

M I L T O N K E Y N E S
Community Safety
P A R T N E R S H I P
 TACKLING CRIME AND SAFETY TOGETHER

Minutes of the meeting of the COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP held on MONDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2006 at 10.00 AM

- Present:**
- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| N Atwal
Superintendent | - | Milton Keynes Race Equality Council |
| S Blake | - | Thames Valley Police |
| Councillor A Dransfield | - | Milton Keynes Council |
| R Flowers | - | Milton Keynes Primary Care Trust |
| Councillor I Fraser | - | Milton Keynes Council |
| Councillor I Henderson(Chair) | - | Milton Keynes Council |
| P Jones | - | Bucks Fire and Rescue Service |
| C Westwood-Smith | - | Milton Keynes Drug Action Team |
| L Westlake | - | Milton Keynes Council |
| D Butt | - | Thames Valley National Probation Service |
| M James | - | Thames Valley Police |
| P Nichols | - | Milton Keynes Chamber of Commerce |
| Councillor S Crooks | - | Milton Keynes Council |
| R Vitiello | - | Thames Valley Police |
| B Dray | - | Milton Keynes Magistrates Court |
| C Hawkins | - | Milton Keynes Safety Centre |
| Kay Greenhalgh | - | CMK Partnership |
| J Best | - | Milton Keynes Council |
| S Marsh | - | Milton Keynes Council |
| R Solly | - | Milton Keynes Council |
| R Townend | - | Milton Keynes Council |

- Officers:**
- | | | |
|------------------|---|------------------------------|
| N Atkinson | - | Community Safety Partnership |
| M Toze | - | Milton Keynes Council |
| J Keating-Wilkes | - | Community Safety Partnership |
| P Boyal | - | Community Safety Partnership |
| S Monks | - | Community Safety Partnership |

- Apologies:**
- | | | |
|-----------|---|-----------------------|
| S Hopkins | - | Midsummer Housing |
| D Willis | - | Midsummer Housing |
| A Farr | - | Milton Keynes Council |
| C Godfrey | - | Milton Keynes Council |

- Also Present:**
- | | | |
|-----------|---|-------------------------------------|
| H O'Neill | - | Milton Keynes Race Equality Council |
| M Cannon | - | Crimestoppers |
| J Croston | - | Milton Keynes Lighthouse |
| T Fraser | - | CPPC |

1.0 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

It was noted that the Chair and Vice-Chair would alternate in chairing meetings this year.

2.0 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2006 were received.

3.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

A report was tabled relating to the Safer Communities Unit.

4.0 LOCAL SOLUTIONS TO LOCAL PROBLEMS

The Partnership received a report from the Chair of the Safer Neighbourhoods Delivery Group. The programme of visiting parishes and parish clusters had been successful and they were being invited to make repeat visits.

It was asked whether there was evidence that Parish and Community Wardens were successful and provided value for money.

The Partnership noted that a Home Office report had found Parish Wardens significantly reduced both crime and the fear of crime. In addition, evaluations in Beanhill and Fishermead had found it to be successful and recommended it for the future. However, a Metropolitan Police Report looking at Community Support Officers rather than Community Wardens had found that they were not effective. Performance Indicators were being developed.

The Partnership noted that evaluating the effectiveness of Community Wardens and presenting this evidence to parishes would allow them to make a more informed choice.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

5.0 REDUCING ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

A report from the Anti-social Behaviour Delivery Group was tabled at the meeting. It was noted that this was tabled at the meeting due to the fact that the last meeting of the Delivery Group had been after the publication deadline. The report was delivered by the Vice-Chair of the Delivery Group.

The Partnership noted that the Community Safety team still had difficulties with staffing shortages. This could limit further development of the Community Safety Partnership. In addition, there was felt to be a need for dedicated data officers to ensure information was shared

between partners. The Community Safety team would ideally do more to predict and correct problems before they occurred, but this again required resources.

It was asked how Milton Keynes Council's Community Safety funding compared to that of other authorities.

It was noted that although parking was one of the three key anti-social behaviour priorities, lack of parking provision in some areas of the city gave individuals little choice but to park in inappropriate places.

The Partnership also noted that the Anti-Social Behaviour Delivery Group had expressed concerns about MK Council not passing on reports of vandalism and graffiti on Council property to the police.

It was asked whether Anti-Social Behaviour Orders and dispersal orders led to problems being moved elsewhere. It was noted that this was considered very thoroughly before any action was taken.

The Partnership noted that alcohol often played a key part in antisocial behaviour.

The Partnership noted that awareness days on safer homes and safer neighbourhoods had received a good public response.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the Community Safety Manager will present a paper comparing Milton Keynes Council Community Safety Funding to the next meeting of the Partnership.
- 2) That the Chair of the Anti-Social Behaviour Delivery Group will present a report explaining the issue of reporting damage to Council Property.

