

PEWSEY AREA CRIME AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 22nd January 2014

Present:

Cllr Peter Deck (Chairman)	Pewsey Parish Council
Caroline Brailey	Community Area Manager, Pewsey
Chris Wootton	Pewsey Fire Brigade
Jason Underwood	Amesbury Fire Brigade
Paul Egan	Wiltshire Fire & Rescue HR Manager
Susie Brew (Secretary)	Grafton Parish Council & PCAP Coordinator
Karen Brown	Youth Development Service
Lisa Grant	Wiltshire Council Licensing
Teresa Herbert	Wiltshire Police
Barbara Townsend	Neighbourhood Watch
Sara Hughes	EPIC

Apologies:

Cllr Terry Eyles	Pewsey Parish Council
Gavin Ketchen	Neighbourhood Watch
Julia Donaldson	Aster Communities
Linda Holland	Wiltshire Council Licensing
Rowena Lansdown	Wiltshire Council Public Protection

1. Introductions and apologies

Introductions were made and apologies received.

2. Matters arising and approval of Minutes from the previous meeting

Installation of CCTV Camera in the Co-op Car Park

Peter confirmed that the camera had been installed in the car park and was up and running.

Pedestrian Crossing to Pewsey Station

Peter explained that the proposed work for a pedestrian crossing at Pewsey Station had now moved into the second design phase. This is work that will need to be done at some point regardless of when the work can actually be done. It was therefore decided that this work should go ahead even though funding hasn't yet been secured, so that the project is as advanced as possible once the funds have been achieved and delays will be kept to a minimum.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 30th October 2013 were approved.

3. Pewsey Fire & Rescue Recruiting

There have been issues with recruiting retained personnel for the Pewsey Fire Station which impacts the ability for the Pewsey Fire Station to react to requests primarily during the working day and at the weekends. They must have a minimum crew of 4 people and so often help from other parts of the hub (Ludgershall, Amesbury and Pewsey) is required. Jason Underwood explained that the Fire Service's own risk assessment requires 5 people ideally, but 4 people as a minimum and that the implementation of the hub has made it easier to deploy appliances.

If an appliance is not available from Pewsey, then the next nearest will be deployed, generally Marlborough, and there have been instances where this has happened recently.

Paul Egan explained that the new salary system, rather than the old expenses system where they were paid per call out, seems to be preferred by the retained firefighters and a review in April will probably confirm this. Chris Wootton explained that the new system has not improved availability. Jason Underwood said that the people working at Amesbury station are very happy to get involved in Pewsey as this enables them to be more community focused rather than incident focused.

Peter Deck pointed out that a requirement for recruiting is that an applicant must have maths and English at GCSE grade C level which may mean that people who would like to join the service may be unable to do so. He asked whether this policy has the potential to be reviewed.

Paul Egan explained that the criteria had originally been introduced as they had experienced issues during the training and the failure rates were higher than they should have been. However, it is proposed that the entry criteria should be as follows:

The candidate has GCSE Grade C Maths and English;

Or

The candidate has work experience that demonstrates that the candidate's maths and English are of the required standard;

Or

The candidate is tested - a process similar to the Police will be used.

If the candidate does not meet any of the above, they will be provided with access to Learn Direct to do training.

Chris Wootton was concerned that Learn Direct may not be accessible to those who may need to use it as it is only available on weekdays during working hours.

Paul Egan confirmed that the vacancies are advertised on the recruitment pages on the Wiltshire Council website. Currently the requirement is that the person is within 5 minutes of the fire station in Pewsey which is very restrictive and may need to change.

Peter Deck asked Sara Hughes whether EPIC was in a position to help with recruitment. Sara confirmed that she would be able to post the advertisement on her website, Facebook and Twitter. The age range for most of the people who use the EPIC services is between 16 and 25 years old, although it is open to any age, and is made up mainly of unemployed people and students. Paul Egan confirmed that they are part of the Salamander project with JobCentre Plus and that their work as a retained firefighter counts towards job experience.

Theresa Herbert suggested opening the Fire Station in Pewsey for a recruiting day and this will be followed up by Chris Wootton.

Barbara Townsend suggested using the local BBC channels. Paul Egan confirmed that this type of action should be included in the station's marketing plan.

