

Sidlesham, Hunston and North Mundham Neighbourhood Panel

20 March 2012 – 7 pm – North Mundham Village Hall

Attendees

Name	Representing
PCSO Jack Ettridge	Selsey Police
David Baron	Sidlesham Neighbourhood Watch
Cllr Janet Duncton	Chichester District Council
Corina Hall	Sidlesham Parish Council
Frances Neave	North Mundham Parish Council
Roger Pagram	Hunston Parish Council
Innes Mary Quigley	Merston Neighbourhood Watch
Carol Ranjbar	Sidlesham Parish Council
Kimberley Rex	Hunston Neighbourhood Watch
Linda Rex	Hunston Neighbourhood Watch
David Rozier	North Mundham Neighbourhood Watch
Tim Russell (Chairman)	North Mundham Parish Council
Denia Turnbull	North Mundham Parish Council
Cllr Margaret Whitehead	West Sussex County Council

1. Introductions

- 1.1 Those present were invited to introduce themselves.
- 1.2 Cllr Duncton and Cllr Whitehead explained that they were attending the meeting in furtherance of their particular cabinet responsibilities. They did not expect to attend every meeting, but would try to be present at this and other Neighbourhood Panel meetings from time to time.

At this point PCSO Ettridge left in response to an urgent operational call and played no further part in the meeting.

2 Election of New Chair Person

- 2.1 Tim Russell explained that he had volunteered to act as Chairman, in response to the request that the meeting be led by a member of the community rather than the Police. There being no other volunteer, the meeting confirmed that he should take the role.

3 Approve minutes of the previous meeting

- 3.1 The minutes were agreed to be an accurate record of the previous meeting, subject to some points of detail in the list of those attending, which have been corrected in the list above.

4 Discussion of Previous Priorities

- 4.1 The Chairman read the update that PCSO Ettridge had prepared for the meeting. A copy is attached to these minutes.

Burglaries

- 4.2 The meeting noted the resurgence of burglaries in the previous week. It was agreed that there would be benefit if people could be reminded of the need to secure their property, since the victims were almost entirely those who had left doors unlocked and property insecure. Those with access to parish newsletters and other local media were asked to spread the word about the importance of security.
- 4.3 In response the local area has been designated a Directed Patrol Activity area, and more late shifts are being organised by the local policing team.

Driving Offences

- 4.4 Sidlesham delegates noted that they had asked for an evaluation of additional sites where they might deploy the Speed Indicating Device (SID).

Post-meeting note: PCSO Ettridge has confirmed that he has asked for a risk assessment of the additional sites for the SID.

- 4.5 Sidlesham delegates also noted that they had been offered the use of the SID, but the notice had been too short to allow them to make use of it. They emphasised that an organisation which depends on volunteers had a limited ability to react at short notice.
- 4.6 In his notes for the meeting PCSO Ettridge had noted that there was still a need for new Speedwatch volunteers.

5 Current Issues

Note: In compiling these minutes reference has been made to PCSO Ettridge's notes which he prepared in advance of the meeting.

- 5.1 It was noted that there had been recent cases of vandalism in Sidlesham, where the playground shelter had been damaged, and at North Mundham where two of the glass panels on one of the bus shelters had been broken on separate occasions. Unfortunately there are currently there are no specific lines of enquiry to pursue.
- 5.2 The homeless people who were camping on land south of the A27 have now moved away, though many of them now appear to be camping on the north side. At least 10 of them are due to be deported this month.
- 5.3 There had been no further instances of eggs being thrown in Hunston. However there had been a spate of cars damaged between Selsey and Hunston by having white paint thrown at them. The police are seeking witnesses, in the absence of which there are no particular lines

of enquiry.

5.4 The suspicious wandering male in the Hunston area has recently been arrested for drug possession

5.5 Parking in Lay-bys. In response to the question raised at the previous meeting, PCSO Ettridge reported that there is nothing in law to prevent lorry drivers parking and sleeping in lay-bys.

6 Establish New Priorities

6.1 The meeting agreed that the two priorities identified at the previous meeting should be retained. It was noted that it would probably be unhelpful in any case to change priorities too frequently. In the light of the recent problems of vandalism, the meeting agreed to set a third priority – “Vandalism and Anti-Social Behaviour”. It was noted that the longer lighter evenings might make anti-social behaviour more of a problem.

