

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Colne and District Community Safety Working Group
held at Colne Town Hall on Thursday, 8th February 2024
Sarah Cockburn-Price – in the Chair**

Cllr David Cockburn-Price	Pendle Borough Council & Colne Town Council
Cllr Sarah Cockburn-Price	Pendle Borough Council & Colne Town Council
Cllr Kevin Salter	Pendle Borough Council & Foulridge Parish Council
Cllr Ash Sutcliffe	Pendle Borough Council & Lancs CC
Cllr Ian Robinson	Colne Town Council
Karen Deighton	Resident

1. Welcome and Apologies

Sarah welcomed everyone and thanked them all for their attendance.

Apologies from J Stanford, D Lord, A Mann, K McGladdery, A McGladdery, Mary Peden, K McNulty.

The Minutes of 11th January were approved as a true record.

2. Matters Arising

Police Matters:

Update from Sgt Emmett with PC Schofield & PCSO Evans

Graffiti problem - XXXX

The belief is that the graffiti is being done by adults, not young people. ColneTC is updating the CCTV network and that should help in the near future, as footage gathered to date and from Ring doorbells is not adequate.

Scrap metal thieves - XXXX

XXXX noted that this was linked to thefts of public metal bins, drains and coping stones, as well as damage to private vehicles. Public needs to be encouraged to report incidents and information.

Other Issues

Red Lion Car Park lighting, rubbish and poor surface (damaged by builders during Richmond Court work). Looked at with a PBC Officer to solve the fly-tipping and parking issues by enhancing and resolving the lack of fencing.

Illegal parking in Market St – painting is not being done until the BSIP is done, so will be sorted in the future.

XXXX reported back on solving the nuisance vehicles on Greenfield Road – the effort delivered results and thanks were given to the Police.

Sainsbury's-linked nuisance driving has had efforts made and residents are pleased. Noted that ANPR system will be installed soon, with parking time limits. All-parties meeting should be held.

3. Matters of Concern:

XXXX– lack of support from LCC for refilling grit bins has led to trips/slips and lots of residents' complaints. XXXX noted there were deficiencies in LCC's service, but should

emphasise to people that they're for public use not private and that snow should be (largely) cleared before putting it down. Selfish behaviour was noted.

XXXX – Patten Street gardens abused by young people causing vandalism and blocking Exchange Street. One offender is known to the Police, may be perfect for Youth Referral. CYAG detached work to go there and noted that the Police have been there regularly.

XXXX – ongoing behaviour issues at XXXX re the man under caution and potential overlap with three visitors who may be involved in sub-letting. He is still driving up & down loudly and may be an issue with dealing at the Citadel. Police explained previous drug investigations and urged XXXX residents to report **all** matters, so that incidents are logged and that gives the chance to escalate for both nuisance/aggressive behaviour and the drug interaction

4. Crime Report

Sgt Emmett gave the crime report, noting that these are generally a good set of figures re residential burglary, assaults & ASB. Issues remain with thefts from supermarkets and the Police will be enhancing their focus in that area. Extra effort on working with schools to look at speeding.

Incident	Waterside		Horsfield		Colne Rural		Vivary Bridge		Foulridge		Total		Plus/minus
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	
Burglary – Residential	2	0	3	1	3	1	2	0	0	0	9	2	-7
Burglary – Commercial	0	2	1	4	0	1	0	1	1	1	2	9	+7
Vehicle Crime	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	4	+4
Hate Crime	1	3	0	2	2	1	2	0	1	0	6	6	=
Assaults	14	18	19	9	7	4	14	13	2	0	56	44	-12
Theft	3	15	8	20	1	1	5	6	0	0	17	42	+25
Criminal Damage	2	6	2	4	3	1	3	2	0	0	10	13	+3
All Recordable Crime	30	63	44	60	21	13	38	47	6	5	139	188	+49
ASB (prev month)	20	9	13	16	4	0	10	9	0	0	47	34	

5. Business Community Safety Group Report

ASB meeting held, with deep discussions re issues and solutions at Sainsbury's.

6. CYAG Update

Discontinued Trawden YC, but football, cricket, forest school all going strong. New sessions for creative arts and martial arts. Youth Hub blinds installed, with more flooring soon, then looking at bid for plumbing work. Orchard grant won. Possible wind turbine.

7. Any Other Business

Report to Colne and District Working Group

Pendle Community Safety Partnership Meeting – 15th January 2024

Four domestic Homicides are undergoing official reviews, none are from Colne.

