

**High Street Safer Neighbourhood Team - Ward Panel**  
**Notes of meeting held Tuesday 7 May 2019 at 7pm, The Mall Offices**

**Attendees:**

- PC Terry Smart
- PC Steve Bragg
- Malcolm Patten (Co-Chair)
- Philip Herlihy (Co-Chair)
- Louisa Bergese (Essex Close)
- Kerrie Walkiden (Essex Close)
- Mohammed Yusuf (Essex Close)
- Danielle Hay (Cassiobury Road)
- Valerie Robertson (Cassiobury Road)
- Charlie Mutuku (Thomas Jacomb Place)
- Martin Griffiths (Cleveland Park Residents Association)
- Sandra DaCosta (Stop & Search monitoring group Chair)
- Hinnah Gill (Connecting Communities Network Manager: Walthamstow)
- James King (LBWF ASB Officer)
- Cllr. Ahsan Khan (Cabinet Member, Community Safety)
- Rav (family name not captured – Mall Security Manager)

A group member volunteered to take minutes, and did so, but no trace of these minutes has ever been seen, so these notes rely on the jottings of Philip Herlihy.

Guidelines for the meeting were reiterated: listen respectfully without interruption, give way to the chair, continually improve to aim what we do and be open to new ideas.

**Apologies:**

- Tommy Anderson

**1. Mall Security**

The new security manager at the Mall – “Rav” – was introduced by TS, with an account of how the new appointment seemed to have made a significant difference. Rav’s account included the following:

- Exits from the Mall are now alarmed.
- “Dipping” issues will necessitate the continuing education of retailers.
- Security staff are now wearing body cameras
- Only 3 crimes reported in the week before the meeting
- Retailers can seem reluctant to pursue charges of shoplifting

**2. Cllr Ahsan Khan**

Cllr Khan is the cabinet member responsible for community safety. He answered a range of questions on local issues.

- **CCTV** was discussed in the light of previous suggestions that the network is poorly maintained. He was able to confirm that there are 12 cameras, and all are under a maintenance contract which requires a failure to be rectified within 24 hours. The monitoring centre has a dedicated desk for police staff but that this is rarely manned due to resourcing issues. He suggested that an investment case was needed for additional resourcing; currently there are two CCTV monitoring officers per shift covering a total of 50 screens in the centre. PC Smart observed that cameras are often

used in the “wide-angle” setting which can mean important details are lost – particularly in identifying individuals.

- Cllr Khan described the new **Violence Reduction Partnership** which has four strands: See: <https://walthamforest.gov.uk/content/violence-reduction-partnership>
- It was noted that the Council did offer the Police **office and front-counter space** in the design for the new Civic Centre but that this was declined.
- There was further discussion of the issue of the street harassment of women and girls. PH agreed to discuss the contents of his recent discussion paper with Laura Butterworth, manager of the relevant team. [**Action 1: PH**]

### **3. Essex Close**

Residents gave accounts of escalating anti-social behavior related to drug-dealing in Essex Close, which is managed by Waltham Forest Housing. Residents said that there had been little response from the Council, leading to an emboldening of the perpetrators. It was suggested that there was significant grooming of young children to act as intermediaries, and that two families resident in Essex Close were believed to be implicated. It was suggested that children from Willowfield School had been drawn into this activity.

- PC Bragg agreed to meet with residents on 10<sup>th</sup> May. [**Action 2: SB**]
- Malcolm Patten agreed to approach staff at Willowfield School [**Action 3: MP**]. Update: Teachers at Willowfield were concerned and helpful, but it later emerged that the uniform described was not that of this school.
- Cllr Khan expressed great concern, and expressed an intention to attend these ward panel meetings whenever possible.

### **4. ASB Team**

James King of the ASB team gave an account of their work, including the growing use of injunctions which can be enforced once breached, giving more control over offenders. There is a separate ASB team for Waltham Forest Housing.

### **5. Police Report**

- The team explained that restrictions on “AID” (abstraction from regular Safer Neighbourhood Team duty) only prevent local reallocation; officers can still be re-deployed for situations like the recent “Extinction Rebellion” demonstrations.
- Printouts were distributed at the meeting – scanned copies appear at the end of these notes, including a presentation pack about a new “Street Watch” initiative.

### **6. Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 2 July 2019, The Mall Offices, 7pm

#### **Contact details:**

PC 2271 NE Steve Bragg

PC 1110 NE Terry Smart

Email: [NEMAILBOX.SNTHIGHSTREET@MET.POLICE.UK](mailto:NEMAILBOX.SNTHIGHSTREET@MET.POLICE.UK) – this should be used for intelligence and not reporting of incidents.

