

Burnham Community Action Panel Meeting

Chair's Notes:- Thursday 31st May 2018.

Present: Guest:- Stuart Barwell; Maldon CPT: **BTC Representative:-** Cllr. Vanessa Bell; BTC.

Barry Davis [BD]; John Farley [JF]; Anita Harris [AH]; Ken Harris [KH]; Mark Howman [MH]; Paul Hines [PH]; Mike Lovell [ML]; Sheila Nutt [SN].

Other abbreviations: Town Council [BTC]; GOYA – a team of volunteers taking forward CAP initiatives e.g. CSW;

Essex Police Casualty Reduction Unit [CRU]; Chelmsford & Maldon Community Police Team [CMPT] Maldon District Council [MDC]; Community Protection Team [CPT]; Neighbourhood Plan [NP]

1. Welcome and Introductions: Agenda accepted.

The information circular on the reasons for the change of Title was circulated. NAP had been formed in 2008 as a result of the Neighbourhood Police Initiative – Police organisation has completely changed since then. We need to recognise and respond to those changes.

Accepted that such Services are now provided by:-

- The Chelmsford & Maldon Community Police Team [based in Chelmsford] backed by the 'Response' Team [based at MDC offices];
- The MDC Community Protection Team [CPT]. Both cover a very wide area.

Recognising these changes and the implications, BTC have allocated funding from their budget for extra CPT cover [£20K] and for Special Constable Provision [£4K]. They have also appointed 2 Representatives [Cllr Bell & Cllr Skeens] to BCAP with a standing Agenda Item at Council Meetings.

The BTC Wards serve to define 'our Community' and also provide a ready link and accountability on the common interests of the residents it represents.

To some we are a 'rural community' and given the area BTC cover that is an aspect to take into account.

Within the wider 'Community' there are 'localities' where residents have specific concerns and where local action by volunteers address their problems e.g. litter picking. At present there are no council forums for resident involvement / input – hopefully this will change. **Decision: Go ahead with BCAP!**

2. Police Update:

Phil Morley has retired [Best wishes card sent] understood that the post is covered by acting Sgt Claire Forster.

Invitation sent for this meeting - no reply to date.

Other change C.I. Egan has 'moved on'; new District Commander is C.I. G. Parker.

JF posed the Question - 'How busy are the Police?' Quick answer – very it seems!

KH provided figures given by PCC which show reductions across the employee groups for the C&MCPT/Local policing Hub [note two categories - so care needed when interpreting figures]:-

- March 16: Headcount: 219; Full time equivalent: 168.31 – difference follows from part timers.
- February 18: HC 179; FTE 136.66. FTE reductions- Police 8 [135 to 127]; Staff 13 [13 to 0]; PCSO 10 [20-10].

Over the same period specials reduced from 42 to 36 – historically above 50!

Busy? Extract from March notes: "**Chelmsford & Maldon Community Team:-** Force to get 150 extra officers following CT increase. C&M Team expect 6 officers [40% increase?]; possibility of moving from 2 to 3 shifts – will increase availability **and visibility!** - The Team's role remains the same ['Caseworkers']; principally to deal with 'long standing/ ongoing problems' e.g. drugs, Neighbour / ASB problems but look at wider issues too e.g. hate, child sexual exploitation [early intervention] but also available for /and respond to emergency situations when needed.

Assessment then: "*The general message is that Maldon District has one of the lowest crime rates in Essex and Burnham is even better!*". Recent figures from Police UK show Burnham figures to be much the same [digest available].

3. MDC reports: - SB provided CPT Update; **35 Parking Penalty Notices** issued since last meeting; 113 vehicles 'moved on'; Parking outside Pharmacy still a general concern [crossing and zigzags]. Dash camera footage can be submitted as evidence.

TruCam:- several patrols in Burnham; **45 offenders reported for exceeding 37 mph!**

BD questioned "why we do not have a 'speed watch sign at entry points?"; **Action point:** KH /CPT.

Dog fouling /litter: 3 FPNs issued. Still asking for reports of persistent offenders – phone / e mail to CPT –or note in message book at Council Office. MDC initiative under way;- Consultation on PSPO [Public Space Protection Order]; aim to keep dogs off children's play areas, sports fields; Quay and part of seawall.

