt Sutcliffe**

**Ash Sutcliffe** Reports from Blucher St have indicated that an older man is living alone in one house, as a tenant of his absentee Mother, and the house is being used at all hours by adults and youths of all ages. Committing various nuisance to other householders.

##### **Action T. Horsley, Sgt Sutcliffe**

**Aneesa McGladdery** - Had reports of a large fuel spill in Bridge St caused serious nuisance. Now believed to have been cleaned up.

**Sarah Cockburn-Price** - The CYAG building on Byron Rd has been the subject of attack by either BB or air-rifle arms, breaking windows at the rear. One has been repaired but efforts are being made to use a protective gauze cover to give greater protection. No obvious persons can be identified to have an issue with CYAG, but it is disappointing that a charity is targeted.

**David Cockburn Price** – A crash occurred near the junction of Hill Lane and Skipton Old Rd caused by unjustified speed which led to a car in the ditch and mobilisation of the emergency services, with damage to the walls of properties.

## 5. Crime Statistics & Police Priorities

### The crime figures for September

The crime figures for September together with figures for the corresponding period in 2021: were overviewed by Sgt Sutcliffe.

	Waterside		Horsfield		Colne Rural		Vivary Bridge		Foulridge		Total		Plus/minus
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	
Burglary – Residential	1	3	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	6	+4
Burglary – Commercial	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	-2
Vehicle Crime	6	3	11	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	19	7	-12
Hate Crime	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	=
Assaults	10	10	7	13	6	2	11	3	0	0	34	28	-6
Theft	7	6	11	11	0	0	12	9	0	1	30	27	-3
Criminal Damage	6	3	6	3	2	0	2	4	0	0	16	10	-6
All Crime	76	55	58	65	14	15	49	49	2	6	199	190	-9
ASB	21	26	28	25	6	9	11	19	1	1	67	80	+13

These were seen to be an improvement all round and welcomed by the Group. Some concern expressed about the rise in ASB, but without detail the Group have no obvious support action they can take to aid NPT

## 6. BID Report

Aneesa reported that the BID group, which represents over 300 firms in Colne area, is setting up a new Forum to discuss the issues that arise relating to crimes against the commercial sector. Sgt Sutcliffe welcomed this and asked to be kept in touch.

## 7. CYAG Update:

Sarah announced the Open Day to celebrate and show off the new CYAG HQ on Sunday from 1000 to 1700. One of the attractions will be for youngsters to bring in their bikes for overhaul/repair and some old but serviceable bikes will be available to buy. All are welcome.

The CYAG general activities continue apace and grant hunting is a major activity with the huge costs entailed in turning the building into a sustainable and cost-friendly operation. It welcomed a £10,000 grant from the Crime Commissioner and £3,000 from LCC for supply of Winter Food for deserving cases. A further grant has been obtained from PBC to allow the setting up of a Horticulture Club.

The long-term objective is to have some activity on every weekday evening.

Kermit, CYAG's new green minibus, is being delivered tomorrow and will be on show on Sunday. Sgt Sutcliffe offered to assist with Police attendance in plain clothes on an occasion.

Dorothy Lord mentioned that she runs a disco for those with Learning Disabilities and is looking for volunteers to help with its function. This could be an avenue for CYAG youngsters to get involved in good works.

## **8. Any Other Business**

**The Chair** drew attention to two scam concerns – Energy Bill scam texts telling the recipient that they are eligible for or entitled to energy bill reductions. These are fraudulent and intended to discover bank details to milk accounts of the recipient. Action is NOT needed to obtain the Government energy support which is being applied automatically by the energy firms. Such suspicious texts should be forwarded free of charge to 7726 and the service provider will investigate and if necessary, block the source of the email. The second involves cold-callers in the Ribble Valley offering to do garden pruning and leaf clearance; huge charges will be levied by them and these cold-callers should not be employed.

**Secretarial Support** - The group still seeks secretarial help in recording minutes and other minor admin tasks. Anyone who knows someone who might be interested should contact Jerry or Mark (contacts below).

There was no further business.

**Next Meeting – 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov; at Colne TH.**

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**Mark – [markechung@hotmail.com](mailto:markechung@hotmail.com)**