

# Shirley Neighbourhood Watch Annual General Meeting

14th May 2018

## Attendance

Street Representatives

Anne Bulger, Debbie Leeney, Derek Puplett, Hugh Tyler, John Balmer, Steve Dentith, Tom Blount  
Members - 11

Police Rep - PC Rachel Baggaley

## 1 Welcome to residents, guests and apologies

Robert Barke

## 2 Matters arising

PC Holmes who might have come to talk about to us about village safety is no longer available.

## 3 Confirmation of reps and coordinators

Jill Bell is standing down as a rep.

Tom volunteered to take over Jill's responsibility

All other reps agreed to continue.

Anne announced her retirement as coordinator`.

Members were asked if anyone wished to take over the job of coordinator. Hugh was the only volunteer.

There was a unanimous show of hands to accept Hugh as the new coordinator..

Anne passed the chair to Hugh

## 4 Talk/questions to PC RACHEL Baggaley

- a. Hugh asked about the status of the Alert system. There had been a lot of comments on its apparent use as a PR tool for the office of the PCC rather than its original function of alerting the public about crime prevention, crime trends and specific crime alerts.  
Rachel said she was frustrated by the lack of pertinent information being relayed on the system and issues have been raised. It is run and funded by the PCC and not the Police. It is a useful tool when the relevant information is provided. Members agreed it needed to be more specific to its name.
- b. GDPR could be an issue. Rachel was looking into the matter.
- c. Safer Neighbourhood team is still responsible for liaison with Neighbourhood Watch. Rachel is working in plain clothes at the moment and talked about the other members of the team. There is a new Inspector – Insp Daron Abbott, a new Sergeant – Sgt Paul Simmons. PC Simon Wolverson has replaced PC Chad Fullerton. PCSOs remain – Jo Dales, David Seabridge and Elaine Porter(temp attachment).
- d. NHW Support Group for North Division is in Chesterfield where Joye Dobbs works 2 days a week being responsible for raising new watches and liaising with existing ones. She should be used as the point of contact for NHW information, literature, events etc  
Rachel regretted police can no longer carry out all the roles they used to due to the cutting back of personnel. She was adamant that she, and her team, were as committed to helping the community as ever. She urged members to use the Emergency 101 to report any suspicious events as the information helps build a picture across a broader area. She could be contacted via her email at [rachel.baggaley.2204@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:rachel.baggaley.2204@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk)
- e. The Ashbourne Police office, behind the Fire Station, is to be extended to include a Reception/interview room and a cloakroom.
- f. No update on the Burglary on Hall Lane.
- g. Rachel advised there was a website called police uk which offers a crime distribution map and is refreshed regularly. Members can see what has been happening in our area.
- h. Communication and information is very difficult because of the complexities of the organisation.

It seems that some centralized police departments fail to advise the local police when operations are taking place in their area. It was also noted that police hardly ever bother to check with NHW coordinators when following up crimes.

The subject of communications (or lack of) was highlighted by the failure to notify the village of the burglary on Hall Lane.

If members are worried about the service then please contact the police. Policing priorities have changed much of this is as a result of an increased commitment to cyber-crime, slavery and terrorism. The result is that the police are unable to serve the locality as they used to. With so few police on the beat Neighbourhood Watch are the police's eyes and ears.

- i. Tom agreed to watch the police twitter feed. He also suggested that residents might be offered an opt out of NHW option.
- j. Anne asked if anyone wanted the Police & Crime Commissioner to come to the village for a meeting - he has been to Brailsford and popped into the coffee shop in Shirley. Rachel said he intends to visit all the parish councils within his time in office. He is keen to hear the villagers views and will come out in an evening. He wants to do the best he can for the people of Derbyshire.
- k. Peter asked if there were things we can do for ourselves. Rachel advised all those who had cars with a keyless start should use a 'car key signal blocker' or 'key jammer' (many are available on Google/Amazon/Halford etc). Members should also consider using a card defender (RFID Protection) to protect their contactless debit cards. Tom made the point that those who did wish to have 'contactless' cards should advise their bank accordingly. Rachel said she had brought Purse chains, Card Defenders, Lock the car reminders and other items for distribution to members should they want them. Members were reminded, especially during the warm weather, to lock up when going out. If you can get your head through a partially open window the rest of the body can follow.
- l. Hugh asked Tony Grace if there was an up-to-date list of Ashbourne Support Group. Rachel will ask Joye Dobbs for a copy. Tony asked Hugh to see him after the meeting. Rachel noted that the Ashbourne Support Group has not had a meeting for a couple of years.. Tony surmised that because crime rates were low there was a lack of interest in creating meetings. Rachel intimated that there was a level of apathy and it needed an upsurge of enthusiasm to get meetings going again.
- m. North Division Neighbourhood Watch Support Group AGM will be held on Thursday 7 June 2018 at 1830 for 1900 start to held at Chesterfield Police Station..

## 5. Future

It is hoped that the promises made regarding the proper use of the Alert system will be kept.

The low level of crime in the village should not lead to complacency.

The present village network is working.

Hugh noted that when we are crime free there seems no point in having a NHW but having a robust network in place allows us to react quickly to any future emergency. He asked representatives – 'please stick at it'.

## 6. Ideas and suggestions

Tom offered his help to members with online safety, he is happy to help.

Members were advised to ensure all their devices had adequate/current security installed.

Ken - thinks we have a good system in the village and would like to thank Anne for setting it up and running it so successfully.

## 7. AOB

Rachel noted one Neighbourhood Watch organized a quarterly quiz – It brought the NHW and community together and kept it fresh.

Hugh thanked all those for coming and closed the meeting