

Deanshanger Beat Community Panel Meeting 3rd June 2009

Old Stratford Memorial Hall 7.30pm

Minutes

Attendees:

PCSO Graham Suppiah, Chris Lumbis (SCT Co-ordinator), Tony Pateman, Edward Cooper, David Aaronson, Craig Coppin, Richard Gibbs, Katie Wallsy-Payne, Lesley Wolstenholme, Graham Crisp, James Rudd, Tish Gordon-Lee, Jackie Ibell.

Villages represented were Old Stratford, Deanshanger, Potterspurty, Cosgrove, Yardley Gobion, Alderton and Wicken.

Apologies:

None

Actions on previous priorities:

Speeding: PC Mick Wallace and PCSO Graham Suppiah have carried out 3 speed checks.

Along Towcester Rd there were no issues, with 35-36mph being the highest speed recorded.

On Stratford Rd one speeding ticket was issued.

In Alderton there were no issues.

Friendly warnings were given to those drivers slightly over the 30mph limit.

Update on youth priorities in Deanshanger:

David Aaronson reported that action re the youth shelter in the village was progressing slowly. Youngsters had been consulted and had agreed they would like a shelter. Consultation was also to be held with the Sports & Social Club (on whose land the shelter was to be sited) and also with residents of Folly Rd who would be most affected by its position.

A skate ramp was also wanted in Deanshanger and the Parish Council were linking in with Mike Scragg (Police Crime Prevention Design Advisor) and PCSO Suppiah regarding this. They will keep it moving forward and the youngsters will also form their own committee to help support it.

PCSO Suppiah suggested a committee be set up to include *all* interested parties rather than small individual groups meeting in isolation to discuss these issues.

Update on speeding in Old Stratford:

Tony Pateman reported that although speed checks had been carried out, few motorists had been "caught". The Parish Council are looking at buying a Speed Indicator Device (SID) for the area.

A mobile SID which was lightweight and simple to move around could be purchased for £3k. It would come with 2 batteries, enabling one to be on charge while the other was being used.

These devices display, for example, a message telling speeding motorists to slow down and show a smiley face to those who are driving within the limit.

Update on Police visibility:

PCSO Suppiah explained that there are staff shortages and that he himself is primarily ringfenced to work in Deanshanger as he is part-funded by the Parish Council.

Mention was made regarding the Community Centre in Old Stratford.

Tony Pateman said that those using the Centre did not always leave when it closed and that there were litter problems and spliffs found in the surrounding area.

This seemed to happen mainly on Tuesday evenings and at weekends.

Action: PCSO Suppiah said he would endeavour to get extra patrols there if possible.

Graham had brought some cards with him, giving the new police number for non-emergency calls 03000 111 222 and these were distributed along with copies of the Policing Pledge.

Lesley Wolstenholme and Eddie Cooper both asked what had happened to Community Messaging as few, if any, messages were being received.

Action: PCSO Suppiah would ask Lynne Rosher about this.

Eddie Cooper thanked Graham for obtaining the Trading Standards door stickers which were working well in deterring doorstep callers.

Graham said that if anyone has any issues or problems then please bring them to the attention of the police.

Interaction results from last 3 months:

Speeding 61

Parking 37

Lack of youth provision 28

Road Safety 28

Youths gathering in inappropriate places 23

Lack of police patrols 19

Action: PCSO Suppiah said he would invite Ian Ledingham from the Casualty Reduction Team to attend the next Community Panel meeting to talk about the work of the department with regard to speeding as this is still a concern.

It was suggested that a rolling year of priorities is brought to each Community Panel meeting to see if/how things are changing.

The question was raised as to how the priorities are achieved. Could a breakdown be given along with how they are obtained?

Action: Graham will look into this and report back at the next meeting.

Crime figures to date:

A total of 437 crimes were recorded across the beat for April 08/09. This was a drop of 122 from the previous year.

However, autocrime was already up by 114% this year across the Towcester area as a whole.

Insp Alex Terry is working on an operation to address this problem.

New priorities chosen for next 3 months:

A discussion took place during which the following issues were raised:

Speeding

Problems at the Community Centre (see above)

People taking shortcuts across private gardens in Mounthill Avenue

Cycling on pavements in Deanshanger

Speeding / parking at schools

Speeding / inconsiderate parking in Potterspury (blocking drives)

Speeding in Cosgrove – large vehicles along narrow roads

Congestion at junction of Moor End Rd, Yardley Gobion and the A5 due to volume of traffic attending Car Boot Sales on Sunday mornings

Weight limit in Alderton

Actions: To visit Primary Schools at peak times re parking

To monitor parking in Yardley Gobion and put warning stickers on windscreens.

The next 3 priorities were chosen as follows:

Speeding

Parking

Improved Police Patrols

AOB

PCSO Suppiah explained the laws governing lights on cycles in answer to a question raised regarding this.

Tony Pateman offered to invite a representative from the Fire Service to attend a future meeting.

David Aaronson asked about the broken benches in Deanshanger...

PCSO Suppiah assured him that the offender has admitted causing the damage and the issue is being dealt with.

Date of next Community Panel meeting:

Sept 2nd Old Stratford Memorial Hall 7:30pm