ETWALL NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Minutes of the Meeting held Wednesday, 1st May 2013

Present: - Susan Burton, Aaron Dainty, Roger Fallon, Norman Ireland, Robert Jellis, Alan Jenner, Ian Mellor, Brian Myring, Cliff Noons, James Read, Steve Read, Stewart Slaney, Ron Tasker, Tony Spiers, Brian Webster and Malcolm Yarnold.

1.0 Apologies for absence – Andrew Gamon, Ivan Way and our Beat Police.

2.0 Minutes of the meeting of Wednesday 3rd April 2013 were approved.

3.0 Matters arising from the above minutes.

3.1 Ex 6.1. Cliff Noons, as Well Dressing Secretary, said that if the police were willing to organise this service, space could be made available. It was decided that the best point of enquiry would be via our local police ie PC Louise Durham. The Handy Van organisation usually did the actual plate fitting.

3.2 Ex 3.3. The Secretary reported that both signs were now operational. Following a vote of approval later in the meeting being carried the Clerk to the Parish Council would be formally told and our Treasurer would be invoiced for our contribution of £3,133 together with the £2,550 in grants from the Safer Neighbourhoods Partnership and Councillor Julie Patten.

4.0 Crime Statistics

4.1 Although overall a quiet month, it started badly. In the small hours of 9th April nuisance youths started by waking up the occupants of several streets with noisy loulish behaviour. They progressed to criminal damage including breaking of a decorative display outside the Hawk and Buckle, running over the top of two parked cars, breaking wing mirrors, throwing eggs and letting down car tyres. They frightened several elderly residents by shouting and banging on doors and most seriously, smashed the front window of a bungalow in Pine Close.

An important lesson from all of this is that as soon as the noisy and menacing behaviour started the Police Control Room on 101 should have been contacted and called again as each event occurred. If damage was being done to property or people were put in fear then 999 would be appropriate.

Regarding contacting the police generally, if not a 999 matter, this is always best done via the 101 Control Room number rather than going direct to our local police, who may well be either off duty or busy elsewhere in the area. The Control Room will get you the most appropriate response which may or may not be our local officer and may even be an emergency response team.

4.2 The question was raised as to whether the CCTV overlooking the King George Playing Field picked up any evidence on April 9th. It had been checked with no result, it was suggested that perhaps its coverage could be extended.

4.3 Toward the end of the month our police had a success in raiding and shutting down a cannabis farm in the village – arrests were made. They were also called to an incident involving racial abuse and an arrest was made. A man has since been given a jail sentence.

5.0 Safer Neighbourhoods Meeting

5.1 The next meeting has been put back to June to avoid any clash with the County Council elections. No date has yet been given.

6.0 To Approve the Payment of £3,133 to Parish Council for VAS

6.1 This was put to the meeting and approved unanimously.

7.0 Other Business

7.1 Stewart Slaney reported growing unease among residents in the Old Station Close area about the County Council’s obdurate refusal to consider moving the nearby 30mph speed restriction sign. The Watch supports the view that it should be moved to before the old rail bridge on the Hilton approach road. Traffic now appears over the bridge very shortly before the turn into Old Station Close, a part of the village that is still growing with increasing traffic. In addition, there is now the entrance to a new car park just before the Leisure Centre. The claim that the traffic light controlled pedestrian crossing gives sufficient warning to approaching traffic only holds up at all on the rare occasion that it might be on red! We do not wish to have to wait until the inevitable accident occurs. The meeting advised that the best move would to be for individual residents to write to the County Council expressing their concern.
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7.2 The Secretary reported the so far only about half this year’s subs had been collected. He asked for all co-ordinators to do their best to complete this and reminded them that it provided an ideal opportunity to encourage the uptake of our SmartWater offer.

7.3 Malcolm Yarnold reported that in the week commencing 21st April a so called Charity Bag was distributed attached to a flyer claiming that contributions would go to support ‘Derbyshire Childcare Homes’. The distributor of the bag is a commercial organisation called CRP. As the Reg No. on the flyer was not a registered charity number and no record of ‘Derbyshire Childcare Homes’ could be found, a complaint was made to the police and Trading Standards, both are investigating the matter.

7.4 It was reported that there has been a slow but steady take up of our SmartWater offer except for Ron Tasker’s area. Ron has done so well that, largely through his efforts, we have disposed of our first fifty kits and have sent for our second fifty!

8.0 Items for Next Safer Neighbourhoods Meeting

8.1 Nothing new.

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

Minutes approved ……………………………………… Date …………………………….

AGENDA FOR MONTHLY MEETING
TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY 5th JUNE 2013 AT 7.00 PM
PEARTREE COURT

1.0. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

2.0. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 1st MAY 2013.

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