

# PLAS MADOC COMMUNITIES FIRST

## COMMUNITY SAFETY

Wednesday 24th September 2008 at 2:00pm

### **In attendance:**

Chair	
Tenants / Residents	x11
PMCF	Andrew Harradine Clare Barnes Sandra Ashfield Fran Bunning
NW Police	Sgt Darren Whibberley Pc Gary Robertshaw PCSO Chris Cheshire
NWFRS	Steve Houghton
WCBC	Cllr Paul Blackwell
WCBC Economic Development	Jon Sankey
WCBC Housing	Vicky Ledsham
ECTARC	Nicole Graewer
ECTARC	Linda Bueschel

### **2. Apologies**

x6

### **3. Minutes of Last Meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting (30/07/08) were proposed as a true record by EL and seconded by CB.

### **4. Matters Arising**

- a) ADH gave a recap of the new meeting structure for those not present last time. There was also a request for volunteer minute takers to assist with the process.
- b) SA & FB from The Venue gave a quick update re: detached youth work in relation to previous comments from Dinas. Maps were provided for the group highlighting the Detached Youth Workers timetable and which areas of the estate are covered each night. DYW takes place between 6pm and 9pm on 3 nights per week. The Venue is now opening on Friday nights for the 16+ age group. The group was shown new Youth Worker uniforms, which would hopefully make them more identifiable, which would aid reassurance. FH asked more specifically about the DYW role. SA responded that the main elements were engagement and signposting with the intention being reducing ASB and alcohol use.
- c) PCSO CC updated on speed gun work since the last meeting. The average speed on this occasion was 24.2mph. Bus Drivers were clocked at 19mph, Ice Cream van at 27mph and was spoken to. ML spoke of problems in Idwal due to visibility on the corner and the speed humps. CC confirmed that the speed gun had been deployed here and nothing was out of order. Sgt DW commented on the difficulty in establishing the reality of speeding due to perceptions of speed and made an offer that members of the community / group could accompany PCSO on speed gun deployments. This was welcomed by the group. VL wondered if the group could petition for the estate's 20mph to be made enforceable. DW responded about the implied expectation of enforcement if this was the case and the reality of resources to have a

meaningful impact. ADH suggested that the group accept DW offer of community involvement in the monitoring for 3 months after which the data would be assessed with a view to requesting the covert speed monitoring equipment. This would help provide a case for changing the speed limit.

- d) Streetscene had informed PMCF that kerb realignment would take place at the shop and in Bodlyn.
- e) Litter pickers were now available at The Opportunity Centre but no-one had come forward to volunteer.
- f) FH commented that the footbridge over the Brook was badly damaged.
- g) ADH to check up on the tree inspection in Woodward's Walk.

## **5. Police Update**

There were no stats available for this meeting. A detailed report would be provided next time. CC commented that there were no significant peaks in recorded incidents. A common comment received by CC out on the estate was related to underage drinking. CC has spoken numerous times with Tom Hogan at the shop, who has been very supportive. A recent Trading Standards test purchase was negative, meaning the sale did not take place and the shop's response was commended. ADH to invite Tom Hogan to November meeting. Sgt Whibberley asked for feedback from community members as to how NWP were doing. The general feeling in the room was positive. DW admitted that he was confident that 99% of the time NWP gets it right but he was still determined to sort out the occasions when this isn't the case. He will bring responses from the Eastern 500 Survey, which is conducted with random samples of victims of crime, to the next meeting.

## **6. Halloween & Bonfire Night**

ADH updated the group on the JAG action plan for this time of the year. DW stated that last year saw fewer reported incidents probably due to an increase in visible Police presence. Shifts will be geared to providing evening patrols. In this area, NWP will be visiting the schools to show pupils the trick or treating posters and explain ASB. NWP and Housing will work together to identify potential stashes of materials that could be used for bonfires. EL thought Plas Madoc should have its own bonfire. SH said that Fire Officers cannot let fireworks off any more due to training / insurance issues and that NWFRS prefers to support formal events such as Marchweil. There was discussion around the arrangement of an approved Trick or Treat – PMCF to look at this with CC.

## **7. CSG Communications**

It was brought to the attention of the group that the wider community was not aware of what was being discussed in the meetings. It was proposed that from this meeting onwards the minutes and agendas for the CSG meeting would be posted in the community notice board on Hampden Way and also at the Estate Office. This would allow more people to appreciate what the group was up to. This info would also be published on the website.

## **8. Env Action Day Report**

A brief report was circulated to the group from the last EAD. 120 houses in Aled and Idwal had been targeted with door to door teams of Police, Fire Service and WCBC Housing. This had resulted in 22 referrals for Home Fire Safety Checks and 11 Police matters raised. 3 large skips were filled and a portable recycling centre provided by WCBC was well used for glass, cans and

cardboard. WCBC Streetscene had also attended to undertake clean-up work on the streets and open areas.

### **9. Off Road Parking – Whalley’s Way / Woodward’s Walk**

A date of 8<sup>th</sup> October was tentatively agreed subject to securing the use of a JCB and skip hire.

### **10. New Small Grants Scheme Proposal**

ADH informed the group that a sum of money raised through the August Fun Day was to be made available to the Community Safety Group to set up a Small Grants Scheme. The aim of this would be to provide safety equipment to tenants and residents that would reduce their fear of crime and make their homes safer. This would have to be done in conjunction with NWP and WCBC to avoid any duplication of existing schemes and also to resolve issues over the fitting of any equipment in council properties. DW saw an opportunity to look at using the scheme to tackle indicators often targeted by distraction burglars. VL suggested the involvement of Probation Teams. ADH, DW and MO to meet separately.

### **11. Adoption of Priority Issues for CSG for next 6 months & Completion of Safer Living Questionnaires**

ADH handed out Safer Living Better Living Questionnaires to the Group for completion. The process was explained and members of the group volunteered to distribute the questionnaires in their areas. The aim was to have some priorities identified by the November meeting to make a full start in the New Year. In relation to this ADH explained his intention to take a back step in terms of running the CSG meetings. It was time for local people to take up the reigns. DW suggested ensuring that each action given to a partner agency should also have a named tenant / resident, which would ensure proper levels of engagement. That individual could then report back on progress. CC suggested that another member of the community should sit with the Chair in order to preside over meetings. ADH to meet with volunteers.

### **12. AOB**

EL identified a potential problem in Marlbrook’s car park where children playing are at risk from moving vehicles.

PB mentioned that Cefn Community Council had approved an upgraded lantern for the streetlight in the Whalley’s Way / Woodward’s Walk car park. No timescale was available.

FH asked for any update on Smartwater. ADH confirmed that less than 10 were still available. FH also commented on the fact that the Brook had not flooded as badly this year since it was cleaned.

Closure of the Skip Site for 6 months in 2009 was a significant concern. ADH to look into.

### **12. Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October @ 6:30pm at The Opportunity Centre.