6.0 KEEPING OUR EYES OPEN

The Partnership received a report from Superintendent S Blake. It was noted that there had been sharp rises in the reports of vehicle crime and domestic burglary, and the reason for those rises was still being investigated.

Concern was expressed about the rise in the domestic burglary rates, and it was suggested that such a sharp rise should be flagged as red rather than amber under the traffic light system.

The Partnership noted that the renewal and extension of the CCTV system was being agreed. However, £20,000 funding was needed by the end of September otherwise grant funding would be lost.

The Partnership noted that Wi-Fi and Wi-Max technology would be used to supplement the existing fibre optic technology. However since technology changed very rapidly it would be wise to keep reviewing appropriate technology.

The Partnership expressed concern about the fact that more efficient tackling of crime led to increased crime statistics as more incidents

were recorded. This was felt to be particularly the case with race-related incidents and domestic violence incidents. It was suggested that repeat rates could provide a good measure if used carefully.

The Partnership noted that the Drug Action Team and Fletcher House were making a positive difference on drug-related issues.

The Partnership noted that a project was underway to ensure that all agencies worked together to assess the needs of vulnerable individuals and ensure that facilities such as smoke alarms and crime prevention devices were fitted.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That Superintendent S Blake would deliver a report on the reasons for increases in reports of vehicle crime and domestic burglary.
- 2) That Cllr I Henderson and the Chief Executive of MKC would ensure that £20,000 capital was provided for the upgrade of the central CCTV system.

7.0

REDUCING VIOLENCE

The Partnership received a presentation from the Chair of the Reducing Violence Delivery Group. It was noted that a public survey had found late night buses were unpopular and instead enhanced taxi schemes were being investigated, as well as colour-coded taxis. A taxi marshal scheme was being piloted for three months.

It was reported that the PCT and police were working together to provide a coordinated approach to cases where injury was linked to alcohol or domestic violence.

The Partnership noted that the business case for Lighthouse was currently being developed and would be discussed in December.

It was reported that the reducing public violence leaflet would no longer go ahead and instead Powerpoint presentations would be made.

It was noted that the anti-bullying programme would not only focus on schools, but also take in a wider remit. This term school anti-bullying programmes and their effectiveness would be assessed.

The Partnership noted that the increase in reports of domestic violence was likely to be due to an increase in public concern about this issue. However, it was still the case that only 22% of incidents were reported, and report rates were even lower when it came to abuse of vulnerable older people. It was also reported that other domestic-related crimes, as well as domestic violence, were now being included in statistics

It was suggested that more could be done to assess the risk of domestic violence before an incident occurred. The Partnership noted that this needed to take place as part of a wider community

programme of identifying other issues, for example relating to youth behaviour, social care or housing.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

8.0 CRIMESTOPPERS PRESENTATION

The Partnership received a presentation from M Cannon on Crimestoppers. It was noted that some funding might be available from the Government Office for the South East for a Crimestoppers campaign in Milton Keynes relating to violent crime or drugs.

It was proposed that £3000 be provided from the Partnership and an equal amount of funding be sought from GOSE.

Some members of the Partnership expressed concern about the effectiveness of Crimestoppers, particularly since anonymous reporting meant those who reported a crime did not always know the outcome of the investigation.

The Partnership noted that an evaluation of the Crimestoppers campaign should be carried out as soon as possible to see if it was cost-effective to work with Crimestoppers on other issues.

RESOLVED –

- 1) The Community Safety Partnership would invest up to £3000 towards a Crimestoppers campaign, and pressure would be put on GOSE to match that funding.
- 2) Thames Valley Police would decide on the most appropriate subject for the Crimestoppers campaign to target.

8.0 LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

The Community Safety Manager presented a report on the draft Local Area Agreement. It was noted that the draft Local Area Agreement was still being amended, and would go on being amended until its final submission in March.

It was suggested that the draft Local Area Agreement be made available online to allow members of the Partnership and members of the public to see the most recent copy of the Agreement.

The Partnership noted that the Local Area Agreement was valuable in encouraging multi-agency work.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

9.0

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 1) The Partnership noted that the Chief Constable would be making a presentation to the External Scrutiny Panel on Thursday 14 September.
- 2) The Partnership noted that a Campbell Park Parish Spotlight meeting would take place in November and look at Eastern Europe cultures.

10.0

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Monday 13 November 2006

Monday 15 January 2007

Monday 12 March 2007

Monday 14 May 2007

Monday 16 July 2007

Monday 17 September 2007

Monday 12 November 2007

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 12:05 PM