

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Colne and District Community Safety Working Group
held at Colne Town Hall on Thursday 2nd November 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 K Salter	Pendle Borough Council & Foulridge Parish Council
T Horsley	Pendle Borough Council
Cllr A Sutcliffe	Pendle Borough Council & Lancs CC
Cllr M Moffitt	Colne Town Council
Cllr A Mann	Colne Town Council
Cllr A Bell	Colne Town Council
Cllr D Lord	Pendle Borough Council & Colne Town Council
K McNulty	Resident
Sgt Chris Emmett	Police NPT
PCSO Ivan Hartley	Police NPT
S Baldwin	Resident
A Richardson	Resident
M Valentine	Resident
M Carradice	Resident
S Woolley	Resident
D Tansey	Resident
L Whittle	Resident
J Bissett	Resident
M Eyre	Resident
Et al	There were 15 others, but someone took the attendance sheet away with them.

1. Welcome and Apologies

Jerry Stanford welcomed everyone and thanked them all for their attendance. He explained the purpose of the meeting and requested attendees to recognise the time limit. There were apologies from Barry Hodgson, Roger Whitehead

2. Minutes of last meeting

The Minutes of 5th Oct were approved as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

Police Matters:

Sgt Emmett updated the meeting on actions taken to meet with the issues from the previous meeting. In particular a satisfactory meeting with a senior manager from Sainsbury regarding actions that could be taken to deter ASB. The team are cooperating with Trading Standards over the illegal sale of slush puppies to youngsters, and also work being undertaken to suppress obstructive parking at school start and end times.

Sarah reminded the NPT that the Pump House remains open and is being used by youngsters for nefarious activities. **Action T Horsley & NPT**

4. Matters of Concern:

XXXX - introduced the 22 residents from Ellesmere Avenue/Stratford Way who attended seeking action in their area to quell the drug-taking and dealing that is making their lives unliveable. A range of unsocial activities were related, including drug dealer vehicles using horns and bright lights throughout the night hours to advise customers, harassment of the residents, paint damage to houses; all issues connected to the social housing below them.

Complaints to Together Housing have fallen on deaf ears, and historic complaints to Police have also not been responded to in spite of CCTV, vehicle registered numbers and other details being supplied.

Sergeant Emmett and PCSO Hartley were unaware of the complaints and undertook to take action. Prewarned of the problem, Sgt Emmett explained he had spoken to Together Housing and having further information would continue that source. He explained that one person was being investigated and to take action further, more current information was needed from local residents; he stressed that every resident with an issue must report it either directly to the police or using the on-line system <https://www.lancashire.police.uk/> report a crime. Together Housing also asked that residents fill in and submit their diary sheets.

Chair asked that he arrange an extraordinary meeting with the affronted residents on this subject alone, together with a senior member of Together Housing; he would chair it if so requested and it should be held in the Town Hall. Sgt Emmett agreed to set this up. **Action C Emmett, Residents, Together Housing, relevant Councillors.**

XXXX - A resident XXXX, she explained that a person repeatedly parks his vehicle across the gated entrance to the back lane to Linden Rd, preventing access, not just to residents, amongst whom there are disabled persons, but also to ambulance and fire services should they be required. Parking wardens have refused to take action because there are no road markings prohibiting parking. **Action Ash to approach LCC Highways**

XXXX - Drew attention to the fact that the person wilfully exposing himself, notably to children returning home from school in the afternoon in the Birtwistle Avenue area. This was reported here some months ago and is still happening. **Action Tom and Keely**

XXXX- A scrap metal dealer has again been active removing items from yards unbidden. He has details. Secondly, he reported an abandoned vehicle and gave details to Tim Horsley.

XXXX – There is a need for stronger car restrictive measures at their junction of the A56 and Causeway. **Action Ash to raise with Highways**

XXXX– There is an amount of building waste, including a full window, that has been tipped into the gated area at the rear of Age UK, by their refuse bins. This has already been reported to D Walker at PBC for action.

