

SOUTH NORTHANTS NHW AREA SUPPORT TEAM

Minutes to AGM Meeting via Teams

Tuesday 13th September 2022.

1. Welcome and Apologies

After taking guidance from County NHW it was decided to continue with our meeting. Nick welcomed everyone including Sergeant Michaela Simons. The meeting is being recorded. Everyone present introduced themselves.

The minutes of the previous AGM, the chairman's report and accounts had already been sent out with the agenda.

Attendees

Nick Hamp	District Lead/Chairman	nick.hamp@gmail.com
Linda Hemming	Secretary	linda_hemming@hotmail.com
Phil Renshaw	Deputy Chair	Philip.renshaw@yahoo.co.uk
Tina Adey	Treasurer	tadey51@btinternet.com
Richard Houghton		Yardley Gobion
Peter Howard		Yardley Hastings
Lawrence Howes		Towcester
Tom Smith		Cogenhoe
Paul Broadfield		Chipping Warden
Sergeant Michaela Simons		Woodend
		Brackley Neighbourhood Policing Team

Apologies

Sue Sharps	Brackley
David Smith	Cosgrove
Mike Crouch	Quinton
Craig Coppin	Potterspury
Shirley Watson	Hinton in the Hedges
John Roberts	Pimlico
Katie Spruels	Milton Malsor
Maggie Down	Paulerspury
Richard Akers	Gayton
Ruth Grovell	Syresham
Christy Nolan	Rothersthorpe
Jez Wilson	Nether Heyford
Debra Nolan	Aston Le Walls
Steve Cauldwell	Croughton

2. Approval of the minutes of AGM held 28th September 2021

There were no comments or concerns. The minutes were approved. Proposed by Nick Hamp and seconded by Phil Renshaw

3. Police Report and Update

Sergeant Michaela Simons informed us it has been a challenging week running on a minimum level having lost some staff to London and Scotland.

Staffing levels are now at reasonable levels although there has been some sickness and injuries so playing catch up

Survey monkey: The Police send out a survey every 4 months (used to be 3 months) The responses from the survey dictate the local priorities. Returns are minimal. The last survey had under 100 returns. Sergeant Simons mentioned they are trying to improve this and working with the Independent Advisory Group (IAG) to try to think of ways of getting more of the public to fill it in. Take up of the survey is minimal.

- The local priorities are Burglary, Theft of motor vehicles and speeding. Therefore those 100 people who filled the survey in set the priorities. There needs to be more of a cross section of the community filling it in. May still end up with the same priorities.

Welcome input from NHW to encourage people to fill in the survey. The Police appreciate support from NHW. They are working on ways to make the survey a simple process. They would appreciate help and feedback and fresh ideas.

- The survey automatically refreshes. They are live throughout and data can be collected all the way through.
- Nick asked if any feedback? Sergeant Simons thinks give people need an incentive to fill in the survey. Convincing people they have a part to play in deciding on the priorities every 4 months.
- Take to a school? Sergeant Simons and the Independent Advisory Group are looking to recruit from 6th form pupils. Also possibly Parent mail – could send a link but will people read it?
- More responses are received from Towcester itself. Towns seem to be better responding areas.
- Half way through the survey the Police could let us know how many people have filled it out? We could email our members on the alert system to remind them to fill it in.
- Events – Going out to events and getting people to fill in surveys is very labour intensive.

Crime has decreased in most areas.

Spike in thefts from motor vehicles which seem to be primarily from hotel car parks. It doesn't have an impact on local communities.

The majority of victims are workmen passing through due to our road network.

- Sergeant Simons mentioned Officers from Brackley and Towcester have been given a list of communities where there is no NHW Schemes and are being asked to speak to their contacts and see if they can identify people who may be interested.
- Richard mentioned Value of Beat Bus being lost due to the short notice being given. Most communities want to see the PCSO's. Sometimes there are only 1 or 2 people there. Sergeant Simons said there are issues but if you know it's coming try to inform people in your community. Is it at the wrong time of day? Could try after school or an evening?
- Phil asked Sergeant Simons to pass on his thanks to PCSO Jen Harrison from his village. She agreed PCSO Jen is very passionate, proactive and dedicated.