Crime Record - there were 1,637 crimes in Pendle October to December equivalent to last year. The make-up was as follows:

HOCR_GROUP	Count of Crimes	Percentage of Total
VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON	695	42.46%
THEFT	259	15.82%
ARSON AND CRIMINAL DAMAGE	192	11.73%
BURGLARY	138	8.43%
VEHICLE OFFENCES	98	5.99%
PUBLIC ORDER OFFENCES	74	4.52%
SEXUAL OFFENCES	62	3.79%
MISCELLANEOUS CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY	45	2.75%
DRUG OFFENCES	38	2.32%
POSSESSION OF WEAPONS	22	1.34%
ROBBERY	14	0.86%
Total	1,637	100.00%

Five crime groups recorded reductions in the number of offences compared to the same period last year (arson & crim dam, drugs, miscellaneous crimes against society, public order, and VAP offences). Six crime groups recorded increases offences:

(Burglary, possession of weapons, robbery, sexual offences, theft and vehicle offences)

Domestic violence was down 12%, burglary down 16%, 40% reduction in theft, ASB fell by 21% whilst violence against the person rose 31%. Youth ASB fell by 59% from last year.

Waterside & Horsfield ward recorded the highest number of youth related ASB incidents, accounting for 26.3% of all youth related ASB in Pendle this quarter. It was also the ward which recorded the highest proportion of youth related ASB, with 33.3% of all ASB reported in that ward being youth related.

In the last quarter repeat occurrences were:

Vivary Bridge:

Sainsburys, Windy Bank, Colne (12 incidents: 3 in October, 8 in November, 1 in December) – Down from 18 last quarter. Nine incidents relate to issues with cars speeding around the car park and revving their engines. Two incidents reporting issues with a shop-lifter and one report of a group of youths causing a nuisance by messing about on the escalators.

Waterside & Horsfield:

XXXX (6 incidents: 3 October, 2 November, 1 December) – XXXX targeted by group of youths in the area. Throwing eggs and stones at the windows and kicking at the front door.
No further business.

There were no other items specific to Colne.

Next Meeting – 7th March 2024 at Colne TH, 5-30 p.m.
Tel 07979 906975 (jerrystanford@btinternet.com)

Consumer Alerts January 2024

Beware bogus roof repairers.

As with the previous month, bad weather has seen an increase in complaints throughout the County relating to roof repairs. A resident in the Preston area hired a roofer to carry out repairs to the chimney flashing which was leaking. The roofer advised on further works required and as soon as the householder agreed to the contract and transferred a first instalment of several £1000's the workmen arrived and started work. After a couple of days, the work was allegedly finished, and more money was required which luckily was not paid.

Please double check claims made on trader websites such as membership of associations and how long companies claim to have been trading. Use caution if traders start straight away, you should never feel pressurised into agreeing to the work or paying money.

A resident in the Hyndburn area was recently cold called by a roofer claiming to be working nearby and had noticed the residents roof tiles had slipped. No paperwork was received, no trading name was provided to the householder who is unsure if any work has been completed or needed doing. Luckily only £300 was paid but the householder has concerns they have been scammed.

Beware bogus gardening services.

Reports of cold callers knocking on doors in the Preston area offering gardening services have been reported. In one case it is suspected a vulnerable resident handed over £100 for a very small amount of work. The traders left no paperwork or details of who they were.

Remember, if you agree a contract in your own home, in most cases you will have cancellation rights of 14 days, even if work begins straight away, in this case you can still cancel but may have to pay the value of the work already completed.

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

Blocked drain responsibilities.

The Trading Standards Service is receiving a spate of calls in relation to drainage services including blocked drains. Please be aware some of the responsibility for your drainage and sewage will lie with the utility company, some will be with yourselves. If unsure it is always worth checking - further information can be found at www.unitedutilities.com or by contacting 0345 6723723. It is also worth checking your home insurance policy, you may have cover for the external drainage that you are legally responsible for. If the problem is for you to sort out, shop around, best advice would be to always get more than one opinion as to the problem/ solution and more than one quote.

Beware spoofing bank calls.

Beware scammers can 'spoof' telephone numbers that show up on your caller ID, giving you a false sense of being able to trust the caller. In one instance the caller, who showed up as being from the householder's bank, already knew details about their bank account and managed to trick them into giving their security code that gave the scammer access to their account.

If you suspect a scam call, do not trust the caller ID, don't give out personal information and don't transfer money – end the call and wait at least 5 minutes or use a different phone before contacting your actual bank.

Report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or via www.actionfraud.police.uk

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

Further information about current scams can be found on our Facebook page