

Notes on NAP Meeting for Great Baddow & Galleywood held in the Millennium Centre, Great Baddow, at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 5th December 2018

Present: Richard Beck (Chairman), PC 3484 Martin, A/PS 74370 Jelliss, Chris Shaw, Andrew Sosin, Dan Glading, Norman Taylor, David Allan, Lorraine Allan, Sarah Daniels, Bob Clarke, Bob Hendrie.

The police officers had been asked to be present by Sgt Andy Drake.

1. Apologies: Gill Smith, Stephanie Scott, Liz Ahmed, Jenny Chandler, Trevor Miller, Maureen Miller.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising

Minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

3. Youth Café

CS reported that the YMCA and Great Baddow Parish Council now have a service level agreement. She had been to the recent YMCA awards evening, where a great many young people had received awards.

SD was unable to be at the start of the meeting, but reported later that the youth club was going really well and had reached maximum capacity of 35 for the 10-13 age group. The older group was also going well, with about 8-15 young people attending. An email had been received claiming that there was a drug dealer within the youth club, but this does not happen within the club. Mike Humphrey, the youth leader, has warned the young people and the club acts as a safe haven. There had been police strategy meetings and everyone was sharing intelligence on this.

There was some discussion on the growing need for larger premises and availability of premises for a second evening. The Reading Room was suggested as a possibility; it was believed they had not been approached previously.

4. Speedwatch

Notices publicising the scheme and asking for volunteers had been prepared and had been posted in the Community Association and on the GBENA Facebook page. DA reported that the Facebook notice had already yielded four volunteers; he and LA had already volunteered, making a total of six. RB will circulate copies of the publicity notices with the minutes. NT said that Mary Whiley is the coordinator for Speedwatch.

5. Meadgate Drug Dealing & Local Police Related Problems

RB gave a recap on the drug dealing issues in Meadgate. BH reported that neighbours now confront the dealers, but the situation is making people in the neighbourhood nervous. He outlined the problems of reporting anything via the 101 phone number and emailed the police after failing to be able to make a report on 101. A couple of officers came soon after that, but none had been seen there recently. The police officers present emphasised that contrary to some reports, it was important to pick up teenagers who were dealing to prevent them from falling into a life of crime. They stressed the importance of reporting every

incident, as there had only been one report of dealing in Meadgate recently. The police encourage people to make reports online.

CS reported information from a resident in Beehive Lane of dealing taking place on vacant land next to an uninhabited, boarded up house. DA reported that drug problems around The Vineyards have diminished.

The police officers said that to carry out a raid on a particular house where dealing was suspected they had to be in receipt of a certain number of complaints, which enabled them to obtain a warrant.

The local policing team do deal with neighbourhood issues, but are now more crime led.

The police drew attention to the appropriate pages on the police website for reporting crime and Andrew suggested putting copies in the Parish Council's magazine. This could not be until the March 2019 issue, as the December issue had already been printed. Chelmsford & Maldon Policing Team's Facebook page reports police activity. Officers emphasised that they could not reply to all individual reports.

Police asked that we ensure minutes are sent to Sgt Andy Drake; it was noted that he is already on the email list for agendas and minutes.

Active Citizens

The police described the Active Citizens initiative, where members of the public are trained and go out with police (mainly PCSOs) or patrol on their own. CS said that this scheme could also be publicised in the Parish Council's magazine.

It was agreed that we would benefit from more CCTV coverage, The CCTV currently in Meadgate was working, but not monitored or linked to the police system.

AS reported that district councils are trying to obtain powers for enforcement officers to deal with pavement parking and obstruction.

6. Problems When Contacting the Police

BH reported problems when trying to contact the crime reduction officer in order to find out which burglar alarms were accredited. He left a message asking to be contacted, but nobody came back to him and he had no response to an email. He went to Chelmsford Police Station and was promised contact within two days, but this did not happen. After three weeks he happened to see the police community vehicle and tried again – he was finally contacted after that.

7. Dangers for Pedestrians at the Army & Navy Underpass

Pedestrians encountered danger posed by cyclists, despite prohibitions. There are no prominent dismount signs and on the town side there is no indication which side of the path is for pedestrians and which for cyclists.

8. Cycle Paths from Baddow to Chelmsford

LA reported that Maurice Hyde is doing a lot of work on cycleways and she will invite him to the next meeting.

Bob H had received an email from Cllr Kevin Bentley in reply to one about Sustrans plans for a cycleway route across the Meads. Although BH had sent plans about this years ago, this reply just mentioned the current scheme proposed by ECC.

9. Date of next meeting

Provisionally agreed as February 27th.

AS will provide details of City Council meetings in order to avoid a clash of dates.

CS 13.12.18