

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Colne and District Community Safety Working Group  
held at Colne Town Hall on Thursday 3rd Aug 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 M Moffitt	Colne Town Council
Cllr K Salter	Pendle Borough Council
T Horsley	Pendle Borough Council
Cllr A Mann	Colne Town Council
Cllr D Lord,	Pendle Borough Council

**1. Welcomes and Apologies**

Jerry Stanford welcomed everyone and thanked them all for their attendance. There were apologies from, Sgt J Cooper, K McNulty, Roger Whitehead

**2. Minutes of last meeting**

The Minutes of 6<sup>th</sup> July were approved as a true record.

**Matters Arising**

**Police Actions:**

Due to a last call on Response, PC Ash Marsden was unable to join the meeting. He was able to telephone the Chair and advise on the crime situation. As a Nelson PC he was unable to comment on the outstanding issues. **Action** Chair to seek answers

**Update from PC Schofield on May queries:** Unlikely to be any value now as Tom is on leave.

**Earl St trespassing youths breaking pallets:**

**ID of scrap vehicles:**

**N2O canisters back of Old Boundary (Greenfield):**

**MF/SC-P** Outcome of RJ on Trawden Youths; due to the Police feeling unable to declare this as a crime in spite of criminal damage to Council property and signage, and other offences this has not been permitted to be subject to restorative justice. PC Marsden will seek answers from Sgt Cooper

**3. Matters of Concern:**

XXXXX – Concerned that keep receiving notice that m/c noise is being investigated but there is no report back nor progress in reducing this on-going noise nuisance that has been a

feature of minutes for some years. A Waterside youth from XXXXX has been reported as being one such noise creator and continues to offend the neighbourhood.

#### **Action Sgt Cooper**

XXXXX– Pleased to see NPT vehicle patrols in Knotts Lane area.

Waterside Action Group – report of person carrying a screwdriver attempting to enter parked cars in area of Gibfield Rd. (XXXXX)

Quad bike causing noise nuisance in neighbourhood, apparently reported as known to police.

#### **Action NPT**

Flag raised, creating trip hazard by Market Cross, Market St.

#### **Action Ash Sutcliffe**

XXXXX – Concerned as to action on industrial strength N2O cylinders found rear of old Boundary Mill area reported last month.

Railway Station fencing damage and other vandalism an on-going problem probably linked to a broken window reported at Leisure Centre and youths recently reported on roof of Leisure Centre. (Access to latter is being made difficult)

#### **Action NPT**

XXXXX – Vandalism reported on the unofficial allotments tended by Lord St School to the extent that school is ceasing its learning efforts there.

#### **Action NPT**

Woodland off the old ELE area, Cottontree Lane – drug taking and misbehaviour by youngsters.

Request for PSPO on dog-fouling on the sports area of Byron Rd CYAG Centre which is in regular use by Park Primary School.

#### **Action T Horsley both.**

XXXXX – Laneshaw Bridge has had a spate of vans being broken into and tools stolen.

#### **Action NPT**

XXXXX – Foulridge – Lower reservoir fishermen overnight leaving general mess and detritus when leaving. Reported to Fishing Control.

#### 4. Crime Statistics & Police Priorities

The crime figures for July were reviewed against those of the previous year by PC Ash Marsden

#### July 2023

Incident	Waterside		Horsfield		Colne Rural		Vivary Bridge		Foulridge		Total		Plus/minus
	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	
Burglary – Residential	0	2	2	0	1	0	2	2	1	0	6	4	-2
Burglary – Commercial	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	+2
Vehicle Crime	2	2	2	7	1	3	4	2	0	0	9	14	+5
Hate Crime	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	=
Assaults	17	15	6	8	7	4	5	5	3	1	38	33	-5
Theft	8	11	17	18	5	2	8	5	2	0	40	34	-6
Criminal Damage	9	4	5	8	0	2	8	5	1	0	23	19	-4
All Recordable Crime	80	75	63	91	15	19	57	41	12	6	227	231	+4
ASB	31	20	20	37	8	2	26	10	4	0	89	69	-20

These are good figures overall. PC Ash Marsden informed the Chair by telephone that the vehicle crime figures from last month and this were now identified as being by one person who is currently being sought for arrest by the Police. Some “Hanoi” burglaries had also been identified as a group from West Yorkshire and the latter police team have been asked to deal.

#### 5. Business Community Safety Group Report

There was no report

#### 6. CYAG Update:

Lots of activities ongoing, including the holiday club, funded by PBC for 40 supplemented by a further 10 by CYAG. Demand is about 100 if resources could be found.

Kitchens will hopefully be complete in time for a special cooking course to be run in September, and the electrical matters have now been completed. There are to be more Forest School activities and Kermit has been very busy. The kayaking course on the Canal was filled in two hours of being advertised and was a great success; it is hoped to repeat it soon.

### **Any Other Business**

**Main Committee – July** – much of the meeting concerned a Domestic Homicide Review and the Serious Violence Strategy for Lancashire and its application. There was no comment or justification on the issue of our removal from support; a copy of my report is given below.

With the exception of the crime report there was nothing pertinent to Colne and District. The Crime figures were dealt with by Inspector Claire Pearson and a summary will be included in the minutes when circulated.

There was no other business .

**Next Meeting – 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at Colne TH, 5-30 pm.**

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## **Colne & District CSP Working Group**

### **Report to Pendle CSP – 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

#### **General Remarks**

The circulation and mailing assistance previously afforded to the group of some half-an-hour per month has now been withdrawn, which we were subsequently told about after the event. It seems a poor state of affairs when the rate-payer's safety in the community has to be solely in the hands of volunteers. The Group have expressed their dissatisfaction with this in particular as it is no longer possible to cater for those not online.