Karen Brown confirmed that the 'Have a Go at Carnival' last year included a session at Pewsey Fire Station and it was very successful. Although it was for a younger age group, if it motivates youngsters to get involved when they are older, then that is positive and hopefully

helps the future pipeline. Karen confirmed that the Fire Service would be welcome to visit the Shak on a Friday evening to talk to the youngsters about what they do. They could also then speak to parents who may also be interested in getting involved.

Sara Hughes suggested contacting Pewsey Vale Running Club as there is a large number of people who attend their training and running events and who are spectators. This would give the service an opportunity to speak to people whilst they are watching and waiting. A physical fitness challenge at the gym could also get people's interest - using the 'beep' test.

Peter Deck closed the discussion by asking the Fire Service to progress the ideas raised and to come back and update the meeting on progress in 6 months' time. He also raised the point about the possibility of the Fire Service having access to public funds through the new Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) for improvements. If the Fire Service is interested, they should contact Peter.

4. Neighbourhood Police Teams

4.1 Pewsey West

4.1.1 Previous Priorities

Anti-social use of vehicles

Anti-social use of vehicles in Pewsey has lessened through targeting of patrols in Pewsey. The installation of the CCTV camera at the Co-op should also assist in this area. It was agreed that this be closed as a priority issue

Drop off & Pick up at Oare School

This has been monitored and the school has also passed on messages to parents regarding driving without seat belts and using a mobile phone whilst driving. This was agreed to be closed as a priority issue but will continue to be monitored.

4.1.2 New Priorities

Use and possible drug dealing in Wilcot

Theresa Herbert notified the meeting that there have been issues with both the use and cultivation of cannabis in Wilcot. It was agreed that general drug related activity (use and possible drug dealing) should be a priority issue.

4.2 Pewsey East

4.2.1 Previous Priorities

Community safety and road traffic accidents

Speed enforcement has been carried out in a number of villages, including East Grafton, Shalbourne and Great Bedwyn. Officers have been checking for seat belts at schools.

4.2.2 New Priorities

Community safety and road traffic accidents

This was agreed to continue to be a priority.

5. Local Issues

5.1 &

5.2 Youth Issues and SHAK report

Karen Brown informed the meeting that with regard to domestic violence, there are a couple of young females who are experiencing interesting relationship issues currently and as a result are currently being monitored.

There have been a number of activities or discussion groups taking place recently, including revision planning, employment and dealing with exam stress.

Future activities include tandem parachute jump and a residential course at Oxenwood.

The campus project in the autumn will impact the Shak and Youth Services, it is currently not known where they will be sited and where they will go. Peter Deck suggested that the current sports hall is being kept open during the build work and could be used as a temporary skateboard park.

There is also a review underway by Wiltshire Council on Youth Services.

The Police and EPIC both expressed an interest in visiting the Shak to speak to the people who attend as community initiatives.

5.4 Licensing

Lisa confirmed that there are no licensing issues currently. Peter Deck suggested that the Licensing Team attends the PACCS meeting only if there is an issue as they have to come from Devizes.

5.5 Community Parishes Involvement / Neighbourhood Watch

Barbara Townsend informed the meeting that the new OurWatch system is currently being trialled. This system will push information out to the general public on issues in their neighbourhood. It is understood that the information comes from the Police control rooms and other services also input to it.

6. Bus Service Consultation

Peter Deck raised concerns about the consultation currently underway. Ian White from Wiltshire Council presented at the last Area Board meeting and it was clear that one of the options under review is to remove the night service and Taxibus as these were the most expensive services to run. The impact of doing this will impact the Shak, particularly on a Friday night, as young people who attend use the 10pm bus service to get home. Karen Brown will look into this and will provide information on how many Shak users use the night bus. Representations on the impact of the removal of services should be made by parish councils, the Shak, PACCS, Youth Action Group and the Police. Peter to follow up.

6. Any other business

Sara Hughes raised concerns that there had been an incident in Pewsey where access to the defibrillator had not been successful. It was understood that the emergency service process was being checked but it was believed that it had been followed correctly.

Barbara Townsend has written a children's book called The Savernake Big Belly Oak. Barbara is very happy to donate the book to help local causes raise money. If anyone is interested, then please contact her via the website - <http://bigbellyoak.weebly.com/> .

7. Date of Next Meeting - The Parish Office, Pewsey - Wednesday 30th April 2014