ML drew attention to the need to ensure that there are no attacks /interference with dogs for the Blind!

Action point: PSPO contact VB [now BTC Environment co-ordinator]

Dog Watch remains well supported, will be included in Police event in summer. Park Watch; lot of interest – looking to set up local structure; **Action point:-** VB - Link to need for Riverside Park management.

Fly Tipping: still a cause for concern – no updates; again reports welcomed.

CCTV Review: Officers have 'Body' Cameras and Dash cameras in vehicles. No news on local scheme.

4. BCAP Update: -

Three Project Reports Submitted to BTC:

a) *Encouraging Community Engagement to improve Community Safety.*

This [NAP] Report submitted to BTC in February requesting support for :-

- Actions to improve Road Safety e.g. Update signs; SERP involvement [Speaker; pledges]
- Actions to combat crimes; Encouraging community input e.g. Streetwatch; Community messaging

The question for BCAP is: - What do **we** need to do to gain commitment? Other Links: *Fire Service: Active Citizens; Police cadets; ECM;*

Action points: BTC to be asked to:

1. Prepare and facilitate a Plan for improving community safety linked to the Essex Police 'Local Engagement Plans for the Maldon District'.
2. Renew the link with Safer Essex Road Partnership [SERP]* and encourage residents to make Burnham's roads 'safer for everyone'. [copies of the 'Blue Book' are available locally]
3. Allocate a budget to fund the recruitment/ training of 2 Special Constables to encourage and facilitate community safety initiatives. **BTC have approved a budget [£4k]**
[With a focus on developing 'grass root groupings' such as Streetwatch; Investigate the possibility of seeking a Maldon CPT 'Trainee' constable to oversee the initiatives]
4. Assess entitlements under Section 106 and CIL to target safety risks

b) 1. **Report on Eves Corner:** submitted May 18;

Need for action set out in Neighbourhood Plan; *JF has also prepared a report / pictures.*

2. **Report following from ATC on Railway Bridge;** submitted May 18;

Serious concerns on volume and speeds. **Action point:** KH to visit Council Surgery.

Neighbourhood Watch: MH pointed to the advantages and the merit of developing local scheme.

BD drew attention to the NW Pop –up shop [safety and security items] and supported by MH it was decided to explore local opening. Suggested to open up at events e.g. Quay Day **Action point:** KH/BD/MH to pursue.

Community Speed Watch; BD suggested it is 'Time for review' of sites; development traffic and volunteers. KH agreed but there is a move to link to police TruCam team; VB will put a message on Facebook for volunteers.

Action point: GOYA to discuss, assess and report back.

5. BTC Update: - Cllr Bell appointed Environment Co-ordinator.

VB recognises the need for volunteers and the valuable contribution they make to the quality of life in Burnham. Introduced the Title '**We Love Burnham**' and already recruited extra people and keen to encourage more. Facebook is proving to be a successful means of contact – used to arrange a series of litter picks each month, reported in the Review with photos. Duke of Edinburgh award students have responded well and are a very good resource e.g. cutting down and disposing of a dead tree. Community Payback teams have been doing a lot of clearing up work around Burnham. A key intention is to 'recruit' a team of volunteers to look after Riverside Park as it is in a needy state! Some feedback on the limits that follow for 'ageing' residents when it comes to volunteering!

6. Any Other Business:

Parking outside Schools: PL: Still a concern; did improve for a while but then drifts back.

Action point: Get an update on 3PR [project to involve parents /grandparents and pupils to deal with; ? funding].

Cycling: Safer Routes needed: SN reported that Primary Schools are organising cycling proficiency tests.

ML raised the issues surrounding the 'Old Wood Yard' on the railway industrial site; general concern at the current purpose / activity and state of fence alongside Foundry Lane. **Action point:** Update required.

Royal Mail Vans Parking: Why on Shoppers Car Park/ spaces alongside Bus Stop?

Current Priorities: 1. Road safety; 2. Abuse; 3.Scams /fraud. Will be reviewed at Council Surgery [9.6]

Next Meeting Date: 27th Sept 2018

Meeting scheduled for 26th July cancelled.