6.2 The three identified priorities are therefore:

- Burglaries
- Driving Offences
- Vandalism and Anti-Social Behaviour

7 Any Other Business

7.1 It was noted that the ‘40’ speed limit signs on the B2166 at the eastern boundary of North Mundham (approaching from Pagham) had become so faded that the red circle round the outside of the sign was barely visible. It was suggested that this might mean that the signs no longer comply with the legal requirement to advertise the speed limit, and make it difficult to enforce it. The Chairman agreed to pursue this issue with WSCC.

7.2 Problems were reported with large foreign trucks joining the A259 at the roundabout at the Food Park exit – it seemed that too often they failed to follow the rule to give way to traffic approaching from their right. It was agreed that there might be benefit from a sign inside the Food Park boundary to remind them (perhaps using an appropriate foreign language) that they should give way. It was noted that the Food Park lies partly within the parish of North Mundham and the Parish Council has a generally good relationship with the Food Park operators. The Chairman offered to pursue this issue through Parish Council contacts.

Contacting the Police

7.3 The cost of calls to the 101 number was cause for adverse comment. However it was noted that this number was established on a national basis, and the cost of calls was not under the control of West Sussex Police.

7.4 Concern was expressed that call centre operators seemed to have little local knowledge, and their inability to recognise local place names and find places on a map did not inspire confidence. It was recognised that this was probably a result of having a call centre in Lewes staffed mainly from East Sussex.

- 7.5 By contrast, there was very favourable comment on the feedback provided to callers, by PCSO Ettridge in particular.
- 7.6 There was some discussion on the difficulty of contacting local team members, though it was recognised that the public could not reasonably expect their local police team member to be available at all times outside his working shift hours. The Chairman pointed out that PCSO Ettridge advertised on the police website the times and places of the monthly 'surgeries' where he planned to be available to meet the public to discuss local issues.

Post-meeting note: The monthly surgeries are held on the third Thursday of each month:

Sidlesham Football Club 11.00 am – 11.30 am

North Mundham Parish Hall 12.00 noon – 12.30 pm

Donnington Parish Hall 2.00 pm - 2.30 pm

PCSO Ettridge has also prepared a poster with this information for local distribution.

- 7.7 Date of Next Meeting. In the absence of PCSO Ettridge it was agreed that attendees would be advised by e-mail of the date of the next meeting
- 7.8 The meeting closed at approximately 1950.

Attachment:

Copy of Police Update Notes for meeting of 20 March 2012

Police Update

Notes for Meeting of 20 March 2012

Burglaries in Manhood Rural areas

This unfortunately remains an ongoing problem. Despite a long lull since the last NMP meeting, in the last week 4 properties were entered on the same night and items were stolen. Occurrences overall have reduced, but when they do occur, several properties seem to be targeted at once. As before, the victims are almost exclusively those who leave doors unlocked and property insecure.

The local area has now been designated a 'Directed Patrol Activity' area from the police. This means that every officer working in the area will pay special attention to the area particularly during night time patrols

I will be asking all Parishes to put up posters advising residents to better secure their homes and property, but would ask that all members of the panel also do as much as possible to spread the word amongst communities.

Driving Offences

Regular Police and Traffic Police officers have given this much attention since the last meeting, with numerous cars stopped and on many occasions' tickets issued. Some results in particular are as follows:

08/03/12

Vehicle spotted B2145 at Hunston and after a check on the computer the record showed as no insurance or MoT. Stopped, Driver holds only a provisional licence and had no Supervisor or 'L' Plates. Vehicle also had no Excise Licence (Tax Disc!).

Driver reported for 'driving otherwise than in accordance with a licence', driving without insurance, driving with no MoT, using a vehicle with no Excise Licence. He will receive a Summons to attend Court in due course.

Vehicle seized by Police under S165A Road Traffic Act 1988 for the lack of licence/insurance. Driver will have to pay at least £150 + daily storage to recover the vehicle, as well as face the prosecution.

08/03/12

Traffic Officers on patrol in the Manhood area sent me an email with the following update:

1. Selsey town area, 8 X FPN's.
 2. Selsey North area, (Comptons / Hunston / North Mundham) 9 X EPFN's.
- Most were for speeding with a few for seatbelts.
Outside the school at North Mundham was quite productive.

13/03/12

1 x FPN issued to a motorists in North Mundham for driving other than in accordance with a license by PC Rawlinson. The vehicle had overly darkened windows in the front, a large crack in the windscreen and was driving without a full driving license

20/03/12

Traffic officers again deployed in the northern areas of Manhood peninsular, at this time result have not been forwarded to me.