

Present		Apologies
Chris Walton (CW) Vice Chairman	Allan Jeans (AD)	Vikki Slade (VS)
Colin Merrett (CM) Editor	David Williams (DW)	
John Lodge (JL)		
Richard Hudson (RH) Treasurer		
Elaine Frew (EF)		
Louise Dalrymple (LD)		
Wendy Perry (WP)		
Chris Burt (Note Taker) (CB)		

	Apologies See above	
	Non-Attendance Councillor Mike Brookes (MB) and The Police	
1	Minutes of the last Meeting The minutes of the last meeting were accepted and approved. Proposed: WP Seconded: AJ Vote: Unanimous	
2	Matters arising There were no matters arising	
3.	Change of Day for Committee meetings In view of VS's absence from consecutive meetings due to BCP commitments CW suggested a change of day from Tuesday. As expected various members of the Committee couldn't make alternative days proposed for a number of reasons. It was decided to seek VS's view at the next meeting. Action: VS to give her view on a proposed change of day for Committee meetings due to her BCP commitments.	VS 0122/01
4	Action Log Review Open actions were reviewed and status/progress updates applied.	

<p>5</p> <p>5.1</p> <p>5.2</p>	<p>Secretary's Report and Stepping Stones</p> <p>BNW News and Information</p> <p>Most Watch news and information is circulated via e-mail.</p> <p>Stepping Stones</p> <p>Events are slowly returning to more normal times.</p> <p>'Carers Sing Together' at the Leonardo Trust has already re-started.</p> <p>Tea Parties started again in October with invited people attending. The parties are starting slowly to ensure safety.</p> <p>The Book Group in the Library has started again with low numbers at present.</p>	

