

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Colne and District Community Safety Working Group  
held at Colne Town Hall on Thursday 30th March 2023  
Jerry Stanford – in the Chair**

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
Roger Whitehead	Resident, Waterside AG
Cllr A Mann	Pendle Town Council
V Fletcher	Resident
M Fletcher	Resident
PC T Schofield	NPT
PCSO K Evans	NPT

**1. Welcomes and Apologies**

Jerry Stanford welcomed everyone and thanked them all for their attendance. Apologies recorded from T Horsley, K McNulty, A Sutcliffe

**2. Minutes of last meeting**

The previous minutes had only been circulated to a small number of the Committee and so approval was deferred to the next meeting.

**3. Matters Arising**

**Police Actions:**

No evidence of illegal vehicle dismantling in Greenfield Rd and disabled vehicles have gone.

Police report that the trailing of an electric cable in Thomas St is not a police matter. This remains in the hands of Planning PBC to investigate the caravan as an unapproved residence.

**A Mann** – re Back Hawley St, the house owner concerned is in the process of moving and therefore is not able to support a surveyance camera. It appears that the area has been largely cleared of litter so thanks to PBC.

**D Cockburn-Price:** Purchase of SPIDS – The orders have now been placed for three SPIDs and concurrently an audit of existing back-plates is being undertaken which should be complete by the time of SPID delivery. It is expected to be an operational scheme within 3-4 months.

**S Cockburn-Price:** Pursuit of youths in Coniston Grove area – there has been no progress in identification and the activity seems to have died away.

**Spike in Theft figure last month** – Sgt Cooper reported that the culprit had been apprehended and has been dealt with.

#### 4. Matters of Concern:

**R Whitehead** – Concerned at the sight of off-road motor-bikes being driven up Albert Rd with high noise level, twice, the latest being around 1100 on Thursday 30/3/23. The rider had no helmet and there was no registration plate. PC Schofield explained the difficulties in stopping and apprehending these individuals because they make-off and they cannot pursue in the interests of public safety in low power vehicles. It was suggested that they review CCTV to obtain a close up of the rider since they are not helmeted and then seek identification.

**Action** PC Schofield review CCTV; Chair write to Police Commissioner re cumbersome response system to these situations which also affect drug vehicles.

**A Mann** – Guide Unit meetings held at Primet School at 6-3- - 7-15 pm being interrupted by youths on roof and banging on windows and doors.

**Action** – NPT to observe; Chair to contact Head to suggest means of access to roof to be inhibited by anti-climb paint.

Drug dealing in Knotts Lane still an issue; PC Schofield explained that they had attempted to stop an identified dealing vehicle which then made off and they were unable to pursue themselves whilst appropriate response requires contact with Blackburn which is too time-consuming to be effective. **Action** see above.

**Mr & Mrs Fletcher** – lives being made uncomfortable by children of ages 8 to 12, sometimes older, playing in garage area on Standroyd Drive, including invading gardens and running on the rooves of the garages. The parents of the children are not prepared to take action and the close provision of Ball Grove Park is apparently an unacceptable alternative. These garages are owned by PBC and they have agreed to investigate means of protection and the future of the garages. It was emphasised that NPT will support them if they forward CCTV of law-breaking activity.

**Action** PBC, supported by S C-P; NPT to visit during appropriate times and keep in contact.

**S Cockburn-Price** - Door-kicking in Cleveland St and also at a Beauty Premises in Market St by unidentified youths. This door-kicking has become a general ASB activity and the Committee ask that the NPT try and detect culprits and take publicised action to demonstrate to others that it will have consequences.

Man \_\_\_\_\_ has been committing public nuisance including threats to harm and kill in various places including Lidgett, Skipton Old Road, and Birtwistle Avenue, and these appear to be increasing, PC Schofield advised that this individual is known to them \_\_\_\_\_. Committee emphasised the importance of action being taken before the threats turn to actual violence. PC Schofield asked for persons affected to contact them and if possible phone 999 when an incident occurs.

**Action** – NPT and all.

## 5. Crime Statistics & Police Priorities

### The crime figures for March

The crime figures for March were overviewed by PC Schofield. He commented that these were largely strong figures and explained the higher theft figures from the now dealt with culprit.

Chair commented that the "all crime" figures had risen from 130 last year to a total of nearly 200 and this suggests a worsening problem.

### Mar 2023

	Waterside	Horsfield	Colne Rural	Vivary Bridge	Foulridge	TOTAL
Burglary - Residential	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary - Commercial	0	1	0	2	0	3
Vehicle crime	3	3	0	3	1	10
Hate Crime	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assaults	11	12	3	5	2	33
Theft	13	14	1	3	0	31
Criminal Damage	4	4	2	2	2	14
All Crime	60	63	17	37	7	199
Anti-social behaviour	19	33	4	12	1	69

## 6. BID Report

There was no BID report.

## 7. CYAG Update:

The roof has now been repaired at CYAG on Byron Road and the lighting replaced. Next, we will be tackling the kitchen. Facia Boards have been cleaned and signage will soon appear. Solar panels will also be installed to reduce electric bills further.

