

Sidlesham, Hunston and North Mundham Neighbourhood Panel

9 January 2013 – 7 pm – North Mundham Village Hall

Attendees

Name	Representing
PCSO Jacob McQuillan	Manhood Peninsula Neighbourhood Police Team
John Owen	North Mundham Neighbourhood Watch
Roger Pagram	Hunston Parish Council
Innes Mary Quigley	Merston
Carole Ranjbar	Sidlesham Parish Council
Linda Rex	Hunston Neighbourhood Watch
David Rozier	North Mundham Neighbourhood Watch
Tim Russell (Chairman)	North Mundham Parish Council
Denia Turnbull	North Mundham Parish Council

1. Introductions

- 1.1 Those present were invited to introduce themselves.
- 1.2 Apologies were received from David Baron, Paul Chivers, Corina Hall, Frances Neave, Kimberley Rex and Margaret Whitehead.

2 Approve minutes of the previous meeting

- 2.1 The minutes were agreed to be an accurate record of the previous meeting.

3 Matters Arising

- 3.1 (Previous meeting paragraph 4.2.4) The Chairman reported that he had been unable to acquire a list of agricultural tractors' identification numbers and the contact details of their supervisors, but he would continue the search.

4 Discussion of Previous Priorities

- 4.1 PCSO McQuillan introduced himself and updated the meeting.
- 4.2 Driving Offences, and specifically speeding
 - 4.2.1 The police continued to operate against speeding offenders in the area. PCSO McQuillan drew attention to the possibilities of setting up additional community Speedwatch groups, but the meeting noted the difficulty of getting volunteers to come forward.
 - 4.2.2 There was a request for more monitoring of traffic on the Lagness Road (B2166) east of North Mundham. The meeting noted the difficulty of finding a suitable site for a camera van on this stretch of road, or a site for a mobile camera which would also need a suitable

location where offenders could be stopped. But anything that could be done to moderate the speed of traffic in the '40' zone approaching the Walnut Tree roundabout would be welcome. The B2145 through Hunston was also noted as a problem area, which benefited from a police presence whenever that could be arranged, but the scope for traffic-calming measures there was limited.

- 4.2.3 A North Mundham delegate noted the danger of the bend on the B2166 adjacent to Hunston Dairy, and recounted an incident where the trailer of an articulated unit had come close to over-turning. There were chevrons on the bend to warn west-bound traffic, but no equivalent marking for traffic heading east – and the recent destruction of the pavement rail there demonstrated that drivers could find the bend challenging. [Post-meeting note: A visit has revealed that there is actually a 'bend' sign between the roundabout and the bend]

4.3 Vandalism.

- 4.3.1 There had been an instance of vandalism in Runcton Lane where the fence at the entrance to Footpath 192 had been damaged. However it was generally considered that instances of vandalism were more limited in the winter months

4.4 Anti-Social Behaviour, and specifically anti-social parking.

- 4.4.1 PCSO McQuillan reported that the police would continue to monitor parking in all three parishes. However it was difficult to counter when no specific traffic offence had been committed. In this context he noted that a vehicle owner who parked on the pavement could not be charged with obstruction so long as it was still possible to get past, and the pavement was not completely obstructed.
- 4.4.2 Delegates to the meeting cited dog fouling as another instance of anti-social behaviour. It was noted that it would be difficult to bring a successful prosecution without specific evidence linking the offence to a dog and its owner. However PCSO McQuillan offered to visit suspected offenders if they were notified to him, and offer words of advice

5 **Current Issues**

- 5.1 Foreign Number Plates. It was noted that the presence of immigrant workers in the area led to a significant number of vehicles with foreign number plates. Some of these vehicles may have been in the country for a long time. There was no assurance that such vehicles carried appropriate insurance cover, or were subject to any test of road-worthiness. Current regulations allow an imported vehicle to be driven on its foreign registration for up to six months, after which it should be registered and taxed as a UK vehicle, and this would make it subject to MOT testing and insurance requirements. It was suggested that it would be helpful if delegates could start to make a note of vehicles with foreign plates if they appeared to be resident in the area, keeping a record of the time and place where they were seen.
- 5.2 PCSO McQuillan drew attention to a number of areas of current concern:
 - 5.2.1 Burglaries. The theft of garden machinery and garden equipment continues to be a problem. This is often associated with sheds and outbuildings that are not properly secure. There is

some suggestion that there is an organised group specifically targeting this sort of theft, with equipment such as chain saws finding a ready market in eastern Europe.

- 5.2.2 Hare Coursing. Hare coursing is a potential problem, with an instance being reported near Caroline's Dairy, Sidlesham. The public are asked to take note of groups of people in the countryside accompanied by one or more pairs of greyhounds or lurchers. Such groups should not be approached or challenged since this might warn them off, but a report should be made as a matter of '999' priority.
- 5.2.3 Deer Shooting. There was some evidence to suggest that deer are being shot illegally – the presence of blood-stains and gates broken down to facilitate the removal and transport of the carcass.

6 Establish New Priorities

- 6.1 It was agreed that the three identified priorities should remain unchanged until the next meeting. They are therefore:
- Driving Offences, and specifically speeding
 - Vandalism
 - Anti-Social Behaviour, and specifically anti-social parking

7 Any Other Business

- 7.1 Meet Me in Person (MMIP). A request was made that Hunston should get its own 'Meet me in Person' visits – the area of the shops or the village hall car park were identified as suitable sites. Delegates with access to local newsletters were asked to publicise these events, and to suggest if there were any particularly suitable times.
- 7.2 PCSO McQuillan noted that he could be contacted by e-mail at any time – his e-mail address is Jacob.McQuillan@sussex.pnn.police.uk . He has not yet got a personal mobile phone number but will publicise it when it becomes available. He explained that his team was still currently under strength and it is not certain when an extra PCSO will join.
- 7.3 Date of Next Meeting. It was agreed to hold the next meeting at 1900 on Wednesday, 6 March 2013, in North Mundham Village Hall.
- 7.4 The meeting closed at approximately 2000.