

PLAS MADOC COMMUNITIES FIRST

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Thursday 20th January 2005

In attendance:

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| PMCF | Andrew Harradine, Susan Lloyd, Natasha Williams, Andrew Watson |
| Tenant | x2 |
| SmartWater | Graham Davies |
| WCBC | Llinos Jehu, Susan Thompkinson, Alison Williams |
| North Wales Police | John Williams, Pete Barrett, Martin Griffiths, Cathy Jones |
| Neighbourhood Watch | Irene Russell |
| Fire Service | Jim McGrane |
| North Wales Probation | Chris Higgins |
| Royal Air Force Police | Adrian Cooper |

1. **Apologies** x2

2. **SMARTWATER Presentation and Application**

Graham Davies from SMARTWATER (SW) gave a presentation on the use of SW and how it has created a downturn in crime of upto 50% in some areas.

AH explained that an application had been submitted to the Communities First Trust Fund to cover half of Plas Madoc with the allocation of SW. Further funding will be sought for the rest of the estate in the future.

Graham Davies explained that SW cannot be purchased from a shop but can be purchased via the internet. WL asked if it could be purchased at a police station if people did not have access to a computer. Graham explained that information could be found at police stations and with crime prevention officers.

3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

AH confirmed that Alison Williams was not a resident but a representative from the Dee Valley Community Partnership.

CH and AW will both be joining future meetings.

4. **Community Beat Manager – Pc Cath Jones, Community Support Officer – Martin Griffiths**

An introduction was given by Cath Jones (CJ) and Martin Griffiths (MG) and their roles and responsibilities were explained to the satisfaction of the group.

AH explained that positive feedback had been received, but concerns were raised regarding car tax and the potential for further financial hardship for the community when being fined, an action plan to target major issues once a month could be publicised similar to the 'Arrive Alive Scheme', when and where targeting will take place. This should allow the community to check that everything is in order. PMCF fully support the Police and any other enforcement agency in

relation to those who do not abide by the law, but still wish to save the community from further financial hardship.

CJ also explained that 10 to 15 cars were stolen in this area over the Christmas period, those most likely to commit car theft can be identified. JM explained a scheme being used in Caia for those already or most likely to commit car crime, which shows how easily a car can lose control, how a 'stinger' car is used and more importantly how any casualties are cut out of a car. If Plas Madoc are aware of the potential risk then the relevant people need to be contacted now, Paul Richmond from the Youth Offending Team is a main contact.

5. **Conditions of Footpath**

AH explained that MO was absent, and this topic should be moved to the next agenda. All in agreement.

6. **Motorbikes / Scooters**

There is a problem with scooters on Plas Madoc. CJ confirmed that younger children are also on mini-motors which cause problems. 'Operation Lifeboat' is a scheme which firstly gives a child on a vehicle a warning and if they are caught again the vehicle is confiscated. The Police need to witness any mis-use of vehicles but would encourage the community to take photographs.

7. **Safe Routes to School**

The speed limit on Llangollen Road is changing, it is in force at the moment but the signs have not been changed, this has been reported. The estate will change to a 20mph zone, a concern is how to enforce the new speed limit. JW suggested the use of the Police ghost vehicles.

A new footpath is being erected alongside Offas Dyke, unfortunately the local authority will not allow lighting. New speed bumps, signs and yellow markings on the road will also be included along Hampden Way to mark out the school area. EH asked if the width of the road to the school will be widened. AH explained that this may cause cars to travel faster than they do now. Off road parking for residents on that stretch of road could be a solution, and is being looked into as a separate issue by PMCF.

Consultation will include all children from the local schools and their parents. WL asked if the completed plan will be brought to the Community Safety meeting, AH confirmed that all information will be provided. AH also confirmed that bike shelters will be provided for each school to promote cycling, to work with this children can have an option to work towards a permit scheme which checks their competency on their bikes.

8. **Community Safety Action Plan**

AH asked if the group should make their own action plan, which would include topics such as anti-social behaviour which would action the Police and Youth Service, car crime would link with the fire service etc. WL agreed this to be a good idea, JW asked how it would be done. AH suggested a sub-group of the Community Safety group is set up, a smaller number of people, one representative from the Police, Fire Service, local authority and resident. AH will provide more information at the next meeting.

9. **Nominations for Chair**

AH explained that a community representative should chair the meetings. As WL had made an interest AD proposed that she chair any future meetings, this was seconded by CH, no objections were raised. Irene Russell asked if there was any representative for a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. WL gave an interest and asked for forms.

