

## High Street Safer Neighbourhood Team - Ward Panel Notes of meeting on Wednesday 10 September 2019 at 7pm

**Informal notes**, taken by Philip Herlihy (*who might not get the job again...*)

- June 2019 to March 2020 - big push to deal with the Mali boys, using undercover officers.
  - 24 charges - 22 remanded. 22 still serving time. "a remarkable difference in the High Street". One offender given £30,000 court bail.
- Due to Covid, crime in the High St is at an all-time low. Burglary low.
- Operation Sceptre: violence & knife crime.
- Begging on a slow rise - a target for the team in the coming months - particularly aggressive beggars.

Good news:

- Uplift in officers to replace Jimmy Goddard and Steve Bragg (moving to VSU), and Terry Smart - retiring in January after 27 years (26 in WF).
- Stronger focus on pickpockets in the market and over the run up to Christmas.
- Drinkers: Problems around Lidl - injunction on one individual. Working on further sanctions.
- Cyber crime - leaflets PH to circulate. <https://www.met.police.uk/littlemedia>
- Colm - Carisbroke Road - dealing still going on. Team have identified one individual on bike, and will be targeting him. Mentioned Crimestoppers.

Westbury Road murder? Murder investigation team handling. Not believed to be connected to other violent incidents around that time. May turn out not to be drug-related.

Body in St James park? An arrest for murder. Known to police, as was the victim. Likely to be drug-related.

Questions (from Malcolm) on Stop & Search, and compliance over Covid restrictions.

- Not wearing masks - most have listened.

Sandra re Stop & Search:

- Need for accurate figures.
- Survey from Streetbase mentioned
- "Bodyworn cameras not being switched on"

Kam/Tom:

- Cameras are always buffering (without sound).
- Kam was formerly with TSG: has seen both good/bad searches.
- Encouraged to complain if appropriate.
- (Tom) Often 'history' between officer and individuals searched.

Jackie:

- Many are not socially-distancing; many without masks; a risk for vulnerable people.
- (James King): officers working on compliance of businesses.
- Anxiety over potential exposure - hard to gauge. Speculated whether the council might offer guidance. Phil mentioned useful BBC [article](#) on this.

**Contacts:**

- **MOPEX** (High Street Ward Police) – 07843291115
- **Neighbourhood Officer** – named person George Pringle – usually monitoring Envirocrime issues such Fly-tipping, Dirty front gardens, Abandoned cars, Graffiti, Street cleansing etc: [George.Pringle@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:George.Pringle@walthamforest.gov.uk) or for the Neighbourhoods team: [neighbourhoods@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhoods@walthamforest.gov.uk)
- **Councillor Claire Coghill** contact [leader@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:leader@walthamforest.gov.uk) with "Ward Issue" in the Subject line.