Mobile: 07843 291115

Twitter: @MPHIGHSTREET

## Ward Panel Meeting (May)

### Crime Figures

	Jan	Feb	March	April
Theft Person	22	20	28	21
Public Order/ASB	3	2	1	1
Assaults	4	20	11	11
Drugs	6	12	11	19
Mall Crimes	37	42	32	41
WARD CRIMES 2018	169	215	236	213
WARD CRIMES 2019	171	210	177	206
	+ 2	- 15	- 59	- 7

### BREXIT.

In the past few months we have had a lot of aid requirement regarding Brexit this has had a direct effect on the policing of the ward. Four of the five officers on The High Street are Level 2 trained which are normally deployed to events in London. On top of this we having been pulled away for the Ward with regards to the latest domo's up town this was clearly shown on the arrests made by the officers which are down in April & May.

The other effect is that where we were deploying a marked police unit on the ward with officers in plain clothes & uniform each day because of the aid the management had to put a stop to the use of the vehicles for this aid, meaning that we couldn't cover the area as effectively as we wanted again resulting in less stop & search.

However not all bad news pictures shown are just a few items that we have come across in the past 2 months. Pc Bragg to explain this one?



Drugs.





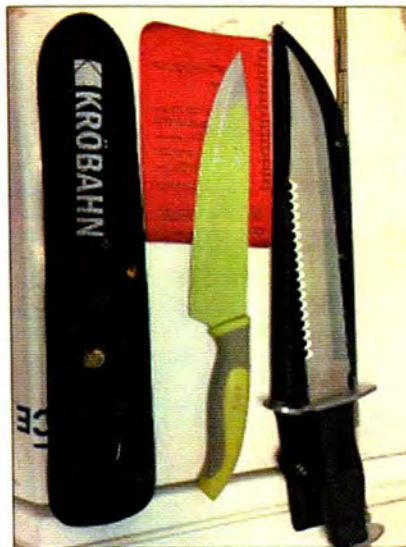
Knives.

## OFFICER SAFETY

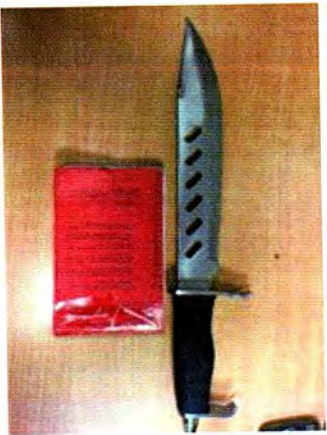
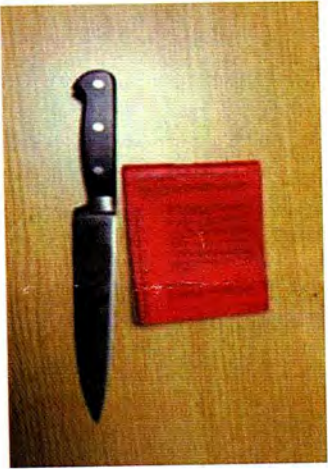
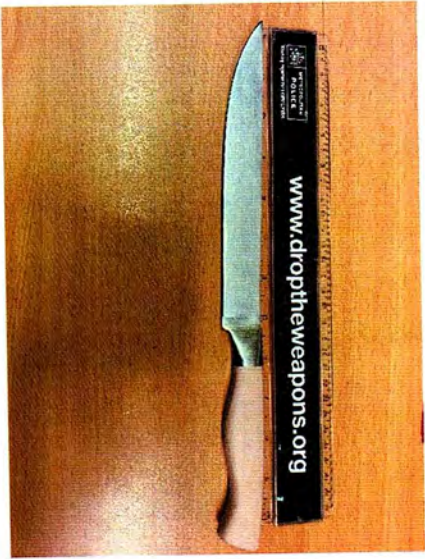
These two knives were found hidden at the back of a phone box in the HIGH STREET J/W PRETORIA ROAD.

Of note several MALI boys had been searched near the phone box earlier that evening.

For officer safety awareness.



JCRT00415424 - B11 - 26/04/19



Perfume ???



## Community



We have been placing new signage up in the following roads.

Warner Road

Cleveland Park

Cleveland Park Ave

Moorlands Road

We still have a few signs left??



## Updates.

### Op McGovern

This was Pc Braggs operation to target drug users class A & B in & around the transport hub.

On Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March the ward officer along with a drugs dog & British transport police completed an op at Walthamstow central with the result of 3 suspects given a Community resolution & 1 arrested for possession with intent to supply.

### Street Watch

Please see Street Watch induction presentation pack.