10. **Any Other Business**

- **Alley Gating** – questionnaire has been posted, 17% responded. Groundwork are now going door to door.
- **Railway Bridge** – JB is starting a project to combat the graffiti on the railway bridge. PB confirmed that the Transport Police will remove any offensive language and will provide the number.
- **Neighbourhood Warden Scheme** – local authority run. PMCF will have some input as to where they will be based. WL offered the use of the Tenants and Residents building. PMCF are unsure as to when the warden will start, PB confirmed that he has been asked to undertake training with them in February, expected date could therefore be March – April.
- **Fire Service** – JM gave thanks for the invite and wanted to inform the group that the Fire Service are able to offer a free fire safety check for homes, and can take children around the fire station. SL will contact JM with regards to information for a flyer to be sent around Plas Madoc. WL asked if local schools were involved, JM confirmed that all schools are contacted.
- **Andrew Watson** – discussed his roles and responsibilities to the satisfaction of the group.
- **Cath Jones** – has received complaints regarding fly tipping. LJ the environmental health does pick rubbish unless on private on land. LJ will make a report for further checks to be made to the area.
- **Next agenda** – to include fly tipping and litter, update regarding SW, Alwen and Glaslyn (with a possible on site visit). CH will also provide a presentation as to what is done at Plas-y-Wern hostel at the meeting in March.

Date of next meeting Thursday 24th February at 2.00 pm.

PLAS MADOC COMMUNITIES FIRST

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Thursday 24th February 2005

In attendance:

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| PMCF | Andrew Harradine (Development Officer), Susan Lloyd (Administration Officer), Andrew Watson (Youth Worker) |
| Tenant | x2 |
| WCBC | Llinos Jehu, Mark Owen (Estate Manager), Geoff Edwards (Street Lighting Engineer), Catherine Thomas (Senior Engineer Highways and Safe Routes to Schools) |
| North Wales Police | Sgt John Williams (Community Safety), PC Pete Barrett (Community Safety), Martin Griffiths (Police Community Safety Officer), Dave Roberts (Community Beat Manager), Insp Paul Firth |
| Fire Service | Phil Owen |
| Cefn Community Council | Rhona Roberts (Clerk), Kevin Rowlands (Councillor) |

1. **Apologies** x5

2. **Minutes of Last Meeting**

JW proposed the minutes to be a true and accurate record; this was seconded by LJ

3. **Introductions**

WL Community Safety Chair asked for everyone present to give an introduction.

4. **Street Lighting**

ADH provided a map showing locations of street lighting. GE explained that the lighting on Plas Madoc is owned and maintained by Cefn Community Council (CCC), the number to report any problems with lighting is **01978 296018**. If the street light is still not working for a period of time GE can be contacted direct **01978 296003** or contact his assistant on **01978 296033**. GE confirmed that the older lighting on Plas Madoc is not up to the high standard of the newer lighting. Due to restrictions on budgeting and funding GE is able to design and cost new lighting and can also provide the maintenance for new lighting installed but cannot access money for the purchase of lighting.

RR explained that all lighting is checked on a fortnightly patrol, with any malfunctions being reported, GE also confirmed that this is the same procedure for highway lighting, work will then be carried out within seven days after the report.

WL reported that the lighting outside 48 Peris is swaying, GE will have this checked.

PF asked if there was a procedure to fast track repairs if the lighting was malfunctioning outside a vulnerable persons home, i.e. the elderly. RR confirmed that they are aware of where the vulnerable people are living, GE also explained that malfunctions are dealt with in three sections. 1. Pure Emergency, power failure, risk of electrocution, 2. Client Call which will take 24 hours and 3. Normal procedure. The community need to be aware of this procedure. GE further explained that reports are sent when recording a malfunction, a weekly up date is provided and monthly meetings are held with Manweb.

PF proposed to the chair that further information is required for the community to be aware of procedures and that a member of Manweb should be asked to attend a future Community Safety meeting.

DR asked if bulbs can be updated rather than the whole light, GE explained that this was possible but would only provide pools of lights and not consistent lighting.

JW proposed that PB, GE, WL and another resident from Plas Madoc review the lighting situation by walking through Plas Madoc and identifying problems. WL suggested checking footpaths at the same time.

PF asked if a list could be provided as to where there is or has been damaged lighting on Plas Madoc. RR and GE will provide this. PF asked if these damaged lights were reported to the Police, GE confirmed that not all incidents are reported. PB asked that MG check the lighting on evening patrol.

5. **Footpaths**

ADH explained that there had been two complaints regarding footpaths since the last meeting. ADH passed photographs of the area outside of Druids Flats to the group. MO explained that the pot holes will be filled in with hardcore, PF asked that hardcore not be used as it can be used as a potential weapon, ADH and PF suggested the use of 6mm to dust which is just as effective. MO will pass this information on to the correct department.