Jane Turner, from Tubbs of Colne, is formulating a programme of term time after school cooking and dining and we have funding for this programme from LCC.

We start our first club from our Centre on 17<sup>th</sup> April and it is drama, running from 4-5 p.m. We are still running all our peripatetic activities weekly – martial arts, cricket, football and traditional youth club. Next week, we will be running our two-week Holiday Activities with Food programme and a bike maintenance Club is planned. Liaison work with schools continues.

## 8. Any Other Business

**Please note the long period before our next meeting because of the intervening elections. If you have any serious concerns within this period please contact either myself or the appropriate authority for it to be dealt with.**

There was no further business. There are a few scam warnings following:

**Next Meeting – 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at Colne TH, 5-30 pm.**

**Tel 07979 906975 ([jerrystanford@btinternet.com](mailto:jerrystanford@btinternet.com))**

## Whatsapp Account Take-over Scam

Criminals are targeting WhatsApp users by posing as a friend and asking for a security code. Action Fraud has received over 60 reports relating to this scam.

The scam begins when a criminal gets access to another WhatsApp account which has you listed as a contact.

The criminal, posing as your friend or someone that's a member of a WhatsApp group you're in, will then send you seemingly normal messages to try and start a conversation with you. However, around the same time you will receive a text message from WhatsApp with a six-digit code. This is because the criminal has been trying to login to WhatsApp using your mobile number. The criminal will claim that they sent you their code by accident and ask you to help them by sending it to them. Once the criminal has this code, they can login to your WhatsApp account and lock you out.

The criminal will then use the same tactic with your WhatsApp contacts in an effort to steal more accounts and use them to perpetrate fraud.

### What you need to do:

- **Set up two-step verification to give an extra layer of protection to your account: Tap Settings > Account > Two-step verification > Enable.**

- **THINK. CALL.** If a family member or friend makes an unusual request on WhatsApp, always call the person to confirm their identity.
- **Never share your account's activation code (that's the 6 digit code you receive via SMS)**
- **You can report spam messages or block a sender within WhatsApp. Press and hold on the message bubble, select 'Report' and then follow the instructions.**

If you have been a victim of fraud or cyber crime, report it to [Action Fraud](#) or 0300 123 2040.

#### WARNING OVER FAKE BANKING PHONE APP SCAM



Due to the high number of incidents logged over the weekend, Lancashire Constabulary are warning about a scam being used by criminals to take money from people selling goods over social media websites.

Criminals are using a fake banking phone app which makes it look like money has been transferred into the victim's account when in fact it hasn't.

When a meeting takes place to hand over the item being sold (ironically which victims do thinking it's safer), the victim puts their bank details into a fake banking app on the criminal's phone. It then produces a screen which makes it appear that the money has been successfully transferred. But when the victim then checks their account, they find that the funds haven't transferred.

The criminal then pretends to call his bank saying that it takes up to two hours for the funds to show, but the money is never received by the victim.

Police are alerting people in Lancashire to the fake bank transfer phone app after an increase in incidents involving people selling goods on social media 'marketplace' type sites.

Officers from Lancashire's Economic Crime Unit have issued the following tips to ensure people don't fall victim to the scam:

**DO:**

Check the buyer's review history and feedback from other reviewers. Beware of accounts that may have been set up very recently with lots of favourable feedback that sounds similar, this could be an indication of fake reviews.

Always use the site's recommended payment site (such as PayPal) and read the terms and conditions to understand what you are protected for. If you pay any other way than via a recommended payment site, you may not be able to recover your money.

If you make payments in cash, consider carrying this out at yours or the seller's bank premises for added protection.

Avoid direct bank transfers where possible. Use known third party payment providers after checking terms and conditions.

If payment is made via bank transfer, always check with your own bank if any payment is shown pending.

**DON'T:**

Allow buyer to change the original agreed meeting place.

Hand over any goods until money is confirmed in your account.

Allow the buyer to rush you to persuade you that payment has been made.

Please report all fraud to Action Fraud 0300 123 2040 or online [actionfraud.police.uk](https://actionfraud.police.uk)

You can make a non-urgent report to Lancashire Police by calling us on 101 or online at <https://doitonline.lancashire.police.uk>

Stay vigilant

## Safe Online Shopping

When you're buying online, how confident are you that you're dealing with a genuine seller and not a criminal? Or do you even think about it?

Many people believe that online shopping scams are easy to spot, with poor spelling or grammar, dodgy logos or unusual website or email addresses or phone numbers. However, this is now rarely the case, with scammers going to great lengths to earn your trust before cheating you out of your money. It's upsetting at the best of times, but even worse when money's tight.

Whether you're buying a car, clothes, or gifts online, help to safeguard yourself and your money by watching Get Safe Online's latest short video and reading on to discover our top tips:

<https://www.getsafeonline.org/onlinebuying/?videoname=emily>

the Get Safe Online team.