

Neighbourhood Action Group
West & East Areas
20th January 2009
09:00 – 11:00
Training Room, Lion House

Present

Julia Howlett (Chair)	Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Selwyn Anderson	Cambridge City Council
Marianne Crozier	Cambridge City Council
Sandra Farmer	Cambridge City Council
Paul Griffin	Cambridge City Council
Justin Hicks	Cambridge City Council
Steve Kerridge	Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Wendy Lansdown	Cambridgeshire County Council
James McWilliams	Cambridge City Council
Jane Maggs	Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Jim Meikle	Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Service
Alastair Roberts	Cambridge City Council
Katie Wood	Cambridge City Council
Tom Kingsley (Notes)	Cambridge Community Safety Partnership

Apologies

Shane Fasey	Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Vicky Hornsby	Cambridge Business Against Crime ("CAMBAC")
Robert Osbourn	Cambridge City Council

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received as noted above.

2. Notes of last meeting

The notes were confirmed as an accurate record.

3. Review of actions and priorities set at last NAG

3.1 West

3.1.1 Street robberies across the West neighbourhood

Level of robberies had remained consistent. There had been a number of arrests and a specialist team dealing with acquisitive crime. Recommend monitor only. Partnership were looking at a possible City-wide priority and awaiting report from the Violent Crime Task Group ("VCTG").

3.1.2 ASB use of cycles and vehicles across the West neighbourhood

202 tickets had been issued. The cycle lights campaign was highlighted. Concerns raised about motorists/bus drivers being anti-social towards cyclists.

3.1.3 Cycle crime across the neighbourhood

Another relatively stable crime and highlighted Op. Cyclone. Move towards business as usual. Committee pressure on the Partnership to adopt cycle crime as a priority.

3.1.4 Violent crime associated with the night time economy

Work done by Op. Sodium highlighted. The care tent and taxi marshals projects were well received. Councillors confused by the multi-level priority levels and these should be made clearer. **Paul and Steve will work with others to produce a clarification paper.**

3.2 East

3.2.1 ASB, drugs, littering in the Norfolk Street area

There had been two residents meetings and engagement with the landlord of The Man In The Moon pub. Mention was made of the Hooper Street garages that back onto the Council Depot and moves to make the area more visible to CCTV.

3.2.2 Under-age drinking in green spaces across the City East area

Ongoing patrols were highlighted as well as test purchases. There was a recorded decrease in incidents of youths carrying alcohol. Both the CAP and Trading Standards would be visiting schools.

3.2.3 ASB in the Thorpe Way, Ditton Fields and Jack Warren Green areas

Multi-agency work and street walkabouts were highlighted. There was a lack of confidence amongst residents in reporting ASB. Needed to raise the profile of the good works done.

3.2.4 ASB by the streetlife community

The s30 Dispersal Order had been renewed. Task & Target Group were involved in this issue. The large needle find in Mill Road Cemetery was not raised at the Scrutiny Committee. Again, needed to raise the profile of good works being done.

4. Consider recommendations/issues raised at West/Central Area Committee – 8th January 2009 namely:

4.1 Fear of violent crime in Newnham

Although there had only been a single crime, there was a fear of crime in the area. Look at environmental improvements and also seek views of ward councillors.

Agreed to adopt as a priority with Steve taking the lead.

4.2 Anti-social use of motor vehicles and cycles across the City

Prevalent in the Market ward. As majority of incidents involved bus drivers, suggested involving Stagecoach in discussions. Taxi drivers could be reached by the taxi newsletter. Work by Safer Communities on a parking campaign was highlighted.

Agreed to adopt as a priority with Steve taking the lead.

4.3 Theft of cycles/cycle parts across the City

Element of business as usual and suggestion made that matter raised at a problem-solving meeting. County's Crime Research Team were preparing a cycle crime problem profile for the Partnership. Best to do a stock take of current activities.

Agreed to adopt as a priority with Paul taking the lead for arranging a partnership group and Steve providing stock take of current activities.

4.4 Issues relating to the night time economy

This will always be an issue and work continues to be done under the Partnership's Alcohol-Related Violence priority and by the VCTG and CAMBAC.

Agreed to adopt as a priority with Steve taking the lead.

5. Consider recommendations/issues raised at East Area Committee – 15th January 2009 namely:

5.1 Youth-related nuisance in Ditton Fields and Thorpe Way Estate

Agreed to have another go at tackling the issue. There was an increase in drug-related ASB and a lack of confidence amongst residents in reporting.

Agreed to adopt as a priority with Shane Fasey taking the lead with City Homes South.

5.2 Continued focus on underage drinking through the CAP

Continue to work with Trading Standards on this matter.

Agreed to adopt as a priority with Steve taking the lead.

5.3 Speedwatch – assist community volunteers to administer the initiative

A pre-meeting before the last Scrutiny Committee meeting had been arranged to demonstrate the system but this had been poorly attended by councillors (one had withdrawn support in favour of more police enforcement work) Enough volunteers for a trial had been signed up and the Committee had agreed to support the initiative. Work will continue to develop the pilot.

Agreed to adopt as a priority with John Fuller taking the lead.

5.4 ASB on William Smith Close, Rustat Road, Argyle Street [and neighbouring roads]

Streets identified as the thoroughfare between Cherry Hinton and Mill Road. As before, a lack of confidence amongst residents in reporting. Three ring leaders had been identified. The police were making a referral to the problem-solving group. Further environmental works considered for Argyle Street. Suggestion made that public meeting be held and councillors asked to participate.

Agreed to adopt as a priority with Safer Communities taking the lead.

Serious assault on Mortimer Road highlighted. Meeting at Hughes Hall highlighted poor lighting in the area. Look at this and other environmental issues. Possible use of CCTV in the area.

6. Consider Cambridge Community Safety Partnership Priorities

6.1 Burglary of homes – SmartWater update/other Partnership initiatives

Initial SmartWater roll out undertaken and would be evaluated in 6 months. SSCF money set aside for media campaigns would be used to address “peppering” of robberies throughout the City. South Cambs. would be purchasing SmartWater and we would need to link up to ensure consistency, especially with bordering wards.

6.2 ASB – Vehicle and pedal cycle work

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

7. Agree priorities and actions

7.1 The priorities and actions set out above were agreed.

8. AOB

8.1 Selwyn reported that Christine Allison was now looking after taxis.

8.2 Sandra reported there would be a housing tour and also a residents’ festival (in September) and these would be good opportunities to promote “good news”.

8.3 Jim reported that the Fire & Rescue Service would be working with various schools on safety zones and invited other to participate. He would also be in hospital for the next 3 weeks and Ryan Stacey would be the contact in his absence.

9. Date of next meeting – 12th May 2009.