XXXX – mentioned that there had been a recent car accident on Skipton Old Road, emphasising the dangers inherent in traversing this narrow, but important road. In Laneshaw Bridge there has been reported to him persons in Alma Rd trying car doors with intent.

Action - NPT to be aware there are some valuable cars in this estate which will attract thieves.

XXXX - Youngsters aged between 8 and 13 were observed and reported to Police for chopping trees at the junction of Exchange St and Shaw St. Particular concern that these youths were using dangerous weapons in a public place. Sgt Emmett confirmed that this is being pursued by PC Schofield and Action will be taken. She also reported that graffiti is being scrawled around car-parks, and this has been reported to PBC.

A water leak has caused problems at the bottom of Duke St and again is being actioned by PBC.

XXXX – Youngsters at King George V Playing area have again been observed throwing stones at passing vehicles. **Action NPT to note.**

XXXX - Concern has been raised by residents about cars speeding on Greenfield Avenue.

5. Crime Report

Oct 2023

Sgt Emmett gave the following crime report, noting that these were again a strong set of results. He went on to describe the actions they were taking to address those few spikes including Op. Defender where they visit the victim and pursue the CCTV trail from the area.

Incident	Waterside		Horsfield		Colne Rural		Vivary Bridge		Foulridge		Total		Plus/minus
	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023/Aug	
Burglary – Residential	2	5	3	2	1	0	4	2	0	0	10	9	-1
Burglary – Commercial	4	2	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	5	4	-1
Burglary Non-dwelling	0	0	0	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	6	+6
Vehicle Crime	6	2	5	0	1	6	1	3	0	1	13	12	-1
Assaults	26	33	19	14	10	2	23	15	4	2	82	66	-16
Theft	10	10	8	14	0	2	11	8	0	1	29	35	+6
Arson/Criminal Damage	11	13	11	8	1	1	8	2	3	0	34	24	-10
All Recordable Crime	68	73	55	44	12	19	53	37	8	4	196	177	-19
All Recordable Crime – Year to Date	638	568	572	543	138	155	468	389	52	43	1868	1698	-170
Hate Crime	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	+2
ASB	29	21	36	18	2	2	35	5	2	3	104	49	-55

6. Business Community Safety Group Report

No Report

7. CYAG Update

Building works inside the CYAG building; floodlights are being used. Kermit (the Minibus) had a mechanical hiccup but many thanks to Fishwicks, they repaired it overnight ready for the trip the following day. Holiday activities went extremely well and CYAG are seeking more grants to expand numbers at the next break. Cooperative work with the NPT patrols continues.

Any Other Business

Pendle Community Safety Partnership Meeting – 10th October

Report to Colne and District Working Group

Two domestic Homicides are undergoing official reviews neither are from Colne.

Following withdrawal of funding from by the Commissioner it has been agreed that future Lancashire reviews will be funded by a pooled arrangement between the individual Boroughs and Major Towns.

MATAC –

There were 1,727 crimes in Pendle July to September a drop of 7% from last year. The table shows the breakdown in crime type.

CRIME_GROUP	Count of Crimes	Percentage of Total
VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON	708	41.00%
THEFT	309	17.89%
ARSON AND CRIMINAL DAMAGE	198	11.46%
BURGLARY	109	6.31%
VEHICLE OFFENCES	104	6.02%
PUBLIC ORDER OFFENCES	99	5.73%
SEXUAL OFFENCES	75	4.34%
MISCELLANEOUS CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY	49	2.84%
DRUG OFFENCES	37	2.14%
POSSESSION OF WEAPONS	28	1.62%
ROBBERY	11	0.64%
Total	1,727	100.00%

All crime types increased except violence against the person, arson and criminal damage and public order offences which all decreased. Shop lifting was the major contributor to theft.

Domestic abuse fell by 20% amongst the violence against the person crimes.

Anti-social behaviour has increased in the four weeks:

The 731 incidents reported in Pendle equate to 7.9 per day during this period which is a decrease from 9.4 per day during the same period last year.

Youth ASB

From July to September 2023, there were 172 ASB incidents that were youth related in Pendle (23.5% of all ASB in the area).