MO confirmed that all pathways on Plas Madoc need resurfacing but that there is no funds to manage all of this, £5,000 is provided per annum to cover resurfacing on Plas Madoc. ADH confirmed that the Safe Routes has the potential to identify and improve one footpath on the estate via Hampden Way. ADH will also send the minutes to Councillor Paul Blackwell so that he is aware of the funding situation.

6. **Stray Dogs**

ADH has received a letter of complaint from a representative of Idwal. There have been a number of incidents when she has been attacked by a pack of dogs whilst walking her own dog. The Dog Warden patrols the area as much as possible but there is only one for the whole of Wrexham Borough. The Dog Warden has been into PMCF to discuss issues on Plas Madoc. The dog fouling officer and MG (PCSO) are also aware of the problems; MG was actually bitten twice on Wednesday 23rd February. There are a large number of stray dogs on Plas Madoc, PMCF have undertaken a dog chipping day and WCBC are holding one on Monday 28th February, but most dogs still cannot be traced to their owners.

ADH asked if it would be possible to have a purge on stray dogs, firstly by announcing the proposed action via the press to allow people time to locate their dogs. LJ will check to see if this is possible. ADH will also contact the RSPCA for assistance.

7. **Policing**

ADH explained that PMCF are concerned of the lack of police cover on Plas Madoc since the Community Beat Manager's (CBM) illness. The PCSO is new and there is uncertainty regarding the Neighbourhood Warden and PC Cathy Jones was not present at the Stranger Danger event at the schools. ADH also explained that a letter is being sent from PMCF reflecting the above.

PF explained that he has been keen to be involved with the Safety Group from the beginning. The policing has been as best as possible since the absence of the CBM with Gwyn Douthwaite and Cathy Jones both providing cover. PF has left a note with SL for MB as to the reasons of Cathy's absence from the Stranger Danger event, the CBM and Cathy are both going to the school to

apologise. Plas Madoc has always been policed, area cars are available 24 hours per day. DR explained that he only has to be absent for a couple of days and the community do notice. ADH explained that the community feel let down when a police presence is not seen. PF explained that there are officers at Plas Madoc and MG is solely for Plas Madoc and is on foot patrol for six to seven hours a day. Cathy Jones was only taken out of Plas Madoc three weeks ago, once it was arranged for DR to come back to work. PF explained that there are five PCSO's in the Wrexham Borough, MG is the only one on his own. There is a commitment to policing on Plas Madoc, and there has been a commitment from the beginning. The situation at the school is entirely a Police issue and apologies will be given to those concerned.

PF also mentioned a 'Neighbourhood Policing Plan' which should link into the proposed Community Safety action plan. A meeting is arranged in Cefn Mawr on Wednesday, Miriam Beard will attend along with WL, it would be sensible for a similar meeting to be held at Plas Madoc. The community need to know their CBM, PCSO, Neighbourhood Warden and even their local Police Inspector. DR gave information relating to the Police surgeries that will be held on Plas Madoc, ADH provided an update as to where the CBM will be based.

PF explained that the Police vision would be for each ward to have a CBM, PCSO and Neighbourhood Warden, at present Plas Madoc will be the only ward to have this. PF provided information relating to statistics of reported crime, reviewed by all. The trend of crime has decreased in the past two years, ADH suggested that crime has been under recorded in the past and that the community's perception is different from that provided in statistical evidence. PF agreed and explained that the 'Policing Plan' meeting provides an opportunity for problems to be highlighted by the community and also a chance for the community to meet the police and to discuss where the Police are doing things wrong. 22 meetings are being held throughout the community.

MG explained that he is getting through lots of issues and is recording them on a database. ADH would like to be linked into this, PF suggested that the database be sent via e-mail for PMCF to provide inclusions. JW also asked that MG check cars to see if valuables are left on display. If there are any incidents then to make note of the registration number and provide these to PB every Wednesday. PB will then send a report to the DVLA and they will send a letter to the registered keeper and provide security information.

8. **Community Safety Action Plan – Fire Prevention**

ADH provided information to the group. The working group met last Friday and will then pass information to the larger group. Another meeting will be held in the next 10 days and a completed plan will be developed in the next three to six months.

PO confirmed that Caia are having a 'Skip Day' now, ADH explained to the rest of the group what this entails. MO explained that the council will actually remove large items free of charge, two caretakers are employed at Plas Madoc, but many items are not reported for removal and cannot be removed without permission. PO explained that to access funding to assist an estate clean-up, the Welsh Assembly Government will need to have supporting evidence of potential risks. PO can submit a grant application with assistance from PMCF. PF confirmed that the Neighbourhood Policing Plan will generate an action plan and a date should be set for a meeting at the Opportunity Centre.

9. **Plas-y-Wern**

ADH provided an update to the group and explained that the Community Safety Group does not need to be overly involved with the situation as other groups are meeting specifically.

