

CLERK'S INFORMATION REPORT – JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2016

Report to Meeting 15 February 2016

1) WYBUNBURY POLICE CLUSTER MEETING, 25TH JANUARY, 2016

Councillor M Docker attended this event. The following issues were raised:

(i) Drug-driving

A presentation was made showing the operation of recently-introduced road-side drug testing equipment. If the results proved positive, this would allow the arrest of the suspect and a subsequent blood test would be taken at the Police station. Currently, the equipment only tests for traces of cannabis and cocaine enzymes on saliva, but these two illegal drugs account for 85% of all illegal drugs found in drivers' systems. There are currently only limited quantities of testing equipment available. During December, there were 26 positive tests in the Macclesfield area and 21 in the Crewe area (which includes Nantwich) and the areas out to the county borders. The use of this equipment is covered by existing drink-driving legislation and early signs are that the pattern of drug use is dissimilar to alcohol intoxication which sees peaks on certain days near the weekend, whereas drug intoxication appears to be much more even throughout the week. It is almost exclusively restricted to males under twenty-five, unlike drink-driving which has a far wider demographic.

The PC giving this presentation, Andy Taylor, also runs 'Drive and Survive' courses for under-25 year-olds. These courses are free to attend and are aimed at young drivers who are, for example, having rather more minor collisions than their parents' insurance premiums can stand. The aim of the course is to highlight the consequences of poor driving, including sessions with injured victims or their relatives. The Cheshire police Website link is

<http://www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-and-support/roads-and-vehicle-safety/driving-courses/think-drive-survive-road-safety-course/>

This has now been added as an item in the Parish Newsletter.

(ii) Speed Guns

Both of the locally deployed mobile speed guns have been out of commission under repair during most of the last three months. One driver was caught in the 30 mph zone on Peter de Stapleigh Way travelling at 54 mph. Although not in the parish, the recently re-opened car park on Shrewbridge Road by the lake, has been suggested as a suitable location for a future speed trap. Councillor Docker also mentioned to the meeting the motorcycle accident witnessed by Councillor Boughey at the de-restriction point on Baddington Lane.

(iii) Police Presence

With regard to the perceived lack of patrols on the estate, the records presented by PCSO Nick Jarvis demonstrated that regular patrols still take place. Nick Jarvis commented that he was impressed with the new fencing at the community hall. A police surgery was held at Pear Tree School in October for all pupils.

(iv) Litter

Councillor Docker mentioned the litter issues and the possibility that one source could have been pupils at Brine Leas School.

(v) Police Re-organisation

As reported by PC Marson to the Parish Council meeting held on 20 July 2015, patrols will still be carried out in the Stapeley area by both PC Sarah Marson and PCSO Nick Jarvis as before, but specific calls to both 999 and 101 from Stapeley residents will be directed to the Officers allocated to the Nantwich Town roster, rather than Nantwich Rural South, as previously.

In response to the Chairman's request for an early attendance of the Police at a future PC meeting, Nick Jarvis is keen to attend, subject to his availability.

(vi) Anti-Social Behaviour

There were seven reported cases of anti-social behaviour in Stapeley during the last quarter, all on the Cronkinson estate. Five were categorised as personal, (usually neighbour disputes and often relating to inconsiderate parking); and two were categorised as nuisance, usually involving groups of teenagers. The behaviour included an egg-throwing incident at Halloween.

(vii) Crime and Road Traffic Collisions

Reported crimes and road traffic incidents were lower than both the previous quarter and the same quarter in 2014. There were several thefts from vehicles on the Cronkinson estate, all from unlocked vehicles. There were two incidences of domestic violence; and seven minor vehicle damage-only incidents; one reported injury (First Dig Lane) vehicle incident.

(viii) Future Cluster Meeting

The next Police Cluster meeting has been scheduled for Monday 25 April.

An item will be placed on the agenda for the April Parish Council meeting inviting parish councillors to raise issues to be reported to that meeting.

(ix) Operation Shield (DNA Security Marking Kits)

Operation Shield is Cheshire Constabulary's **unique DNA marking system** which protects homes and businesses in Cheshire by reducing burglary opportunities, deterring offenders, and identifying and recovering stolen property. See the following information from the Cheshire Constabulary website.

'How does it work?'

Operation Shield works by using state-of-the-art unique DNA liquid which contains an individual code to mark property in your home, garage and shed. The DNA coding in the liquid is registered solely to your address and added to a database. This means that if anything is ever stolen it can be traced back to you.

The liquid is barely visible and is hard for offenders to see. Once it's applied to property it is extremely difficult to remove, meaning that if an offender is ever caught in possession of stolen items they can be linked directly back to the crime scene.

All property recovered by Cheshire Police is scanned by Ultra-Violet beams under Operation Shield to check for traces of unique DNA liquid. If we detect any evidence of the liquid, the property is then closely examined with high-power microscopes which can identify the individual code. This information is then inputted into the database of registered addresses and items can be traced back to the owner.

Homeowners can get marking kits which come with a container of the unique liquid, an application brush and details of how to register property. Once property has been marked and registered, stickers can be displayed around your property to work as a deterrent to any burglars who may be looking to target your home.

They might not see it... but we will.'

The cost of the kit is £1,000 for 100. Wybunbury Parish Council is investigating the possibility of purchasing the kits. This features as a separate item on the agenda.

2) STAPELEY PARISH ACTION GROUP – MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 25 JANUARY 2016

Present: Noel Wagstaff, Val Ingram, David Ingram, Sue Sherwood, John Davenport
Apologies: Angus Graham, Rob Morton

1. **The minutes of the previous meeting** were received and accepted.

