



**Crowthorne Neighbourhood Action Group**  
**08 December 2009**  
**10.30 am - 12.05 pm**  
**Howard Palmer Room, St Sebastian's Memorial Hall**

Present: Janet Bearpark  
Martin Ceaser, Churches Together Crowthorne / Crowthorne Baptist Church  
Wendy Crosson-Smith, Place and Neighbourhood Service, Wokingham Borough Council  
Carole Doran, Crowthorne Village Action Group  
NSO Alex Hillan, Thames Valley Police  
Zarron Phillips, Community Warden, Wokingham Borough Council  
Colin Phillpott  
Councillor Richard Malcolm Price, Crowthorne Parish Council  
Angus Ross, Councillor, Wokingham Borough Council  
Tom Thomas, Wokingham Without Beat Officer  
Sgt Graham Thorne, Thames Valley Police  
Derek Williams, Chair  
Councillor Michael John Withers, Crowthorne Parish Council  
PS Tim Woolford, Thames Valley Police

In attendance: Teresa Howlett, Bracknell Forest Council  
Amanda Roden, Bracknell Forest Council

Apologies: John Baster, CVAG  
Denise Blackburn, Wokingham Borough LPA Commander  
John Horner, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator  
Councillor Bob Wade, Bracknell Forest Council

**Action Points**

Minute	Item
1	<p><b>Chair for 2010</b></p> <p>The Group heard that Derek Williams would step down as Chair of the Crowthorne Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) in 2010 but would continue as Chair until a new Chair was found. Group Members were advised to contact Derek, Graham or Tim if they wished to be considered for Chair of the Group next year.</p> <p>Derek had enjoyed his couple of years as Crowthorne NAG Chair and had received support from both Wokingham Borough and Bracknell Forest Councils</p>

	<p>during this time, and thanked everyone for their support. A new Chair would be chosen by a vote in the Group.</p>
2	<p><b>Notes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising</b></p> <p>The notes of the meeting held on 20 July 2009 were agreed as a correct record.</p> <p><u>Greenwood Road Parking</u></p> <p>There had been consultation with local residents and objections would be analysed by the Borough Council.</p>
3	<p><b>Update on Priorities</b></p> <p><u>Priority Profile: Speeding</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Authorisation had been received for a Speed Watch van to look at Waterloo Road speeding and also Old Wokingham Road.</li> <li>• The Principal Engineer at the Borough Council had provided an update on Bracknell Road speeding from a survey which was carried out in the last 12 months and found that this area was not a priority. Crowthorne Parish Council disagreed with this assessment as they received reports that this was a problem area. It was felt that more evidence was needed and the full official report would be sought from the Principal Engineer.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>(Action: Teresa Howlett)</b></p> <p><u>Priority Profile: Anti-Social Behaviour</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Someone had been arrested in relation to damage to a caravan after a party near to Bigshot Field. Young people came from a range of places to this area but most tended to come from Edgbarrow School and possibly Sandhurst School.</li> <li>• Lion Cub had been introduced into Bigshot Field to help tackle anti-social behaviour in this area. Bracknell Forest and Wokingham Borough Councils were working together to help tackle the issue.</li> <li>• There had been some burglaries in Ellis Road but the Police in Crowthorne were dealing with this.</li> <li>• The barrier was working well at the Morgan Centre and the Group thanked Councillor Price for his help with this. The problems had lessened as cars could not enter now but children could still walk around the area and this would be looked into.</li> <li>• 15 bottles of Budweiser had been confiscated from a child under age. It was discovered that the child acquired the alcohol from their parents but it was not ascertained if the parents had knowledge of this.</li> <li>• Churches Together were trialling 'Hopezone' for 3 months in the front part of the Baptist Church on Wednesdays 3.30pm – 8pm. There were X-Boxes, Wii, and drinks available and 20-25 young people regularly attended. A maximum of 20 young people could attend at a time and on the busiest night 100 young people attended at different time intervals. The Group thanked all those involved with Hopezone. Many venues contacted</li> </ul>