10. **Project Update**

SmartWater - application may be held until the new financial year due to the Welsh Assembly cash flow.

Safe Routes- Catherine Thomas (CT) is involved with this project which includes Offa's Dyke towards Ysgol Rhiwabon, and Rhosymedre schools. Pupils, staff, governors and service providers have all been consulted.

CT has secured money for Rhosymedre and Rhiwabon, the scheme looks at health, danger stranger, transport.

ADH explained how the use of a radar gun helped with speed perception for children and also asked if it would be possible for the CBM to use a radar gun, not as a way of catching speeding cars but to show the children from Rhosymedre School, it would only be required for one morning.

Fire Service - PO provided leaflets and information and also explained that the fire service is able to fit free smoke alarms.

Alley Gating – a site visit was arranged with PB and ADH. PB will implement a plan to show 'knock-on' effects, lighting, pathways etc. PB has also thought of other possibilities such as motorbike inhibitors. They are currently being used in city centres and cost £199 for the pair, PB passed photographs to the rest of the group. The inhibitors allow access for shop mobility vehicles but not motorbikes, unfortunately smaller scooters can pass through.

11. **Any Other Business**

- Fly tipping will be discussed at the next meeting with LJ and Wayne.
- The general topic of policing will be included in all future agendas.
- Future agendas will also become tightened.

12. **Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 31st March at 2.00 pm.

PLAS MADOC COMMUNITIES FIRST

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Thursday 31st March 2005

In attendance:

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| PMCF | Andrew Harradine (Development Officer), Andrea Price (Administration Assistant), |
| Tenant | x2 |
| WCBC | Stephen Jones, John Price, (Environmental Services), Alan Youens (Neighbourhood Warden) |
| North Wales Police | Martin Griffiths (Police Community Safety Officer), Sgt Andy Piggott (Arson Reduction Team) Insp Paul Firth |
| North Wales Fire Service | Jane Honey (Arson Reduction Manager), Phil Owen |
| Probation Service | Chris Higgins |

1. **Apologies** x5

2. **Minutes of Last Meeting**

PF proposed the minutes to be a true and accurate record; this was seconded by MG

3. **Introductions**

WL Community Safety Chair asked for everyone present to give an introduction. Alan Youens (AY) was welcomed to the meeting as the new Neighbourhood Warden.

4. **Matters Arising**

After last months meeting PF apologised personally to Rhosymedre School for PC Cath Jones not attending the Safe Routes to School session.

PF explained when DR will be back at work.

AH explained to the meeting about a skip that was left outside the Youth Centre all over the Easter weekend by a contractor, unfortunately it was set on fire, the damage was minimal to the outside of the building. The contractor failed to make attempts to get the skip removed and PMCF was unable to do so due to the Easter holidays. The matter will be taken up with the relevant parties. PMCF apologises for any concern or fear caused by this incident.

5. **Police – Arson Reduction Presentation**

JH and AP gave a presentation on the Arson Reduction Team, they presented the statistics of arson incidents in North Wales in 2004 when 2736 deliberate fires were recorded. The objectives of the Arson Reduction Team are Prevention, Education, and Investigation. WL asked about the education of young offenders, JH explained about the different projects and initiatives that they run. WL also asked about a hazard house, PO informed the meeting of the facilities that the fire service has available to demonstrate hazards. PF asked if it would be possible for the statistics to be broken down just for Plas Madoc to enable to judge the specific issues on Plas Madoc.

6. **Fly Tipping**

SJ informed the meeting that 7 fixed penalties have been issued and 10 for dog fouling. There are two areas in Plas Madoc classed as hotspots for fly tipping and the offenders are not necessarily from Plas Madoc but outsiders like contractors. AY asked about skips for the estate, AH replied

that the PMCF Env Officer is looking into planning such a project and a funding bid has been submitted via the Fire Service.

7. **Dogs**

It was established that one of the major problems of stray dogs is that Wrexham County Borough Council only have one dog warden for the whole of the borough, and if picks up a dog he has to take it to the pound near Whitchurch, which is time consuming. WL feels that the dog warden does not visit Plas Madoc as often as he used to. AH pointed out that the dog warden does keep in contact with PMCF and visits as much as his schedule allows. The problem is not with the individual, but with the situation of only having one warden, which is less than ideal and requires looking at.

AY asked about the possibility of having a register on Plas Madoc as a lot of the dogs have been chipped, and try to target the residents who have not had their dogs chipped yet with another programme of chipping to enable all the dogs to be registered. Other ideas included working with the RSPCA to allow owners to over dogs that are no longer wanted.

8. **Progress**

WL and AH attended a neighbourhood policing meeting. An awareness day is also to be planned soon.

