ETWALL NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Minutes of the Meeting held Wednesday, 1st August 2012


1.0 Apologies for absence - Susan Burton, Andrew Gamon, James Read, Steve Read and Ivan Way.

2.0 Minutes of the meeting of Wednesday 4th July 2012 were approved.

3.0 Matters arising from the above minutes.

3.1 Ex 3.2. The Secretary announced receipt of written notification that Safer Neighbourhoods Partnership had granted the Watch £2050 toward funding the Egginton Road vehicle activated speed signs. The Secretary and Norman Ireland then summarised the overall funding position, the Parish Council and the Watch finding half each of the remaining money required. It was hoped that Councillor Julie Patton would be able to contribute £500 from her funds. All told this would leave the Watch with sufficient money for the rest of this year’s anticipated expenses and a reasonable contingency fund.

4.0 Crime Statistics

4.1 No major incidents had been reported by the police or were known to those at the meeting. The generally low incidence of crime in South Derbyshire was noted during the Secretary’s attendance at the recent meeting of Safer Neighbourhoods and that of the South Derbyshire NHW Support Group. However at the latter some crime points were stressed:
1. Sheds, garages and other outbuildings are favourite targets and need careful security.
2. Metal theft, despite recent success by the police, still needed public vigilance for any unusual activity.
3. Car number plate theft was a general nuisance. Plates can be secured by special clutch screws making theft more difficult.
4. There had been a spate of theft of catalytic convertors from cars, now happily much reduced by police activity.
5. Door-step cold calling, though reduced, was still causing concern. One recent example involved men claiming to be recently released from prison or being involved in a community payback type scheme, selling goods (usually at an inflated price). We have the definite assurance from senior police officers that no such schemes exist whatever sort of passes of authority the men claim to possess.
6. We are still subject to cold calls by phone, ‘phishing’ for personal and financial details on the pretence of being a bank, Inland Revenue or other official. A recent example was a caller, claiming to represent Microsoft, saying that they had detected a fault in the home-owners computer system and offering to take control and repair the software. Again, once in the computer system, the caller would have possible access to any or all personal and financial details.
7. During the NHW Support Group meeting police and partnership update, Sgt Kate Bateman gave the latest crime figures and trends. These continued to show a year on year decrease which they believed could be maintained with the continued co-operation of the public.

5.0 Safer Neighbourhoods Meeting

5.1. The next Safer Neighbourhood Meeting for the Northwest Area 1 is scheduled for 10th October, the venue to be announced.

6.0 Other Business

6.1. Clarification of local parking regulations were to be sought via Councillor Julie Patton.

6.2. Ian Mellor reported on a case of suspected cloning of a radio linked car locking control device while it was in use in a public car park. More information on this type of crime would be looked for.

6.3. Re the use of clutch screws to thief proof car number plates, the Secretary suggested that the Watch should consider organising a local event to provide this service.

6.4. Malcolm Yarnold reported that co-ordinators representing quite a few South Derbyshire Watches had reported reduced incidences of theft and/or break-ins where Smart Water property marking was advertised. The Watch would endeavour to promote its use in Etwall and work to establish a cheap source of the kits.

7.0 Items for Next Safer Neighbourhoods Meeting

7.1. Progress on our vehicle activated speed sign project and on the proposed street light switch off.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.25 pm.

Minutes approved …………………………………… Date …………………………….
AGENDA FOR MONTHLY MEETING
TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY 5th SEPTEMBER 2012 AT 7.00 PM
PEARTREE COURT

1.0. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

2.0. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 1st AUGUST 2012.

3.0. MATTERS ARISING FROM ABOVE MINUTES.

4.0. CRIME STATISTICS.

5.0. SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS MEETING.

6.0. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

7.0. ITEMS TO BE RAISED AT NEXT SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS MEETING