

High Street Ward Panel Meeting
Tuesday 26th November 2019 at 7pm

Held at Blackhorse Road Baptist Church (as The Mall offices remain closed following fire)

Attendance:

1. Meeting Guidelines were read out.
2. Malcolm Patten agreed to take minutes.
3. Apologies were received from Hinnah Gill, Sandra DaCosta & Alice Taylor.
4. Philip Herlihy apologised that the Minutes from the last meeting were not available.
5. Report from the Police team:
 - a. Summary attached to minutes.
 - b. Essex Close - much improvement but still some ongoing issues. Of particular concern was the CCTV. Residents were being told they were 'out of focus' etc. Explanations of how the cameras work were given by James (ASB officer) and the Police and it was agreed that at the very least the CCTV centre should communicate issues clearly and correctly so that trust is not diminished. There was also concern that the CCTV may be removed. Philip Herlihy to contact Ahsan Khan on behalf of meeting to press for retaining them longer. Concern was raised regarding suspicion of 'cuckooing' in one particular address which the Police and James will look into. Residents commended the Police, Council and Willowfield School for their support and prompt actions relating to safeguarding/grooming issues.
 - c. Tenby Court - improved.
 - d. Pretoria Road/ Bottom of High St - Police reported on-going activity to disrupt drug-dealing in this area but were unable to elaborate further. Shops/cafes were becoming more cooperative as they understood the detrimental effect criminal activity was having on their custom.
 - e. A question was asked regarding protests against Stella Creasy in the town square by anti-abortion protestors. Police said that the Council had used their own powers to remove banners but from the Police's point of view, they had studied a similar case elsewhere (Brighton) and the organisation had kept themselves 'just' on the right side of the law. Having said this, they noted some ongoing cases related to it were still being investigated which they couldn't comment on.
 - f. A question was asked about drug dealing by St James's Park. Though they noted that this wasn't on the High Street Ward, they said they were aware of drug dealers, moving from the High St and turning up in other places and liaised with other officers to try to prevent this.
6. AOB:
 - a. Philip said that he and Malcolm had attended a TASER presentation at Chingford Police Station as Police wanted to extend use of TASER in the borough. It was agreed to add to agenda of next meeting so that the Police could explain the use and benefits of TASER and answer questions from residents.
 - b. Appreciation was expressed to a resident who had witnessed a serious offence in St James's Street and given testimony in court, leading to a conviction.
7. Election/ Re-election of Chair and Vice-Chair - agreed to defer until next meeting.
8. Next Meeting: Tuesday 18th February 2020 at Blackhorse Road Baptist Church.

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NEWS.

ESSEX CLOSE.

We continue to patrol ESSEX Close regarding the youths in the area now we have a direct link from the neighbourhood who call when they have their concerns, we have had only two calls or message left in the past two months. It was good to see at the community has come together as one when they had the BBQ day.

TENBY COURT.

No reported incidents from the residents of Tenby court after LBWF completed their work regarding boarding up the broken fencing & new door system repaired.

CLEVELAND PARK/CRESENT.

Only a couple of reports from the (CPA) mainly regarding disorder in the street go result on the suspect for the Burglaries months ago he got six years imprisonment for those offences.

THE HIGH STREET. (BIM'S)

Still work in progress with these young offenders we are issuing PSPO (public space protection orders) each receiving £100 fine from LBWF each time we catch them together hanging about the HIGH ST. More info on the next meeting.

Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBO) How powerful this bit of law is.....

Mr Hanif was issued one of these orders at the beginning of the year due his persistent offending in the HIGH ST he had breached it 6 times each time receiving 28 days in custody for being in the area.

The last breach was 14th November when he saw officers in The HIGH Street & walked up to Pc Bragg offering him a Jaffa cake as the officer was dealing with a stop. Hanif was arrested by Pc Bragg who later found out that Hanif had only been let out of prison at 1 pm that day & was back in custody by 5.15pm he then went to court where he received 46 days in custody.

WANTED SUSPECTS

Last week we were asked to put an effort into arresting outside suspects who were shown wanted by police. We have been out on mobile patrols and the first arrest was a male wanted for assault who also had class A drugs on him. The next day we arrested another male after a foot chase also shown wanted 6 times by police & had been on the run for some time. The next day on patrol again we arrested a female who again was shown wanted twice for theft offences, it was a good week.

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Crime figures

SEPTEMBER.

191 crimes recorded

Mall crimes = 17

Dipping's in the mall = 17

Dipping's outside = 4

Drugs = 10

Violence with injury = 6

OCTOBER.

237 crimes recorded

Mall crimes = 18

Dipping's in Mall = 5

Dipping's outside = 13

Drugs = 12

Violence with injury = 5

NOVEMBER.

150 crimes recorded

Mall crimes = 13

Dipping's in Mall = 2

Dipping's outside = 14

Drugs = 2

Violence with injury = 9