Group agreed with PF that a community safety plan should be developed with the CSG breaking into smaller groups to address specific issues raised by the community. AH and PF to attend a meeting in Holywell and will extend the invitation to anyone else in the Community Safety group. The group needs to ensure that actions are identified and carried out so it doesn't become a talking shop. Holywell Communities First has already developed such a plan.

AH waiting to hear whether the bid for the smart water project has been successful.

9. **Any Other Business**

AH had received complaints that people were having difficulty contacting Cefn and Rhos police stations. PF explained that neither of the stations were permanently manned, a fact the group were unaware of and it explains why people are experiencing difficulties. PF encouraged the use of the main switch board numbers.

There are now 4 extra litter bins on Plas Madoc. The idea of dog bins was discussed; there would be a problem as they have to be disposed of as toxic waste. WCBC appears to be the only council known to the group that allows ordinary bins to be used for dog waste instead of specific waste bins, there was concern expressed at this situation.

The footpath on Alwen that AH brought to the attention of the meeting a few months ago was featured in the local paper, as an OAP had fallen over on it, it had already been reported.

The street lighting service seems to have improved after the visit last week from representatives from Wrexham County Borough Council, feedback that a light was fixed within 30 minutes.

It was brought to the meetings attention that children from minority group are reluctant to take part in activities, PMCF to investigate this.

RNID and RNIB support group will shortly be meeting at the Opportunity Centre.

10. **Date of Next Meeting**

28th April, 2.00pm at the Opportunity Centre

PLAS MADOC COMMUNITIES FIRST

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Thursday 28th April 2005

In attendance:

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| PMCF | Andrew Harradine (Development Officer) |
| Residents / Tenants | x1 |
| WCBC | Alan Youens (Neighbourhood Warden), Wayne Hughes (Amenity Warden), Llinos Jehu (Environment Dept) |
| North Wales Police | Sgt John Williams, Pc Gwyn Douthwaite |
| North Wales Fire Service | Phil Owen |
| Plas Madoc Leisure Centre | Frazer Williams (Duty Officer) |

1. Introductions

The members of the group introduced themselves.

2. Apologies x6

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes were accepted as a true record of the proceedings last month.

AH apologised to Alison Williams from DVCP (not present) who was omitted from the last minutes in error. The admin side of the CSG has now been tightened up to prevent similar issues occurring.

4. Matters Arising

Following agreement on Community Safety Action Plan – AH would be meeting with PF and JW later in the evening to begin the planning process.

5. Dogs – Action Plan

WH – reported that WCBC was aware of an increase in dog related problems on Plas Madoc and that there had been an increase in the number of fixed penalties issued over recent weeks. WCBC is planning a response to the problem, which will include a proposed “amnesty” where owners no longer able / willing to keep their dogs can hand them over. This would likely be done on an appointment basis to prevent the response overwhelming the 1 dog warden. WCBC intends to work with the Dogs Trust and offer chipping, - a recent chipping event on the estate attracted 150 dogs though AH clarified that these dogs may not all be from the estate as the event was open to the surrounding area. The promotion of neutering is important as it helps to reduce the likelihood of “packing” of dogs. There would also be some work targeting the schools.

AH spoke about plans with HC to look at WCBC & PMCF possibly funding a new dog warden post to work specifically in Plas Madoc and Caia Park.

EH asked what would happen to the dogs that were handed in and was concerned that destruction should be a last resort.

WH responded that both the Kennels and Dogs Trust’s aims were to re-home wherever possible but that in certain cases there maybe no option but to destroy the animal.

It was agreed that this should be a last option.

EH suggested that Charities like Capricorn Animal Rescue should maybe be invited to become involved.

There was discussion about the benefits of shared information (using the dog issue as a good illustration) between WCBC Wardens, Housing, Police and the Amenity Wardens. This would help everyone assess the true size of the problem and mitigate the potential for double counting or under-reporting.

AY spoke about the perceived benefits of the last dog warden visit as a noticeable reduction in loose dogs followed this dog warden activity.

6. Community Action Plan – Community Safety

LJ spoke about the importance of the plan in terms of target setting and attainment within WCBC's own structure.

Agreement on the previously proposed structure of the exercise but there was discussion about the timing and how to get people involved.

EH asked about linking the exercise to the 999 day / August Fete as there would be a large number of people attending.

JW offered to forward details of a similar event in Flint and to look into the likelihood of involving the Police Helicopter.

PO offered to provisionally book a Fire Crew to lead a demonstration style event.

LJ offered help in terms of sending graffiti removal equipment for the event

AH proposed to feed back to the group on the evening's planning meeting with Insp Firth by including info in the minutes.