This is a 20.3% increase from the previous quarter where 143 youth related ASB incidents were recorded (21.2% of all ASB). Compared to the same period last year this is a 24.6% decrease (down 56 incidents).

Vivary Bridge continues to record the highest proportion of youth related ASB, with 45.1% of all ASB reported in that ward being youth related. This is followed by Barnoldswick ward, where 26.7% of all ASB was youth related.

ASB repeat locations (July to September 2023):

Vivary Bridge:

- o **Sainsburys, Windy Bank, Colne** (18 incidents: 17 in July 1 in August) – Down from 30 last quarter, with no incidents reported in the most recent month of September. All incidents were youth related, continuation of ongoing issues with youths. Four reports of youths racing round the store and outside the store on electric scooters. Reports of them playing on the escalators, throwing items around the store, refusing to leave, fighting with water guns and being verbally abusive towards staff.
- o **North Valley Road, Colne** (7 incidents: 5 in July 1 in August, 1 in September)- Four incidents reported at Lidl and three at McDonalds, all youth related. Reports of the youths hanging around outside both premises, causing a nuisance, refusing to let people enter, setting fires to rubbish, damaging cars and reports of them climbing on the roof.

There were no other items specific to Colne.

There was no other business.

Next Meeting – 7th December 2023 at Colne TH, 5-30 pm.
Tel 07979 906975 (jerrystanford@btinternet.com)

Consumer Alerts November 2023

Beware fraudsters impersonating a police officer.

Courier fraudsters have been reported operating across East Lancashire. All victims have been phoned by someone impersonating a police officer from Lancashire Constabulary. The caller has given a false name and collar number before telling them that either their bank accounts are unsafe, they have been a victim of fraud, or they need you to assist them in an investigation.

They have then been asked to withdraw a substantial amount of cash, buy high value items such as Rolex watches or exchange the cash to Euros. They have been given a false one-time-password, and a 'courier', who is also a fraudster, has picked up the cash or items from their home address, or neutral location, like a car park.

Please remember the police, or your bank, will NEVER ask you to assist with an investigation over the phone, withdraw or transfer money or buy high value items. The Police, or your bank will also never send someone to collect cash, items, PINs, cards or cheque books from you, from any location.

If you have concerns or want to check if a police officer is genuine you can call 101. Consider using a different telephone or mobile phone or wait 5 minutes and make sure the potential scam caller has terminated their call.

Further information can be found at www.lancashire.police.uk/news

Scam insulation telesales call

A Preston householder has reported receiving a telesales call where the caller claimed to be employed by the British Board of Agrément (BBA) asking if the householder was interested in saving energy. Services offered were spray foam inside your roof and a water repellent masonry cream.

The BBA are a construction industry approvals body and will never cold call. Scammer callers can try and trick you by pretending they are from a reputable body. Always do your own research when looking for trader or when looking at what insulation products may be suitable for you and your home.

Remember Cosy Homes in Lancashire (CHIL) can help you find out if any government grants or funding are available for a range of heating, insulation and low carbon renewable technologies, www.chil.uk.com, Tel:03306 061488.

Trading Standards advice is to always say no to cold callers. The Safetrader scheme can help you find a trader in our area, contact 0303 333 1111 or go to www.safetrader.org.uk

Vehicle tax email scam

A resident in the Lancaster area received an email stating the following: *'Welcome, our records show that you are not up to date with your current vehicle tax. This is your last reminder from us. Your vehicle is not permitted to legally be on the road. Renew your vehicle tax now. You must fill out the form below to be up to standard with the DVLA.'* The email invites you to click to 'start now'.

This is a scam. The only place to access official information on DVLA and its services is GOV.UK. The agency will never ask for bank details by email and will never send text messages about vehicle tax refunds.

Vehicle owners are also reminded to be aware of copycat websites or scam websites that advertise vehicle taxing services. Always check you are on the genuine '.gov.uk' website before providing any personal or banking information.

Scam emails can be reported via report@phishing.gov.uk. Suspicious text messages can be forwarded to 7726.

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/StnleyDards/