

## C&DNHWA - Synopsis of C&DNHWA Committee Meeting - 18 November 2009

Partners And Communities Together (PACT) – Committee discussed the growing role of PACT groups in the policing of neighbourhoods and stressed the importance of NHW co-ordinators' participation in them to better influence the priorities of the police in tackling crime and disorder. PACT groups all tend to operate slightly differently, so the Committee agreed to advise NHW co-ordinators to:- actively seek out the details / meeting times / venues of their own PACT, either from the local police station or the police web site; and then make a point of turning up for the next meeting to introduce themselves. The Committee reiterated its desire to encourage Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) to make contact with NHW co-ordinators regularly to aid the process of getting more NHW input at PACT meetings.

Help For New Schemes – In its continuing quest to better support NHW schemes the Committee discussed initiatives that could be considered to assist commencement of new schemes. It was agreed that the existing starter pack for new schemes will be revised to include information about electronic drafts of letters and forms that might help co-ordinators communicate with neighbours. For a trial period, initially, the Committee agreed to provide 2 free NHW signs and a UV pen to new schemes. Recent assistance and encouragement given to new co-ordinators by Committee members seems to have been well received. The Committee agreed, therefore, that the long term intention is to provide a mentor for each geographical area of the District to assist both new and established schemes.

Tracking Active Schemes – The Committee reviewed maps showing the location of NHW schemes believed to be active throughout the District and agreed to implement a telephone survey of all co-ordinators to:- check the accuracy of data; identify areas in which further support might be needed to assist struggling schemes. Members agreed to continue with removal of NHW signage where schemes are known to have ceased to operate but the Committee reiterated their pledge to provide leaflet drops in affected areas (possibly with assistance from outside agencies) to encourage recommencement of closed schemes.

Reports From Other Meetings - The Chair and Deputy provided feedback / news from the following meetings attended recently:-

Crime & Disorder Tactical Group – Safer Canterbury Partnership;

Canterbury Crime & Disorder Executive Group;

Kent County Neighbourhood Watch Association – funding requested to support restocking of “No canvassers / cold caller” stickers. Agreed KCNHWA would consider means to re-supply these to districts and NHW leaflets for general use at events;

Kent County NHW Youth Seminar;

C&CNHWA Newsletter – The Committee agreed the date of the next Newsletter would be prior to Christmas.

AGM & Conference 20 March 2010 – The Committee received a verbal planning-progress report. It is now confirmed that Kent Police Fire Arms Unit and the Border Agency will be proving speakers. Reply from Trading Standards is still awaited. Possible sponsorship of the event is still being considered. Committee agreed to

include information on / demonstration of the new C&DNHW website at the conference.

C&DNHW Website – The Committee welcomed news that the website is nearing completion and will be ready for launch very soon. Improved means for communication with Committee members is a new facility of the site that will be particularly useful.

Date of Next Meeting – 6<sup>th</sup> January 2010