

# Sidlesham, Hunston and North Mundham Neighbourhood Panel

11 March 2015 – 7 pm – North Mundham Village Hall

## Attendees

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>
David Baron	Area Co-ordinator, Sidlesham Neighbourhood watch
Cllr Margaret Evans	West Sussex County Council
PCSO Jacob McQuillan	Manhood Peninsula Neighbourhood Police Team
Roger Pagram	Hunston Parish Council
Linda Rex	Hunston Neighbourhood Watch
David Rozier	North Mundham Neighbourhood Watch
Tim Russell (Chairman)	North Mundham Parish Council
Sgt Danny West	Sussex Police

## 1. Introductions

- 1.1 The Chairman welcomed Sgt Danny West and invited the other members to introduce themselves. Apologies were received from Innes-Mary Quigley.

## 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 Neighbourhood Watch The Chairman referred back to the extensive discussions of the previous meeting (Minute 3.1 – 3.5). He recalled that the meeting had identified the absence of any Area Co-ordinator for North Mundham. Following the suggestion made at the meeting by Mark Rendall that the Panel was close to undertaking that function, he had put himself forward for the role and submitted the necessary forms to obtain clearance to act as Area Co-ordinator. However he was sorry to report that since then he had heard nothing. Recognising that he had been out of the country for two months until shortly before the meeting, he had not yet followed up the matter but intended to do so.

## 4 Discussion of Previous Priorities

- 4.1 PCSO McQuillan updated the meeting. A copy of his notes is attached at Annex A. He noted that his report indicating a generally low level of unwanted activity, which was pleasing bearing in mind that three months had elapsed since his last report.
- 4.2 In response to a question, PCSO McQuillan advised that the animal poisoning case involved a domestic animal, but may have been caused by poisoned meat left out as fox bait. So long as baiting could be associated with a specific problem such as foxes targeting a chicken run, then such activity was not illegal, though irresponsible widespread use of bait would be.
- 4.3 The coincidence of a burglary in Post Office Lane, North Mundham with reports of a door-to-

door caller offering a gutter cleaning service was noted, and some additional contact details were offered.

- 4.4 It was noted that a handbag stolen from Sidlesham Church had been recovered in the churchyard at Apuldram, suggesting that churches may be a particular target. The presence of an occupied car seen loitering in the car park of North Mundham church cemetery was noted – as was the current church policy of leaving the entrance barrier open.

## 5 **Establish New Priorities**

- 5.1 When it came to establishing new priorities, Sgt West advised that the meeting should try to identify priorities that were much more specific in nature, rather than those that represent a general aspiration. He suggested that any priorities should be sufficiently closely defined that there was a realistic chance of finding a solution – the current practice of setting broad priorities meant that each month the reports would be similar and nothing could be brought to a conclusion.

- 5.2 The Chairman noted that delegates to the meeting had not come prepared to identify more specific objectives, and this would represent a significant change in the Panel's way of working. He therefore proposed to leave the priorities as they are until the next meeting. The priorities would therefore remain as:

- Driving Offences
- Maintaining high visibility
- Thefts and burglaries

## 6 **Any Other Business**

- 6.1 Sgt West drew attention to the announcement, made the day before the meeting, of police funding cuts that would have a significant impact on the way the police worked, and were likely to affect neighbourhood policing in particular. It was too early to say what the implications might be, but we should not be surprised to see a more reactive approach with much less routine patrolling by beat officers.

- 6.2 It was likely that many low key tasks would be devolved to local initiatives wherever possible – for example monitoring of traffic speeds is likely to be a task undertaken by community groups. In this context, members noted their disappointment with the current scheme for monitoring traffic speeds and escalating the problem to a higher level – the focus on using average speeds meant that the occasional rogue driver at high speed would not affect average speeds enough to trigger a reaction. It was pointed out that such incidents could still be the subject of a 'Crackdown' report.

- 7.2 Date of Next Meeting. It was agreed to hold the next meeting at 1900 on Wednesday, 13 May 2015, in North Mundham Village Hall.

- 7.5 The meeting closed at approximately 1950.

## **Hunston, Sidlesham, and North Mundham NMP**

### **Current Priorities**

#### **Anti-Social Driving**

I have deployed several times with the Genesis device since the last meeting. I have deployed in all three areas at various times of the day. Average speeds remain below the current thresholds.

One section 59 warning has been issued in Sidlesham, with another in the neighbouring areas.

One section 165 seizure has taken place in Hunston, with two more in neighbouring areas.

One person has been arrested for being drunk in charge in Hunston, with four others in neighbouring areas.

#### **High Visibility Patrols**

I have been continuing high-vis patrols as and when free. The area remains quiet.

#### **Burglary and Thefts**

There has been one burglary in Hunston, four in Sidlesham, and two in North Mundham since the last meeting. Given that this is over a three month period, this remains a low number.

There have been two thefts in Hunston, and three in Sidlesham, though one in Sidlesham was an attempt of multiple vehicles from a secure compound. The vehicle was stopped a short distance away and the driver arrested.

### **Other Issues**

#### **Wildlife Crime**

While there have been some further reports of lamping/hare coursing, the number has remained low, and with fields being readied for crops and lighter evenings coming in, these incidents are likely to drop off even further.

There has also been a report of animals being poisoned in the Chalk Road/Cow Lane area of Sidlesham. Investigations have revealed no substantial lines of enquires and the area is being monitored.