7. Updates on Existing Projects

The Smart Water bid was not funded out of 2004 -2005 CFTF budget but was submitted for the 2005-2006 fund. Unfortunately the bid was returned as it exceeded the maximum amount available by a few pounds. This has now been sorted out and the bid returned to WAG. Feelings are that there is no problem with the merit of the bid itself and the remaining stages are formality.

JW asked for more details on likely timescales as he would like to see the kits out and in use as soon as possible. All Police Officers will now carry a UV jack light, which will identify the presence of Smart Water. The aim was to increase the fear of being caught for criminals.

The timing of the Smart Water may be beneficial in terms of launching / promoting the work on the Action Plan.

AH reported on Pc PB report on the Alley Gating in Bodlyn and Bran, which indicated a significant (£47000) extra cost in terms of new lighting to make the scheme effective. There is also the issue over 6ft fencing on end properties – required to prevent people climbing around the gates. The Crime Prevention Officer's opinion is that Alley Gating is not the most effective response to problems in Bodlyn and Bran.

PMCF will continue to support the Alley Gating because it has been identified by the residents as a need. Discussions will have to take place with Groundwork in terms of how the objective is achieved – new funding streams may be necessary.

AY – Neighbourhood Warden gave a brief introduction to himself, his role and his recent work. He described his role as being to assist, advise and educate. He does hold accreditation powers and reports all issues to relevant departments / agencies acting as a link. He is currently dealing with a lot of dog-related issues but is also building good relationships with the schools and pupils.

FW invited Alan to the Leisure Centre's security meetings and spoke of noticing positive changes since the arrival of the Warden and PCSO.

There was discussion on the merits of the Warden's uniform and PO asked how the current good response to the Warden might change once the uniform was adopted.

13 illegal / derelict cars have been removed in recent weeks. PO was pleased to hear this in terms of reducing the potential for arson and asked for particular prioritising of such cars in gardens / close proximity to property.

GD informed the group that Pc Dave Roberts would not be returning to active duty because of ill health. GD is covering the CBM position until a full time permanent replacement can be appointed.

EH asked about what was available for OAPs seeing as the young people on the estate. AH replied that it was a fair question and spoke about the prioritisation of youth services over the last 6-12 months. AH pointed out that Plas Madoc was the only CF area to include an OAP sub group in its structure and that this had been recognised by the Welsh Assembly – all CF areas must now adopt an OAP representation in their structure. PMCF has set up and continues to support an OAP Group, which runs trips and social events. The committee is about to appoint a new chair following a recent resignation, so things have been a bit quiet of late.

8. Any Other Business

There was no Other Business

9. Date of Next Meeting

26th May, 2.00pm at The Opportunity Centre

PLAS MADOC COMMUNITIES FIRST

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Thursday 14th July 2005

In attendance:

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| PMCF | Andrew Harradine (Development Officer) Andrea Price |
| Residents / Tenants | x2 |
| WCBC | Catherine Thomas, Joanne Thomas, Sandra Bloor, Mark Owens |
| North Wales Police | Ins Paul Firth, Pc Gwyn Douthwaite PCSO Martin Griffiths PC Pete Barratt |

1. Introductions

AH welcomed everyone to the meeting and each members of the group introduced themselves.

2. Apologies x5

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes were accepted as a true record of the proceedings last month, this was proposed by MG and seconded by EH.

4. Matters Arising

Communities First have had a meeting regarding the dog problem on the estate, looking into the possibility of having a dog warden that would work specifically in the three Communities First areas, the other two Communities First areas have agreed to meet to investigate this further.

AY will be off work for another fortnight.

5. Safer Living – Better Living 2005 Consultation

AH explained how the consultation will work, the first stage will be a questionnaire which will be going out in the next few days. There is an information sheet explaining the role of the Community Safety Group. There are to be two open days on 26th and 27th July where residents can come into the centre and talk to professionals about the issues that affect them. This will give a clearer idea on specific issues which can then be divided into smaller groups dealing those issues. There will be a feedback session afterwards and the preliminary report will be available by August in time to have them available on a stall at the August fun day. PF – Looking to set up focus groups with whom the police will be able to engage with on a long term basis, focus groups should have quarterly meetings this has worked in other areas. The recommendation is 5 focus groups, time and effort should be put into facilitating the groups in order for them to be successful. Communities First position is to find out what is needed, and to keep the community informed that these groups do exist and are trying to solve problems.

It was recognised that it is difficult to get people through the doors and a discussion took place on the best way to reach people. Ideas that were put forward are providing refreshments, compiling questionnaires and go door to door.

MJ asked why the agencies involved don't already know what the problems are. AH responded that they had a good idea, but want to know what the main concerns of residents are. PF added that when he had had meetings with local people they had concerns that he didn't realise had existed, so were then able to deal with the issues.

