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Minutes of the meeting of the **Community Safety Sub-Committee** held on 10 January 2001 when there were present:

Cllr Mrs J E Ford (Chairman)

Cllr R A Amner  
Cllr Mrs R Brown  
Cllr D M Ford  
Cllr K A Gibbs  
Cllr J E Grey

Cllr Mrs J Hall  
Cllr R A Pearson  
Cllr Mrs W M Stevenson  
Cllr Mrs M J Webster

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs D R Helson and V H Leach

### **SUBSTITUTES**

Cllrs Mrs H L A Glynn and Mrs J Helson

### **OFFICERS PRESENT**

P Warren – Chief Executive  
S Garland – Community Safety Officer  
R Hill – Assistant Community Safety Officer  
J Mitchell – Domestic Violence Co-Ordinator  
A Wyatt – Committee Administrator

### **ALSO ATTENDING**

Chief Inspector Bottrill – Essex Police  
Inspector Coady – Essex Police  
Jason Sculthorpe – Crime Reduction Officer, Essex Police

### **163 MR STEPHEN GARLAND**

The Sub-Committee welcomed Mr Stephen Garland, Community Safety Officer who was attending his first meeting of the Sub-Committee.

### **164 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Mrs J E Ford and Mrs H L A Glynn declared non pecuniary interests in the item “Hawkwell Parish Council – Magnolia Park” by virtue of being Hawkwell Parish Councillors.

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**165 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 November 2000 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**166 LAND AT LABURNUM GROVE, HOCKLEY**

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Chief Executive which considered the issue of youth behaviour which was raised during the public consultation exercise on possible disposal of this play area last summer.

It was noted that the site was in the process of being transferred to Hockley Parish Council and that historically there had been some complaint as to youth nuisance on this site.

Noting the detail of the report, the Sub-Committee considered that no further action should be taken on the matter at this time, however should incidents arise, that they should be dealt with accordingly.

**RECOMMENDED**

That in the light of the lack of evidence outlined in the report, that no further action is taken on the matter of youth nuisance in this play area at the present time. (CEX)

**167 UPDATE ON CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION STRATEGY**

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Chief Executive which updated Members on the current situation with regard to the actions required by Rochford's Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy.

Noting the update information outlined in the report, Members raised the following points:-

Home Office "Partnership" Funding

Members noted that a successful bid had been submitted by Officers for Home Office funds from the Eastern Region Crime Reduction Unit based in Cambridge. The Sub-Committee wished to commend Officers on obtaining a maximum £10,000 grant.

On the matter of the two day conference for Members of the Crime and Disorder Partnership, it was noted that invitations would be sent to all partners in the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy, however there was a capacity limit of 50 people for the conference which would have to include representatives from all partners in the strategy.

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### Bogus Callers

A Member mentioned a recent Government announcement for powers to deal with bogus callers and also made mention of a recent incident in one of the sheltered housing units within the District.

The Sub-Committee requested that Officers investigate the cost of installing CCTV cameras in lobby areas of sheltered accommodation with a view to combating this sort of crime, and report back to the relevant Committee with proposals, together with costings.

It was further requested that Officers investigate the system currently used by the London Borough of Tower Hamlets for CCTV in sheltered accommodation. Furthermore it was considered appropriate for residents of sheltered accommodation units to be advised on the necessity for existing security to be used.

During consideration of the above, the Chief Executive advised Members of recently published crime statistics for the country and it was noted that Essex was one of the safest counties in England, with Rochford District being one of the safest districts in the county.

### Neighbourhood Watch

Members considered the use of Neighbourhood Watch in both caravan sites and in sheltered accommodation would go some way to combating the fear of burglary throughout the District.

### Domestic Violence

Members were disappointed to note the response from primary schools on the possibility of presentation to schools on the issue of domestic violence and suggested that this issue could be covered as a scenario for "Crucial Crew".

### Rayleigh High Street – CCTV

The Sub-Committee requested that a report submitted to the next Meeting of Community Safety Sub-Committee relating to the use of CCTV cameras within Rayleigh High Street.

### Proof of Age Schemes

The Sub-Committee questioned whether the Proof of Age Scheme covered such items as sale of knives and requested that Officers investigate this matter with Trading Standards.

### Speeding

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Members noted that the Police intended to bring statistics on the number of motorists caught speeding to the next meeting and that Essex Police had deployed its mobile speed cameras within the Rochford District to known hotspots to further combat this crime.

Albert Jones Court

A Member questioned what progress had been made to date with the Notice of Motion as considered at last Council. Further to this the Chief Executive advised Members that he had just been informed that Central Government had refused the establishment of a Primary Care Trust for Castle Point and Rochford.

**RECOMMENDED**

- (1) That further update reports be submitted to future Meetings of the Community Safety Sub-Committee.
- (2) That the points outlined in the Minutes be actioned.

**168 CRUCIAL CREW 2001**

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Executive which apprised Members of Crucial Crew 2001 and sought Members approval for funds to be made available to support the project. Noting the project's history it was:-

**RECOMMENDED**

That Members agreed to assist with funding Crucial Crew 2001 in the amount of £500. (CEx)

**169 VANDALISM DAMAGE**

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director (Finance & External Services) which provided Members with information regarding the cost of vandalism to Council owned property throughout the District for the period 1 April to 1 September 2000.

Noting the details of the report and that some damage had been repaired at no cost through the use of in house staff, Members requested that in future, reports should give an indication of how the damage was repaired and whether the cost of repair was indeed greater than the replacement cost of the damaged article.

**RECOMMENDED**

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That future reports relating to the cost of vandalism damage be brought to future Meetings of Sub-Committee.

**170 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE – INFORMATION CAMPAIGN**

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Chief Executive which advised Members of actions being taken to develop an information campaign to raise awareness of domestic violence issues and sought Members approval for funds to be made available to support the action. Noting Officers intention to continue to raise awareness of domestic violence by producing an information pack and awareness posters, Members endorsed Officers recommendation and it was:-

**RECOMMENDED**

That an amount of up to £1,000 be provided to produce the information pack, posters and support to awareness displays in 2001.

**171 HAWKWELL PARISH COUNCIL – MAGNOLIA PARK**

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director (Finance & External Services) following a request from Hawkwell Parish Council for financial support from the Council for child and youth facilities in Magnolia Park. Noting the details of the scheme some Members expressed concern at the installation of a meeting point close to an established wildlife area and in isolation from nearby properties. Other Members felt that the proposal for a youth shelter in this area represented a positive response to the problems outlined.

A Motion put by Councillor R A Pearson and seconded by Councillor J E Grey was won on a show of hands and it was:-

**RECOMMENDED**

That the request be referred to Full Council for further consideration, with Hawkwell Parish Council being requested to provide layout plans and more information relating to the proposal in the interim.  
(CD(F&ES))

The Meeting closed at 9.00pm

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_