4. Election of Officers for 2021-22

The present committee agreed to stand as officers for this year.

Chairman Nick Hamp: Proposed by Lawrence Howes and seconded by Richard Houghton

Deputy Chair Phil Renshaw: Proposed by Nick Hamp and seconded by Linda Hemming

Secretary Linda Hemming: Proposed by Nick Hamp and seconded by Tina Adey

Treasurer Tina Adey: Proposed by Lawrence Howes and seconded by Phil Renshaw

Training Richard Houghton: Proposed by Nick and seconded by Peter Howard

Sue Sharps: Proposed by Tom Smith and seconded by Richard Houghton.

5. Treasurer's Report and Accounts for 2021-2022

Copies of the accounts had already been sent with the agenda.

- The balance at the bank at end of July was £4423.31. This included the sum of £200 for Nether Heyford NHW AND £138 for Roade NHW which we had been holding for the last few years. Since 31st July Nether Heyford have purchased some Signs and stickers and the remaining money has been sent to their Parish Council to look after. Roade have purchased stickers and signs too so SNAST is no longer holding money for anyone.
- The accounts have been audited by an independent person.
- Most of our money comes from subscriptions
Subscriptions received as of 31st July 2022 were £ 925 from Parish Councils.
Tina has now received £1100 from 44 Parish Councils. This is the same as last year.
- All Parish Councils subscribing receive 10 wheely bin stickers. SNAST spent some money on wheely bin stickers but still has a stock so if anyone wants more please contact Tina or any of the Officers.
- We have a healthy balance as there has been very little expenditure due to the meetings being held via Zoom. Tina informed us we are in a good financial position.

6. Proposal for a Consultation to improve engagement

Background - The response to the AGM tonight wasn't great. Emailed out twice to 80+ Coordinators – 14 people came back with apologies, 2 accepted. Despite this we had 64 who didn't respond at all. We need to understand why the vast majority didn't respond and whether:

SNAST offers no value? Whether the meeting structure is wrong? Whether they would rather have meetings online? Or it doesn't interest them?

This is an attempt to find out.

Nick had spoken to Peter Howard (Towcester) who is also having problems with engagement. How relevant is NHW and how relevant is SNAST?

It's also clear the County AGM is having problems. Their AGM is being postponed. Out of 10,000 invitees only 25 attending which is a disappointing take up rate.

- This consultation being sent out is designed to find out why Coordinators are not engaging with SNAST and what we need to do to drive up engagement.

- The questionnaire has about 10 questions. The Police will fill it in too and we will copy to Parish Councils to ask if they would like to give us some input. Not expecting to get a vast number of replies.
- The committee will start phoning Coordinators after the closing date if they haven't replied. If they are prepared to talk to us we may find out why they haven't engaged with us.
- We will then try as a committee to identify common threads and then try pulling everyone together maybe on Teams or face to face?
- Action Plan – Does SNAST have a future?
- There is a degree of apathy since Covid for people to get involved with things again. Maybe need to reinvent and reenergise. It is an ongoing problem with all organisations. People can't be bothered. When there is more crime in the area NHW benefits.
- Paul mentioned in his community there isn't a real fear of crime but they like the idea there is a representative they can go to. People want to know who to contact in the Police for a specific problem rather than just ring 101. Tom mentioned it goes in swings and roundabouts but there isn't a lot of crime happening across the patch. People seem to have different priorities these days.
- Social media is also a problem. People like to post something on Facebook rather than having a conversation with each other.
- Some Coordinators may not be active.
- The Police have said will come to any event we organise

It was agreed to proceed with the consultation exercise designed to improve engagement at all levels.

Face to face workshop after Christmas

County Executive meeting: Nick attended – They were all supportive and Nick agreed to share the findings.

7. Any other Business

Tom mentioned people always respond well when the PCSO visits and are keen to engage, but there is some concern at the lack of follow up from issues raised.

People mention they don't get any feedback from the Police.

It was agreed the survey will be sent out a few days after the minutes.