2. **Matters arising from the minutes**

The treasurer had confirmed that the cheque for the unspent portion of the bulb planting grant and delivery notes had been returned to the Parish Clerk.

Information about the bulb planting locations and working parties had been forwarded to Angus Graham for posting on Facebook. This would be followed up by the secretary. **Action SS**

NW reported that it was difficult to monitor the surface of the playground which had become very muddy due to the wet weather. Monitoring was ongoing. **Action NW**

Expenditure for purchasing new cans of spray paint had been approved by SPDC. These had now been purchased at a cost of £78.94

A reply had been received from the Parish Clerk about the location of defibrillators in the parish. Marstons Brewery had been asked if a defibrillator could be installed on the wall of the Cronkinson Farm pub and if this was agreed the Parish Council would then consider the matter formally.

3. **Correspondence**

The Chairman had received a letter of resignation from Bob Walker who had been a member of SPAG since its inception and was Secretary from 2008-2014. It was agreed that the Chair would write a formal letter of acknowledgement to Bob acknowledging and thanking him for his long contribution to SPAG. **Action NW**

The Parish Clerk had sent a request to the Chair for a brief article for the parish newsletter on litter. This had been actioned.

4. **Finance**

No financial report other than expenditure incurred by NW on spray cans which was due to be reimbursed by the Parish Council.

5. **Reports from working parties**

Environmental

Litter

The litter group had responded to a request from the Chairman of SDPC for an emergency litter pick around the Community Hall when volunteers had assisted councillors to clear litter from the area.

NW would attend a meeting on February 10th of the Nantwich and Stapeley litter groups with ANSA, the organisation co-ordinating the National Litter Campaign 'Clean for the Queen' in Cheshire East. He would then pass on information about the timing of litter picks, between 4-6 March, to SPAG, litter group volunteers and SDPC. **Action NW**

The National Federation of Women's' Institutes was also involved in the campaign. VI offered to forward the registration details to NW. **Action VI**

There was some discussion on how to involve other local community groups such as school children. NW would contact school liaison officer in Nantwich Litter Group. **Action NW**

Dog Watch

The consensus of opinion was that dog fouling in public areas was increasing. NW now had a supply of spray cans to identify fouled areas which were available for use by residents.

Recreation

There had been no further update re the transfer of land on the Cronkinson Farm estate from Bovis and Taylor Wimpey to Cheshire East Council so plans for a Trim Trail had not been progressed.

Communications

No update –AG absent

Transport

Speedwatch – the Police were now available to train more volunteers. This would be co-ordinated by AG. **Action AG**

6. Parish Council update

Planning appeal: the developer had appealed against the planning decision on 144 Audlem Road. The housing needs assessment data acquired for the Neighbourhood Plan would be submitted by SDPC as evidence to the appeal.

The fencing and double gates around the Community Hall would be completed by the end of January.

David Wilson Homes had sought clarification on the route of the footpath from Stapeley Water Gardens to Broad Lane School.

SDPC was planning a liaison meeting with new residents of Stapeley Gardens.

7. Neighbourhood Plan

The writing of the plan was continuing on course for the draft to be put to the March meeting of the Parish Council.

8. Any Other Business

It was agreed that new members of SPAG were needed to support its existing functions and to implement future projects.

It was proposed that the date of the next meeting be changed from Monday 14 March to Monday 11 April 2016. The date and venue would be confirmed by the secretary. **Action SS**

3) REPORT ON THE PCC FORUM HELD AT CREWE MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS ON TUESDAY, 26 JANUARY 2016

Councillors E Boughey and M Docker attended this forum.

The meeting was chaired by Police and Crime Commissioner John Dwyer with Chief Inspector Gareth Lee from the Crewe n attendance together with Parish/Town Council representatives from across the County.

The minutes from the last meeting held at Macclesfield in September were circulated and the floor opened for questions.

John Dwyer announced that, although the rate of inflation is no more than 2.1%, he has received approval to authorise an increase of 3.2% in the precept for the coming year and stressed the point that this represents approximately £5 for a Band D property, or just £0.10p per week. This additional funding will be used to provide an extra 50 Police Constables by March 2016 and a further 70 by March 2017, which would the result in the Cheshire Constabulary staff complement reaching just over 2000, a level last seen in 2011.

Other topics raised by delegates from the floor, which were discussed, included:

- Lack of Police presence in various parishes
- Deployment of joint-funded PCSOs (Should they be redeployed to parishes which had not contributed to the cost of PCSOs? Response: Not if it can possibly be avoided)
- Increase in cyber and terrorist crime - no major investigation centres within the Force area
- FOXi System: GPS tracking devices for each Police Officer to enable their exact locations to be identified.
- Provision for Police to be properly consulted on the implications of new housing developments at a far earlier stage
- Speeding monitoring
- Police attendance at Parish Council Meetings and involvement in local communities.

The next meeting is 1 March 2016 in Macclesfield.

4) COMMUNITY HALL – PERIMETER FENCING

To report that there have been mixed reactions to the installation of the perimeter fencing, with some residents being supportive and others against. The objections against relate mainly to the loss of a car parking facility for parents who drop-off and collect their children from Pear Tree School. The comments in support of the fencing, are to the effect that this will reduce vandalism and anti-social behaviour.

E-mailed comments have been forwarded to Members.

5) LITTER

As requested at the previous meeting, the Head Teacher of Brine Leas School was invited to the meeting on 15 February or 21 March. Unfortunately, he is unable to attend on either occasion, but has agreed to attend a future meeting.

Carol Jones
Clerk
5 February 2016