# Street Watch

*in partnership with*  
Metropolitan Police Service

A Community Driven Scheme



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# Induction

Welcome to the Street Watch Induction which is for new members of the scheme. You will have read and signed your Observers Guide which covers all the points relating to the scheme.

This induction is to provide you with further knowledge of what to expect and advice on how to deal with what you may encounter.

First, the purpose of Street Watch is;

- To be a good citizen and encourage others to also do this
- Building trust within the community so that members can be seen to be trustworthy and approachable
- Be the eyes and ears of the community
- Be the link between the community and the Police



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# Basic Guidelines

## Look, Listen, Report... Don't Have A Go!

- ENGAGE but do not confront
- ALWAYS stay within the law
- ALWAYS book on and off using the forum
- ALWAYS go out in pairs
- CARRY a mobile phone
- DO NOT drive or USE vehicles as part of your Street Watch session
- Record significant details as soon as you can and NOT on the forum
- If in doubt, create distance and call the Police

## General Guidance On Risk

- AVOID making "Citizens arrests"
- AVOID detaining people whilst waiting for the police
- DO NOT PICK UP NEEDLES – inform the council, street care
- OBSERVE for erratic or aggressive behaviour  
DISENGAGE at the first signs of confrontation
- DO NOT let unknown substances touch the skin
- IF IN DOUBT CALL THE POLICE



# Crime / Anti-Social Behaviour In Progress – What To Do

## Anti-social Behaviour And Drug / Alcohol

### Related Activity

- Observe and assess the situation making your own risk assessment
- If safe, approach the person(s) but be mindful of the environment and items such as syringes
- Talk to them about what you are doing and learn as much as you can about what is happening
- If the potential for confrontation develops, create distance and call Police on either 999 or 101
- Record the details of the incident as soon as you can and pass them on to your local dedicated ward officer or the officer attending (if 999 or 101 used)

## Criminal Act In Progress

- Observe and assess the situation if it is safe to do so
- Call 999 at the earliest opportunity once you have established that a crime is in progress
- Maintain observations from a safe distance, update the operator of descriptions and suspect movement
- Record events at the earliest opportunity and pass them on to the Police once they have arrived and it is suitable to approach



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# Third Party Evidential Images

Due to the increased availability of privately owned camera phones and digital camera systems it is likely that members of the public may make available to police photographs or video footage of incidents or suspects. Where this occurs it is desirable to preserve and process the footage in such a way that it's evidential integrity is not compromised.

Sharing of images is done by the police for the detection and prevention of crime under the Regulatory Investigative Powers Act 2000, those person that share images of person suspected of being involved in crime CAN undermine any forthcoming prosecutions for the following reasons.

- One of the persons that received the image could be a relative of the suspected offender
- One of the person involved may take their own action against the suspected offender
- Or one of you may be warned to sit on a jury panel in crown court which involves the suspected offender



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# Legislation

## **Section 3 Criminal Law Act**

A person may use force as is reasonable in the circumstances in the prevention of crime, or in effecting or assisting in the lawful arrest of offenders or suspected offenders or persons unlawfully at large.

## **Unlawful Possession Of Controlled Drugs (Misuse Of Drugs Act 1971)**

S5 (4) Defence for a person knowing or suspecting it to be a controlled drug, takes the possession of it to prevent another from committing or continuing to commit an offence and AS SOON AS POSSIBLE takes all reasonable steps to destroy the drug or deliver it into the custody of a lawful person.



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# Co-ordinator Points

- Discussing who and where within the Local Authority to report matters such as parking issues, pot holes, pavements, dog fouling, street lights not working, build up of litter and drug paraphernalia.
- The pitfalls of citizens arrests and chasing and holding people - the view point from a citizen, how long you can detain someone for, use of reasonable force, causing injury to said detained person. Use of weapons.
- Accessing the forum, logging patrols and insurance requirements. What type of things can be recorded on the forum and what should be recorded in the pocket book and then emailed to DWOs.
- Discuss language/behaviour when wearing the high visibility tabard, including meetings, not going into certain establishments wearing it (Licenced premises'). Make it clear that we are about community cohesion and that racism and abuse won't be tolerated.
- Confidentiality of information learned whilst out and about and at meetings, what can and can't be shared on social media etc.
- The appropriate use of 101, 999 and when Police are not required. Explain the realistic expectation of a response.
- Cover the vagaries of common assault.
- Make sure members have read and understood the Observer's Guide.
- Not to wear high visibility tabard when driving a vehicle, the pitfalls of doing so.
- The value of feedback from the Police about matters that have been reported by Street Watch members.
- Overview of local events Street Watch members can provide assistance with.



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