

Minutes of the Ratton Neighbourhood Panel held on 15th September 2009

Michael Tunwell was elected Chairman until a more permanent appointee can be found. Mr. John Crane was elected deputy. Cllr. Belsey agreed to take the Minutes.

Present: Michael Tunwell, (Chairman) John Crane, (Deputy Chairman & Park Lane Residents), Julie Gilbert-King (E.S.F & R), Jemilla Heckman, Dan Lucas, Jack Woolley, (Students from Ratton School) Mrs. Tracy Comfort, (School Business Manager), Cllr. Barbara Goodall, Cllr. Sandie Howlett, C/Cllr. Colin Belsey, Mrs. Sandy Boyce-Sharpe, (Friends of Hampden Park); Alf Pulfer, (Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator); Sgt. Fiona Munro, PC Keith Rockingham, PCSO Austin Milson, (from Sussex Police.)

Apologies: Michael Marchant, EBC Community Enforcement Officer, PC Dave Selby, Mrs. Anne Wardle, Acting Headteacher,

Minutes of Previous Meeting – were agreed to be an accurate record.

Fire and Rescue Service

Julie Gilbert-King spoke to the meeting about East Sussex Fire and Rescue. There are 52 fire fighters in Eastbourne. The home safety visits were ongoing and very successful, education can avoid the requirement for response.

Eastbourne has two pump vehicles one ariel ladder and an area response vehicle for Terrorist and Chemical problems. Julie said that she was unhappy that the ESF & R did not have a cadet scheme for young people interested in the service. Sept 26 is the ECNN Funday at the Fire Station.

Neighbourhood Watch

Alf Pulfer explained that he had introduced a scheme to improve membership by delivering leaflets giving an opt out. If no response received to the contrary, it would be assumed that the household wish to be in the scheme.

There were nearly 20 new areas in Ratton since last year with six more pending.

Cold Calling

C/Cllr. Colin Belsey reported on his survey in the Rodmill Area and said that he would be contacting Trading Standards and would ask for the scheme to be set up.

Petition for Park Lane footpath.

It was reported by the Chairman that the petition for a footpath to be provided in Park Lane had been considered by the Lead Cabinet Member at County Hall, Lewes and the result was that, regrettably, it did not warrant a higher priority than it had. But, Park Avenue and Park Lane would be re-assessed for speed and safety, when the Traffic Calming measures were looked at. Currently, the scheme for Park Avenue was 17th in order of priority across the whole of the county. Colin Belsey reported that the path between the School and the accommodation will be looked at to see if it can be made accessible and safe for wheelchairs.

Crime Figures

Sgt. Fiona Munro said that there were 44 reported crimes in July in the Ratton area. Most were criminal damage with 6 vehicle thefts.

District Panel

Sgt. Fiona Munro said that there was not a lot to report back from the panel, the council were looking at matching the 21 neighbourhood areas. Senior officers felt that there should be a separate Panel for the Rodmill Area, with a separate Chairman, but Ratton and Rodmill Panels could still meet together, but each area should have three priorities. It was proposed that for the time being Austin Milson would Chair the Rodmill Panel.

Rodmill Parking Up-date;

Some additional yellow lines had gone down, but remainder were still delayed by the number of people who wrote in and lodged objections

Ratton Panel Priorities.

It was decided that the priorities for the Ratton Panel should remain the same

- a) Establish No Cold Calling Zones
- b) Enlargement of Neighbourhood Watch
- c) An Area Event to be run in conjunction with Ratton School Christmas Fair

At this point the Chairman left for another meeting and handed over to the Deputy Chairman.

Any other business.

Sgt. Fiona Munro raised the K9 Day at Hampden Park on the 26th and said that there was a lack of members from Ratton attending the District Panel - we all felt duly reprimanded!

Sandy Boyce-Sharpe raised the old problem of speed on Willingdon Road and Colin Belsey replied that this was ongoing and that, in his opinion, when the new intersection was finished (or even started) things would slow down naturally.

Alf Pulfer raised the matter of markings and the movement in the concrete at the top end of Friston Avenue.

Dates of next meetings were agreed as: Tues.3rd Nov. & Tues.15th Dec. 2009 at 4:00 pm