

Minutes of the meeting of the **Community Safety Sub-Committee** held on **26 September 2000** when there were present:

Cllr Mrs J E Ford - Chairman

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

Cllr V H Leach
Cllr R A Pearson
Cllr Mrs W M Stevenson
Cllr R E Vingoe

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs K A Gibbs, Mrs J Hall and Mrs M J Webster.

SUBSTITUTE

Cllr Mrs J Helson

OFFICERS PRESENT

Paul Warren	Chief Executive
Shaun Scrutton	Head of Corporate & Initiatives
Roger Hill	Assistant Community Safety Officer
Angus Wyatt	Committee Administrator

152 MINUTES

During consideration of the Minutes of the previous Meeting, the following items were discussed.

CCTV in Out of Town Shopping Areas

Members were advised that Officers were progressing to the tender stage relating to provision of CCTV in out of town shopping parades as considered at the last Meeting. Members would be advised of progress accordingly.

Non Prosecution of Licensee following sale of age limited goods to underage persons

Members were advised by the Police that, the Crown Prosecution Service had not, as previously reported, taken the decision to take no action on this matter.

A decision had been taken at senior officer level at Essex Police to revoke the licence held by the licensee, however, in the interim, he had sold up and moved on.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 June 2000 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

153 NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDEN FUNDING BID

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Head of Housing Health and Community Care which advised Members of new Home Office funding for Neighbourhood Wardens and of the submission of a bid in respect of St Andrews and Roche Ward.

Noting the background of the bid process, Members were advised that on this occasion, unfortunately, the bid had been unsuccessful. Considering the reason why the bid had failed, Members were of the opinion that another bid should be prepared should further bids be invited. It was further considered that Officers should seek details of successful bids from other Local Authorities in order to gauge where the last bid failed.

RECOMMENDED

- (1) That the outcome of the Star Partnership bid be noted.
- (2) That another bid be prepared should the Home Office invite further bids in future.

154 CRIME & DISORDER REDUCTION STRATEGY UPDATE

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Head of Corporate Policy & Initiatives which updated Members on the current situation with regard to the actions required by Rochford's Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy.

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

7.1 Primary Objective – Reduce the Number of Incidents of Criminal Damage (Vandalism) within Rochford District.

Point 2a

Members were advised that this action was considered by the Police to be ambitious – Statistics relating to damage and disorder on licensed premises were readily available, however, statistics showing damage

and disorder in the vicinity, but attributable to licensed premises were not so.

Point 4.

Concern was expressed by some Members of the lack of Police involvement in the current Planning System since the civilianisation of the Crime Prevention Officer post. The Sub-Committee was assured that as the new postholders continued to progress in post, the service would resume.

Point 11

Members were reminded that vandalism statistics would be reported to the Sub-Committee as agreed on a six monthly basis.

Point 7.7(c) Primary Objective To reduce the levels of crime & disorder and to address the causes of crime & disorder in Rochford Eastwood Ward.

Point 4

Members were advised by the Chairman of the recent public consultation exercise involving a mobile exhibition unit outside Pembroke House.

Point 7.7(d) Primary Objective To reduce the levels of crime & disorder and to address the causes of crime and disorder in Rayleigh Grange and Rawreth Ward.

Point 4

In noting the poor response for the summer activities arranged by the Sports Development Officer in the Grange and Rawreth Ward, Members considered that for future schemes the local youths should be approached in order to ascertain whether a change of venue/activities would be of benefit to promote further use.

RECOMMENDED

- (1) That the report be noted.
- (2) That update reports be submitted to future Meetings of this Sub-Committee.
- (3) That the points outlined above be noted. (HCPI)

155 MESSAGE IN THE BOTTLE

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Head of Corporate Policy & Initiatives which appraised Members of Message in the Bottle scheme being introduced by Essex County Neighbourhood Watch and sought Members approval to make a financial contribution to the scheme.

Noting the details of the scheme and its aim, Members endorsed the Officers proposal and on a show of hands, it was

RECOMMENDED

That assistance with the funding of the scheme be agreed with the Council providing £500 from the Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy Budget for this purpose. (HCPI)

156 PROOF OF AGE SCHEME (Minute 381/98)

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Head of Corporate Policy & Initiatives which updated the Members on the Proof of Age Scheme and sought funding to enable the scheme to continue for 2000/2001.

Noting the success of the scheme in 1999/2000, Members considered the scheme should be supported for 2000/2001 and that a commitment should be made further for 2001/2002.

RECOMMENDED

- (1) That the Authority continue to support the Proof of Age scheme for 2000/2001 and that the Council provides £863.95 from the Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy Budget for this purpose.
- (2) That the Council continues to support the scheme in 2001/2002 and allocates a maximum amount of £1000 for the Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy Budget for this purpose.

156 ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ORDERS

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Head of Corporate Policy & Initiatives which apprised Members of the protocol being developed which addressed the implementation of Anti-Social Behaviour Orders.

In endorsing the draft protocol as prepared by Castle Point Borough Council, subject to necessary typographical amendments, Members considered it should be supported although some concern was

expressed at the potential for enhanced public expectations over the value of Anti Social Behaviour Orders relative to their practical use.

RECOMMENDED

That the Council accepts the principles in the draft protocol as a first step in addressing the Government's recommendations for implementing Anti-Social Behaviour Orders and that following further consultations, a final version of the protocol be presented to the Sub-Committee in the New Year.

157 TAXI WATCH

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Head of Corporate Policy & Initiatives which apprised Members of the Taxi Watch Initiative and sought approval for the introduction of a scheme in the Rochford District.

Noting the Partnership Scheme established in Uttlesford District and the aims of the scheme in Rochford, Members were advised it was the intention for the scheme to bring on board both operators and drivers to ensure maximum coverage.

RECOMMENDED

That approval be given to the introduction of a Taxi Watch Scheme in Rochford District in partnership with Essex Police.
(HCPI)

158 POOLES LANE CAR PARK – ADDITIONAL LIGHTING

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Head of Leisure and Client Services which advised Members of the problems at the above car park relating to crime & disorder including vandalism to the toilets and the dumping of material around the recycling bins provided by the Council, the ways in which they were being tackled and sought funding to complete and complement the initiatives already undertaken by the Parish Council. It was noted that it was the intention to improve the lighting within the car park in order to maximise the use of the CCTV cameras installed by Hullbridge Parish Council. On a show of hands it was

RECOMMENDED

- (1) That funding to the sum of £6,000 be provided for the additional lighting to Pooles Lane Public Car Park from the Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy Budget subject to the Hullbridge Parish Council providing the revenue for energy and maintenance costs for the additional lighting.

- (2) That Officers proceed with the implementation of the works outlined in the report as a matter of urgency. (CD (FES))

The Meeting closed at 10pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....