It was also disappointing to find that having had a Town Centre PC appointed he had hardly become familiar with the locality before he was moved to Nelson. It seems that the additional force provision has not found its way to Pendle. We continue to be plagued with lack of a Police presence at meetings, the last being an injury to the intended PC who is from Brierfield.

#### **Areas of Concern:**

**Youth Misbehaviour** – Youth misbehaviour continues unabated, albeit at a lower level, and the group have been approached by the local representative of the owners of the North Valley Retail Estate who will be attending our meeting in September with their concerns. It is hoped that the NPT will make special efforts to attend that meeting.

**Drug dealing and using** – this also continues in the area and the Group give regular information to the NPT for action.

**Car Speeding and Excess Noise** – has again been an issue, and despite the speed-monitoring undertaken by NPT, Keighley Rd in Laneshaw Bridge continues to be a primary victim of speeding drivers. The new SPIDs are on order but are delayed by supply-chain difficulties. We are glad that our local CCTV is to be connected to the monitoring station in Blackburn which will be an added deterrent 24/7.

**Scrap Metal Collections** – There has been an increase in reports from the public of scrap metal collectors removing metallic objects from back-yards unannounced and one vehicle was observed on the route towards Keighley with an unrestrained load from which a fridge fell into the road; on being stopped by a member of the public the driver was abusive.

**General Crime** – the recent crime figures generally have been encouraging with drops in most categories.

Jerry Stanford

## Crime Levels for Pendle April - June:

1619 crimes in Pendle April to June up 11% since last quarter but 14% down on last year.

There were 294 domestic abuse crimes, 18% of all crimes, down 8% from last quarter and down 17% from last year. 16% were alcohol related and 57% were assault without injury or assault with injury.

Anti-social behaviour saw 685 incidents which is an 8% increase from last quarter but an 8% decrease from the same period last year. Vivary Bridge and Boulsworth rose slightly but Waterside and Horsfield fell markedly. (NB Vivary Bridge includes North Valley Retail)

21% was youth related – 18% down on the previous quarter and 18% down on last year. Vivary Bridge (50) and Marsden & Southfield (22) wards recorded the highest numbers of youth related ASB incidents, accounting for 50.3% of all youth related ASB in Pendle this quarter.

### **Vivary Bridge:**

**Sainsburys, Windy Bank, Colne** (30 incidents: 7 Apr, 11 May, 12 Jun) – Up from 12 last quarter, at least 21 incidents youth related, continuation of ongoing issues with youths. Reports of them refusing to leave, smoking e-cigarettes in the store, riding their bikes around indoors, smashing glasses in the car park and being verbally abusive towards staff.

**North Valley Retail Park, Colne** (12 incidents: 8 Apr, 2 May, 2 Jun) - Incidents reported at the main repeat locations within this area, including 4 at McDonalds, 5 at Aldi, 1 at Matalan and 2 at KFC. Majority of incidents were youth related, youths in McDonalds causing issues, refusing to leave and throwing things around. Generally congregating and causing a nuisance at all locations, being abusive towards staff and customers. Also reports of groups of youths taking cardboard from Aldi and setting fire to it.

**Spring Lane, Colne** (6 incidents: 2 Apr, 4 May) – All incidents related to reports of groups of youths entering an old derelict building. Throwing stones, climbing on the roof and smashing windows of the property.

## Consumer Alerts August 2023

### Cold callers offering to clean roofs

Beware cold callers in the Preston area offering to clean the moss off your roof. One resident was met with pushy selling. On initially saying no, the cold callers offered to clean a sample area for free, again the resident declined but shortly after heard a noise on the roof and the traders had started work without permission. Luckily the householders realised and sent the traders on their way. You should never feel pressurised into having work carried out.

**Trading Standards advice is to always say no to cold callers. The Safetrader scheme can help you find a trader in your area, contact 0303 333 1111 or go to [www.safetrader.org.uk](http://www.safetrader.org.uk)**

### Beware cold callers offering to buy jewellery.

Households in the Ribble Valley have received a leaflet offering to buy valuable items, such as gold, silver and watches, with a follow up visit the next day. Do not make any hasty decisions, if you have items to sell, shop around. Beware of pushy selling and low valuations.

### WhatsApp scam

A Lancashire resident received a message via WhatsApp from, she believed, her daughter, there was a problem and she needed £2000 to be paid to a third party. Initially very worried the mother replied to the messages, understanding she was helping her daughter with an emergency and was given a time that day by which the money had to be paid. Luckily, she managed to contact her daughter independently and realised it was a scam. Once the deadline had passed the messages stopped.

If you receive an out of the ordinary message from a loved one or family member asking for money, whilst first instincts are to immediately help them, use caution, take time to think.

### O2 phone scam

Beware of a scam where O2 customers are being targeted by scammers offering fake discounts on their phone bills to get access to the customers mobile phone account.

Initially O2 customers receive a call from a scammer pretending to be from the company. The scammer will run through a series of security questions, and you will receive a message on your phone stating a one-time password has been requested. This message is genuine but has been generated by the scammer who has been trying to log into your account online whilst maintaining a conversation with you.

Believing you are dealing with O2, you then provide the six-digit password that is generated to the scammer who is then able to access your account, from where they can change passwords, potentially take out extra contracts.

**Contact the Trading Standards Service via the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on 0808 223 1133**

**Further information about current scams can be found on our Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/StanleyDards/](https://www.facebook.com/StanleyDards/)**