EH expressed concerns about several parties that have happened on the estate involving immigrant workers, with a lot of people from out of the area in attendance, she felt that this has caused racial tension. There was lengthy discussion about this, concluding with PF actioning Pc GB to investigate further and talk to EH & MJ.

6. Smart Water

AH has received confirmation of funding for Smart Water, only half the money asked for was awarded. The Community Safety Group now has to work out how to proceed, a discussion followed on how to distribute the 134 packs. SB asked about the feasibility of appealing as the packs have now gone up in price since the bid was submitted, and also asked whether local companies could be approached about part funding the project. Plas Madoc Communities First will explore all potential avenues of funding the shortfall. PB to approach PACT and pass details to Plas Madoc Communities First. Distribution of packs could be either based on crime figures or on areas. Either way monitoring of the effect is vital.

7. Any Other Business

The Safe Routes to school consultation now completed and available. It has been presented to Wrexham County Borough Council to help secure further funding.

8. Date of Next Meeting

Group agreed not to meet in August due to annual holidays the next meeting will be arranged for end of September, group will be notified of the date in advance.

PLAS MADOC COMMUNITIES FIRST

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Tuesday 18th October 2005

In attendance:

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| PMCF | Andrew Harradine, Andrea Price, Andrew Watson |
| Residents / Tenants | x2 |
| WCBC | Alan Youens, Alison Smallwood, Mark Owens |
| North Wales Police | Insp Paul Firth, Pc Gwyn Douthwaite, PC Pete Barrett |
| North Wales Fire Service | John Berry |

1. **Introductions**

WL welcomed everyone to the meeting and each member of the group introduced themselves.

2. **Apologies**

x9

PMCF apologised to Ennys Hughes who was forced to give apologies as she had not received the details of this meeting. This occurred during the updating of PMCF's contact info in a new database.

3. **Minutes of Last Meeting**

The Minutes were accepted as a true record of the proceedings last month; this was proposed by PF and seconded by PB.

4. **Matters Arising**

No matters arising.

5. **Policing of Alcohol Problems at the 'Top Shop'**

PMCF have had several complaints about youths drinking to the point of illness outside the shop. A discussion followed and it was decided to hold a separate meeting to identify the key issues, and to also identify the relevant agencies and individuals. GD to contact the owner of the shop Tom Hogan, PB to contact trading standards. Provisional date for meeting Wednesday 26th October possibly in ICC. PF to send circular to his team of local officers to take a more robust stance.

6. **Safer Living – Better Living 2005 consultation**

AH provided the results of the consultation. The results showed that the resident's perception of crime was higher than the actual statistics. WL suggested that the groups should be set up to tackle the five issues that were of the greatest concern to residents.

It was decided that the five groups would be as follows:

a. **Drugs**

Response already link in with the Venue and hold drop in sessions, which are open to under 25's. A parent support group will hopefully be set up. This meeting will be a template for the other four groups. The meetings would be divided into three categories; victims, location, offenders. PF explained that the police have been working hard to tackle the drug dealers and in the last month, 6 warrants have been issued, there is a period of 72 hours after the arrests to target users to ensure they get help, as after the 72 hours there is usually another dealer in place. PF, PB, GD, and PCSO MG are to be involved in this group, other relevant agencies to be contacted.

b. **Needles**

Will be tackled alongside the drug action group.

c. **Litter**

AH submitted a bid with the Arson Reduction Team for a skip day. JB confirmed that the bid had failed and will make enquiries as to why PMCF had not been informed of this news. PF suggested a request to the CBM fund for equipment to hold litter picks with the community and local schools. Environmental Officer from PMCF and Wayne Hughes the amenity warden from the local authority have held litter picks with the local school children. MO and Alison Smallwood (AS) to be involved in this group, other relevant agencies to be contacted.

d. **Alcohol**

To be dealt with by the working group that is to be set up next week.

e. **Anti-Social Behaviour**

The detached youth workers are already working with young people to try and combat the problems. AW, GD, PF, AY, AS and the detached youth workers to be involved in this group other relevant agencies to be contacted.

Lengthy discussion took place about the perception that the community was preferring to report incidents to the Neighbourhood Warden and in some cases PMCF rather than the police. AS pointed out that these incidents were often outside of the Warden's remit. AH was keen to ensure that there was recognition of the fact that many community members find it difficult to report anything and that it takes a lot for people to come forward, even if they may be going to the wrong place to do so. AH asked if there was a way of referring incidents through the appropriate channels in a way that would leave the community satisfied at the service that they had received and prepared to report in the future. PF was concerned about extra paperwork slowing down responses and pointed out that people should be ringing 999 in many cases. AS offered to provide PMCF with guidance about the management of reported incidents.