	<p>did not want young people at their premises and the porta cabin idea had fallen through. A more permanent venue was still needed and funding for this was the main consideration at present. The Youth Club at Edgbarrow Sports Centre attracted 60+ young people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preventative work was being carried out with children in School Years 7, 8, and 9 to provide positive input and role models at a younger age.</li> <li>• Serious youth work and outreach was needed in Crowthorne, particularly as there was serious poverty in some areas. Bracknell Forest and Wokingham Borough Councils Social Services Teams were working together to tackle these issues.</li> <li>• An application had been approved for a temporary 1 year license for Lidl's to extend their opening hours and this was being monitored. It was suggested that the manager of Lidl's could possibly attend a future meeting of the Group.</li> <li>• Posters had been put up in various stores and prominent areas to advertise the illegality of adults knowingly buying alcohol for under age children.</li> <li>• The fires at Wildmoor Heath had stopped at present.</li> <li>• It was thought that Crowthorne Fire Station may be closing but it was reported that there were no plans to close the fire station at present.</li> </ul> <p><u>Priority Profile: Environmental Matters</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some play areas in the Borough were due to be improved in the Spring or new play areas created.</li> <li>• There had been an increase in the numbers of flytipping and dumped rubbish. If reported, the Borough Council would clear the rubbish with as quickly as possible. It had been decided against employing a 'Mr Tidy'.</li> <li>• Litter picks were to be discontinued at present due to a lack of volunteers.</li> <li>• The Annual Litter Pick in Wokingham was taking place on 20 – 21 March 2010. It was suggested that publicity for this could be placed into the local press in Bracknell as well as the local press in Wokingham and the clerk at Crowthorne Parish Council could be informed of the event.</li> <li>• Wokingham Without Parish Council would be contacted regarding having a representative at Group meetings.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>(Action: Teresa Howlett)</b></p>
4	<p><b>Neighbourhood Police Team Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The speed survey on Nine Mile Ride had been referred to Wendy Crosson-Smith.</li> <li>• Two drugs warrants had been issued at Mayfield Gardens and Crowthorne Train Station, Dukes Ride. If anyone was aware of any houses where they may be drugs, please could they inform the Police.</li> <li>• Halloween went well this year, partly because local businesses had removed eggs and flour from the shelves beforehand. Fireworks night also went alright.</li> <li>• There had been some burglaries in the High Street and someone had been caught stripping lead from a roof in the High Street.</li> <li>• A party towards Greenwood had been gate crashed by a large number of people.</li> <li>• The incidents at Pineridge were ongoing and a police surgery was held at</li> </ul>

	<p>this site once a month.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A couple of large scale travellers' funerals had caused problems recently when Hatch Ride was closed for one and Nine Mile Ride was closed for another. Cars had been diverted into the tennis club which helped.</li> <li>• It was hoped that police surgeries would be held at travellers' sites in future.</li> <li>• Bracknell Forest and Wokingham Borough Councils were working together to adopt Ravenswood Avenue road and put more effective parking restrictions there to help alleviate congestion.</li> </ul>
5	<p><b>Feedback from Neighbourhood Action Group Chairs' Meeting on 4 November 2009</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Borough Council had passed a motion to reimburse NAG Chairs' expenses. It was reported that Wokingham Borough Council were given a lump sum of £200 per NAG. The Wokingham representative in the Group would check what this covered with regard to childcare costs etc. Thames Valley Police had offered to reimburse NAG Chairs' car parking costs.</li> <li>• It was felt that a representative from Bracknell Forest Homes was not needed as Councillor Wade was on the Bracknell Forest Homes Board.</li> <li>• There would be three rounds of NAG meetings next year instead of four.</li> </ul>
6	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p><u>Neighbourhood Forum and Neighbourhood Survey</u></p> <p>Marilyn Morgan, Thames Valley Police, had taken the minutes at the Crowthorne Neighbourhood Forum and these would be circulated when finalised.</p> <p>The priorities for the Group for 2010 would be decided by taking into account the outcomes from the Forum and Neighbourhood Survey, input from the Police and other relevant sources. An update on the Group's priorities and profiles would be discussed at the next meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>(Action: All)</b></p> <p>There had been approximately 6,400 surveys returned this year and approximately 270 from the Crowthorne area. Currently, Bracknell Forest and Wokingham Borough Councils circulated surveys separately and it was queried whether there should be one survey to specifically cover the Crowthorne and Wokingham Without areas. It was thought that the Group could run their own survey next year, possibly with support from the Parish Councils concerned.</p> <p><u>Speed Watch Training</u></p> <p>The Chair had a copy of the powerpoint presentation from the Speed Watch Training with Mr Nicholson on 30 September 2009 and another opportunity for training could be arranged if Group Members were interested.</p> <p><u>Youth Activities</u></p>

	<p>The youth activities during the summer had gone well and it was hoped that they could be run again next year but funding would be needed. Any ideas for where to apply for community funding should be forwarded to Councillor Withers.</p> <p>PSCO Ivana Houska would return to work after her maternity leave.</p> <p><u>Car Valet Service</u></p> <p>The car valet service had been refused by the Borough Council.</p>
7	<p><b>Dates of Future Meetings</b></p> <p>The next meeting of the Group would likely take place in February 2010.</p>

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