

PLAS MADOC COMMUNITIES FIRST

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Wednesday 29th October 2008 at 9:30am

In attendance:

Chair	
Tenants / Residents	x13
Resident / Cefn Community Council	Malcom Hughes
Resident / Cefn Community Council	Ennys Hughes
PMCF	Andrew Harradine
	Clare Barnes
	John Edwards
	Fran Bunning
NW Police	Sgt Darren Whibberley
	PCSO Chris Cheshire
NWFRS	Steve Houghton
WCBC	Cllr Paul Blackwell
Victim Support	Barbara Roberts
WCBC Public Protection	Ella Povey

1. Welcome & Introductions

2. Apologies

x4

3. Presentation by Ella Povey (WCBC) on the Companion Animal Welfare Scheme

EP gave an overview of her post and the aims of the project, which is related to the Animal Welfare Act 2000 and focuses on dog-related issues, unlicensed / commercial breeding, cat nuisance and education initiatives.

4. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting (24/09/08) were proposed as a true record by EL and seconded by SH.

5. Matters Arising

- a) ADH repeated the intentions for a shake-up of the group for the new year. His role at the meetings is to be taken on by a resident – one volunteer so far. DW supports this approach and will bring NWP area priorities to next meeting.
- b) PCSO CC gave a report back on the Speed Gun Exercise approved at the last meeting. The gun was deployed on the straight section of Hampden Way running past Idwal / Alwen / Aled between 14:10 and 15:00 on 24/10/08. 26 cars were monitored and the average speed was 22.38mph, with the fastest recorded being 33mph. 20 cars (77%) were found to be in excess of the 20mph limit.

The speed gun was then moved to Hampden Way outside Glaslyn – 30 vehicles were monitored and the average speed was 20.29mph. 13 vehicles (43%) were found to be in excess of the 20mph limit.

DW is looking to a new project run through Operational Support Unit in 2009 which will bring traffic officers to the area to work with school pupils.

FH queried why there were no priority signs on the chicanes.

ACTION – continue with speed gun monitoring to inform a request for covert monitoring equipment.

- c) Streetscene had repaired the broken footbridge over the Brook to the rear of The Opportunity Centre.
- d) Beat sweeper hours have been reduced by WCBC – extra need to set up volunteer group. PG to invite a contact from Llangollen to explain how his group was set up. DW pointed out that in some other areas the Community Council part-funds the beat sweeping operation.
- e) Trees in Woodward’s Walk and surrounding area – broken boughs had been removed and a job ticket has been put in for an inspection.
- f) Minutes and agendas are now being displayed in Leisure Centre, Estate Office and Noticeboard on Hampden Way in advance of each meeting.
- g) Off road parking – the project is half complete following the JCB input from Streetscene and skip at a reduced price. Problems have now been encountered in relation to insurance over the next stages. An update is awaited from Housing Office.
- h) Small Grant Scheme – progress being made for a roll-out in early 2009.
- i) Progress sought on the timescales for the lantern upgrade in the Woodward’s Walk car park.
- j) FH asked for an update from Youth Workers – JE spoke about the new “Hang Out” project that takes place in The Venue on Friday nights. PB asked about where the Detached Team work and was referred to the maps available at last meeting. There were reports of ASB in Tegid that had been passed to PB.

6. Police Update

CC provided some headline statistics for the previous reporting period.

3 arson, 2 assault, 2 common assault, 8 criminal damage, 1 drugs, 1 affray, 1 shop lifting, 2 theft from motor vehicle, 1 theft of motor vehicle. Figures are still favourable compared to surrounding areas.

Operation Quiver was ongoing in relation to bonfire night / Halloween.

DW gave a presentation on Eastern 500 – a NWP survey of victims of crime and their feelings on the quality of service provided. Overall Wrexham South was doing well with most areas of questioning returning 90%+ positive responses. Action Plans were in place to tackle areas where results weren’t quite so good but DW was confident that NWP were getting it right in most cases. More detailed info on Eastern 500 can be made available on request.

Discussion on Eastern 500 led to discussion around Victim Support. BR outlined the referral process which starts with a database of victims being forwarded from NWP to the VS central team. 3 phone calls are made to contact the victim, if unsuccessful a letter is sent out and the case is referred to the local office. CC spoke in support of VS citing a recent incident where the victim had been helped. EL pointed out that the police need to visit victims after the initial shock of the

incidents has reduced to ensure the right information can be gathered. BR outlined how VS deal with people who may have evidence. FH asked about people in fear who may not actually have reported anything, BR replied that VS can still be of assistance.

Discussion turned to the area of Domestic Violence. ADH spoke about the need for a specific action plan and that support was being sought from partners on this matter. NWP now employ headcam (video camera) equipment when attending domestic incidents to gather independent evidence which may secure convictions without the need for the victim to give evidence against the partner.

7. Anti Social Behaviour Workshop

A handout from the Home Office outlining ASB was provided for the group. Questions would be dealt with at the next meeting to allow time for members to read the documents.

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 also be published on the website.

8. Halloween & Bonfire Night

Env Audit organised for Nov 5th in an attempt to identify potential bonfire sites.
Op Quiver in place with evening patrols being prioritised.
Good Neighbour / Fireworks guide circulated to all members of The Venue.

9. Bran House Fire

Structural survey completed and surrounding properties are not as badly damaged as first thought. The case is now with the insurers and is still under Police investigation. WCBC is looking to rebuild the block. MO is pushing for a speedy conclusion and PMCF has written to Chief Housing Officer with similar objective. SH updated the group on the response from NWFRS and confirmed that following the fire 60 properties in the vicinity had been visited and provided with Home Fire Safety Checks. The NWFRS was meeting this evening to examine the fire. FH wanted clarification as to whether the roof spaces were linked in these terraced blocks. SH said that having attended the incident there were breezeblock dividers.

MH raised the issues over 2 cars burnt out on the estate on one night. DW & CC confirmed that investigations were still underway but the incidents were linked and not random attacks. There was discussion about getting the vehicles moved for both safety reasons and the negative message that their presence sends out.

10. AOB

RR & RR raised concerns about a lack of lighting and poor drainage at the back of Woodward's / Marlbrook. ACTION ADH & CC to visit location and assess. The state of the car park was also a worry and ball games were causing damage.

EL highlighted problems caused by leaves on the estate.

FH mentioned problems where tree roots were lifting tarmac and causing trip hazards.

BR warned of the issue of cold calling / distraction burglary at this time of year.

ADH raised awareness of a new initiative to warn of loan sharks. Publicity materials were available and piggy banks will be available at next meeting.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 26th November @ 9:30am at The Opportunity Centre.