7. **Alleviating**

A meeting is to be held in November by the planning committee, if they permission is granted, then the money that has been awarded to Groundwork will be released and the gates will go up. PB expressed concerns of the closure of the three alleys, as an adequate alternative needs to be available with suitable lighting and pathways, estimated costs for this were £47 000, significantly more than the £30 000 awarded for the project.

8. **Any Other Business**

Smart Water has been ordered, the Neighbourhood Warden has 38 packs provided from elsewhere, which he has been distributing. PB suggested that they concentrate on one area at first rather than hand the packs out randomly. AH is to approach local businesses with a view to each business adopting a street this would enable the whole estate to receive the packs.

Dogs – AH is attending a meeting with the Dogs Trust next week to exchange information. A bid will then be compiled. The RSPCA are offering a package for puppies (8 to 10 weeks) to be identity chipped, wormed and given their primary set of injections for £5.00 available to anyone on income support.

Yellow Cards – AW requested that this be put on the next agenda, as he has received concerns from some of the young people and their parents who have received them. It was agreed that there would be a short presentation / explanation of the scheme to the group at the next meeting. There is also concern about privately installed cameras trained on a park in Dinas, MO to look into this. It was suggested that a separate meeting for parents to attend on this subject might be beneficial.

9. **Date of Next Meeting**

To be arranged.

Community Safety Meeting
Was held on 23rd November 2005
At the Opportunity Centre

Present:

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| North Wales Police | - | Insp Paul Firth, Sgt John Williams, PC Gwyn Douthwaite, PC Pete Barrett |
| WCBC | - | Sandra Bloor, Alan Youens, Llinos Jehu, Vicky Ledsham, |
| PMCF | - | Miriam Beard, Andrew Harradine, Andrea Price, Paul Griffiths |
| Tenants & Residents | - | x3 |
| North Wales Fire Service | - | Mark Jones |

1. Welcome and Introductions

Miriam Beard (MB) welcomed everyone to the meeting, and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. Apologies

x6

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

4. Matters Arising

MB, LM & AH held a meeting with the shop owner TH to get his perspective on the sale of alcohol from his premises to under eighteens. TH has a robust attitude to the prevention of alcohol sales to minors. The point of the meeting wasn't to level accusations but to come up with solutions to the problem of under eighteens being in possession of alcohol. Some of the suggestions were to change the physical appearance of the outside of the shop, removing the wall, changing the disabled rail etc. SB has had experience of trying to get a disable rail changed; it is difficult as there are regulations regarding these rails.

5. Sgt James Staunton

Was unable to make the meeting, will discuss issues at next meeting.

6. Smart Water

Have received the smart water packs; have to make a decision on who to give the packs to, a discussion followed exploring the different options available. The four main suggestions were,

- a) To look at the crime figures and place the smart water in the areas with the most crime.
- b) Try to cover as much of the estate as possible by just targeting the houses on the end of each block.
- c) To give the packs to victims of crimes.
- d) Is to give the packs to volunteers.

Communities First will be consulting with community and make the decision as to where the Smart Water will go as soon as possible.

7. Yellow Card Scheme

JW and SB explained how the cards work and that Yellow cards can be issued by the neighbourhood warden, the PCSO and the CBM. The issuing offers try to resolve issues before using cards, if the offence or behaviour carries on then a card is issued, if it then carries on a second card is issued, if a third card is issued to an individual, a letter is sent to the household, and at the same time if they live in council property a letter reminding the tenancy holder of their tenancy agreement. If a third card is issued they receive a home visit, if they then receive a fourth card the case is then taken before a panel who decide which course of action is taken e.g. ASBO.

8. Decision on Safer Living – Better Living Problem Solving

2 sessions will be held in early 2006 to work the 5 issues of Drugs, Needles, Alcohol, Litter and Youth ASB through the Crime Analysis Triangles.
To be dealt with by JS

9. Projects Updates

Alley gating – Magistrates have approved the closure of the alleyways. Groundwork has not been in touch.

Dogs Trust – AH met with the dogs trust with a view to put together a package for residents of Plas Madoc, the package includes neutering, chipping, worming and flea treatment, the cost of the package is worth about £120.00. AH has put in a request to Wrexham County Borough Council to march fund with the dogs trust, waiting to hear. PF suggested approaching Dave Evans to seek funding from the Police and Community Fund, and also that he could approach the bigger pet stores for support.

10. Any Other Business

VL voiced concerns about the number of dogs, especially owners who walk their dogs without leads. This issue will be looked at further. PF suggested adding each of the 5 issues identified in the Safer Living Better Living to the agenda each meeting, so there was continuity and progress. It was also suggested that a topic of crime figures be added.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 26th January 2006 2.00 pm at the Opportunity Centre.