

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Colne and District Community Safety Working Group
held at Colne Town Hall on Thursday 7th March 2024
Jerry Stanford – in the Chair**

Cllr David Cockburn-Price	Pendle Borough Council & Colne Town Council
Cllr Sarah Cockburn-Price	Pendle Borough Council & Colne Town Council
Cllr Ash Sutcliffe	Pendle Borough Council & Lancs CC
Cllr Alice Mann	Colne Town Council
Cllr Barry Hodgson	Trawden PC
Kevin McNulty	Resident
S Bulut	Resident
J Curtin	Resident
Karen Deighton	Resident
C Deighton	Resident
C Bracewell	Resident
A Bracewell	Resident
Cllr Michael Moffitt	Colne Town Council, W R G
PCSO I Hartley	NPT

1. Welcome and Apologies

Jerry welcomed everyone and thanked them all for their attendance.

There were apologies from M Peden, A Chamberlain, T Horsley, C Emmett, K Salter, A Mann, R Whitehead, M Chung

The Minutes of 8th February were approved as a true record.

2. Matters Arising

Police Matters:

Update from Sgt Emmett:

Crime figures show of a clear concern in the rise in assaults against the person. I have done a fair bit of digging in relation to this and believe it is more of a crime recording amendment rather than a massive spike in assaults.

The police recently changed the rules around 'Stalking' offences and how they are recorded. This change now incorporates all 'malicious communications' type offences as a stalking offence now. This appears to have added around 40 extra crimes onto the 'assaults' column. Without these we would have seen an increase of around 10 against last year and a figure which was broadly in line with last month.

I have also looked to see if there are any specific repeat offenders/locations. The top address for Feb has 4 investigations which are domestic abuse related. The majority of the rest are single investigation offences and as such not providing any pattern. This explanation would follow the trend that all wards have seen an increase in assaults.

ASB continues to see a reduction from last year which is in line with previous reports. Ongoing good work by NHP officers along with youth outreach partners. Extra Operation Centurion patrols continue to work Mon, Fri and Sat evenings including extra 'surge day' officers during school holidays.

Ellesmere Ave - this is a continuing work in progress. The occupants are part of a bigger picture but rest assured work is ongoing. The occupants ... have now been removed and we are still working on

the occupants of ...- this may have to be on conviction unfortunately. The ... motor vehicle constantly mentioned has been stopped by police extensively with the targeting yet nothing has been recovered.

Sainsburys - Meeting arranged - designing out crime officer to also attend and re-evaluate the premises prior to meeting.

XXX – Patten Gardens

Changes in residents has led to disinterest in tending the garden areas previously adopted by residents; this has led to piles of rubbish. Council have been asked to clear it.

XXX – Man under caution – this is being investigated by NPT.

3. Matters of Concern:

XXX – Nitrous Oxide gas cylinders of industrial size =have been found. Concern that these are still being obtained from Internet sellers, in spite of law change prohibiting them. **Action** – Council will collect these, notify D Walker.

A caravan has been parked for 5 months in the Hollin Hall area. **Action Barry** to notify Council. ...

XXX – ..., car had tyres slashed twice, presumably aggressive response to some action by car owner. NPT is investigating.

XXX – Byron Rd car-park (Community Centre) frequent use by Together Housing vehicles and containers occupying parking spaces. Noise from vehicles is causing a nuisance as well as the loss of parking spaces. **Action** - Ash is pursuing this issue.

XXX – The graffiti nuisance continues with the same tag but becoming increasingly lawless. PCSO indicated that he was unsure if CCTV had been consulted. A recent one has appeared on the west side of the bus stop shelter which is adjacent to a camera. NPT actioning.

Sainsbury's new CCTV system is now operating and has stopped the evening use of the parking area by quad bikes and other vehicles.

XXX – ... – cars being parked indiscriminately leading to angry exchanges and cars being damaged. Currently a civil case but could lead to criminality. **Action** – NPT to investigate.

XXX– Recent litter picking by West St Schoolchildren in wooded area behind Windybank revealed drug-taking apparatus and large quantity of litter. **Action – NPT to patrol.**

4. Crime Report Feb 2024

PCSO Ivan Hartley gave the following crime report, noting that these are generally a good set of figures with the exception of assaults. Sgt Emmet's report explains this.

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	0	2	1	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	4	3	+1
Burglary – Commercial	2	2	2	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	6	5	-1
Burglary Non-dwelling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	2	0	7	+7
Vehicle Crime	3	6	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	5	9	+4
Assaults	21	31	16	33	3	12	9	23	2	1	51	100	+49
Theft	10	7	10	11	0	2	4	8	1	0	25	28	+3
Arson/Criminal Damage	8	7	6	1	0	3	5	3	1	0	20	14	-6
All Recordable Crime	51	58	47	54	6	19	27	52	4	3	131	183	+52
All Recordable Crime – Year to Date	81	120	91	114	27	32	65	99	10	8	264	365	+101
Hate Crime	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	3	3	-
ASB	22	25	29	21	1	2	17	9	2	0	71	57	-14

5. Business Community Safety Group Report

No report. Meeting to be held at Sainsburys to discuss progress in reducing ASB .

.CYAG Update

Now has 78 members of whom 74% are male; development of the Byron RD hub continues. The hub youth club continues with 35 members attending regularly, creative arts takes place on Tuesday, and Wednesday youth club has started to replace the Trawden YC. Thursday is cricket at Primet school, with football on Friday at Fisher-More and Karate on Saturday. The holiday club operates during school holidays.

Any Other Business

There was no further business.

Next meeting is on Wednesday 27th of March at 5-30 pm

Consumer Alerts January 2024

Beware driveway services.

Reports have been received of cold callers in the **Thornton Cleveleys area** knocking on doors offering to clean your driveway or patio and, in some cases, offering to tarmac or re pave your driveway. Always shop around, get three quotes, and always use known local traders.

Beware cold callers offering tree cutting services.

Reports have been received in the **Ribble Valley area** of cold callers offering tree and shrub cutting services. Concerns of very poor work and excessive costs, which sometimes escalate after the work has been done have been detailed. Be wary of contacting services via flyers, use known local trades people.

Beware bogus roof repairers.

A resident in the **Kirkham area** hired a roofer, who was delivering flyers advertising his services, to carry out a reroof to their home, only to have the job escalate with extra work allegedly required to strengthen the roof and stop leaks. After £1000's had been obtained from the householder, they were targeted by another roofer who purported to be able to rectify issues left by the previous roofer. It is suspected that the second roofer was working in conjunction with the initial scammers. The householder did not part with any further monies.

Information about current scams can be found at Facebook

www.facebook.com/StamleyDards/

Guttering scam.

A resident in the **Fulwood area**, after contacting a trader from an online trader platform, agreed to work to their guttering and dry verges. The trader asked for full payment upfront, claiming it was for materials and then only partially completed the work which will now cost the householder around £500 to have rectified and finished.

Please be wary of traders who ask for payment up front and can begin the job straightaway. Use caution when dealing with online trader platforms – carry out independent checks, look online for any reviews and always get more than one quote for the work.

Cold callers offering repair work.

Reports have been received regarding a man aged 30s/40s, cold calling vulnerable residents in the **Clitheroe area**, misleading them as to work required. In one case he claimed there were loose slates on the roof, in another case, that the gutters were blocked. The claims were untrue in both cases. Fortunately, neither resident contracted with this trader.

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.

Contact the Trading Standards Service via the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on 0808 223 1133. Action Fraud can be contacted via www.actionfraud.police.uk or on 0300 123 2040