<p>6</p> <p>6.1</p> <p>6.2</p> <p>6.3</p> <p>6.4</p>	<p>Chairman's Report</p> <p>Report</p> <p>In the absence of the Chairman her report was read out to the meeting by CB.</p> <p>PCC meeting</p> <p>VS thanked the Committee for their support in facilitating the meeting and it was good to have a well attended meeting at which a range of issues were covered including the PCC's vision for his 3 year tenure.</p> <p>Graffiti</p> <p>VS had written to the PCC expressing her concern about the recent spate of graffiti incidents which demonstrate that there is still a considerable lack of neighbourhood policing and asked when there will be an uplift in the number of neighbourhood officers.</p> <p>The meeting discussed the amount of graffiti incidents occurring in Broadstone, particularly along the Broadway from the Post Office, the Dunyeats Road underpass and down the Lower Blandford Road. It had proved difficult to identify the culprits owing to their wearing hoodies, perpetrating their actions late at night, usually after midnight, and using Beryl bikes and scooters to make their getaway. The meeting decided that one way to try and resolve the matter would be for the police, on a random basis, to do drive-bys after midnight/in the early hours as the sight of a police car could be a good deterrent.</p> <p>Action: VS will update the Committee on the uplift further in due course</p> <p>Action: Police be asked to do post midnight drive-bys along the Broadway and the Lower Blandford Road in an attempt to deter graffiti artists</p> <p>Crime Statistics Mismatch</p> <p>There has been much talk concerning the number of crimes being reported via Dorset Alerts and the figures detailed in the monthly BNW Newsletter. VS is happy to take it up with the police, but wants to ensure the Watch is using the correct data. She proposed somebody make a log of those incidents sent to the Watch via Dorset Alerts or what is heard in the Community to be compared in a few months time when they might be expected to arrive on the monthly statistics.</p> <p>CW already has the Dorset Alert data which is logged and analysed which with the monthly statistics has demonstrated the police's poor clear up rate.</p> <p>The crucial issue was the dominant figure in the monthly statistics concerning Violence and Sex crimes. CW had compiled a spreadsheet taken from police definitions and identified a big category with 313 crime types within it. This category had overtaken ASB as the dominant position in the monthly figures. There were about 120 Violence and Sex crimes in the 12 months ending November 2021. It was accepted the police did not have the resources to do a breakdown of this high figure, but it should not take a great deal of time for a clerical operative to look each one up on the database and add the sub category to the list CW would provide.</p> <p>LD thought it might better and possibly receive more police commitment if the analysis was done on a future basis by looking ahead rather than retrospectively and</p>	<p>VS 0122/02</p> <p>VS 0122/03</p>
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	<p>historically.</p> <p>JL said the monthly figures come from national statistics whereas by analysing the figures via the Dorset Alert data would enable pinning the crimes down to actual roads and locations where incidents have happened. Police do not have the resources to do more than just input the data. So to base the exercise on Dorset Alerts would be the appropriate method to progress this issue</p> <p>It was agreed CW would send the Dorset Alert Log to JL to action. But it would do no harm for CW to liaise with his police contact to see if there was any mileage in pursuing a clerical one off activity to provide a breakdown of the Violence and Sex crime figure.</p> <p>Action: CW to pass Dorset Alert log to JL for action</p> <p>Action: CW to contact police database liaison to find out if a one-off clerical exercise breakdown of the V&S category is possible.</p>	
6.5	<p>Rough Sleeper</p> <p>VS explained that the rough sleeper ensconced outside Boots during December had caused the Outreach Team at BCP Council to become concerned that the generosity of local people was undermining the ability of professionals to persuade him to engage with services.</p> <p>However, this individual was not what he seemed and he had intimidated a resident into giving him money, sadly after they had led a fundraising campaign for hotel accommodation over Christmas and the New Year. His action was not unexpected and people need to understand that giving to rough sleepers is not always the best way to support the homeless into settled accommodation.</p> <p>VS had reached out to the resident and explained it on social media, but considers it worth the Watch repeating the message through its newsletter.</p> <p>She has also asked the BCP Homeless Team whether a contactless giving point in Broadstone to enable those people who might need help can do so in a more direct way would be a worthwhile exercise.</p> <p>Action: Message in next newsletter that giving to rough sleepers is not always the best way to support them into settled accommodation.</p>	<p>CW 0122/04</p> <p>CW 0122/05</p> <p>CM 0122/06</p>
6.6	<p>Musical Markets</p> <p>VS thanked those members who supported the joint stall with CSW and Dorset Police at the Christmas Musical Market. Whilst she accepted the siting of the stall was challenging it was good to see the three organisations working together. She suspected the low interest in the stall from the community is a good indication that people generally consider it to be safe and not suffering from high levels of crime.</p> <p>However, those members who had manned the stall were more expressive in their condemnation of the stall siting than “challenging”. It was a freezing cold day and the stall was sited on the darkest, coldest side of the Broadway causing some members to be very reluctant to continue their stint or return from lunch. They consider that if the Watch is to be represented at these markets the stall must be in the main drag ie the Toast Rack and not shunted off into the sidings and this was why there was a low interest.</p>	

<p>6.7</p> <p>6.8</p>	<p>The meeting thought that the Watch was put out of sight because it did not pay for a site as the commercial stallholders did and the Watch may have, therefore, been regarded as a 'freeloader'. However, CW had identified 4 other "freeloader" slots on the other side of the road and at least 2 vacant slots also.</p> <p>The meeting also commented that the December market again demonstrated that as at previous events – markets, Fun Days etc - BNW stalls fail to generate new members.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Watch 40th Anniversary</p> <p>VS saw this as an opportunity for BNW to run some sort of campaign to mark the event eg handing out 40th anniversary grants or cards giving 40 tips for safety delivered in the Summer. At the 2nd November Committee meeting – at which VS was absent – the meeting had decided and minuted that because no initiatives had been presented and it would be overshadowed by the Queen's Platinum Jubilee the item should be dropped.</p> <p>However, as VS was keen to pursue the matter the meeting agreed to decide at the next meeting when she could expand on her ideas.</p> <p>Action: Include NW 40th Anniversary on 1st March Committee meeting agenda</p> <p>Broadening Scope of Newsletter</p> <p>VS had asked members for their views on including a wider range of community notices in the Newsletter. She was mindful the it already contained a section for Stepping Stones a separate organisation that did not receive funding from BNW. VS would support a small section to give diary dates, volunteer call outs and funding for community groups and events. Although Stepping Stones would still be able to advertise their events she thought it might be time to make more of the space and rotate it with other groups. VS said it was crucial that the overall size did not extend beyond the current folded A4. She thought this move might actually help with the recruitment of the 30% of current non-members. She wanted to hear the Committee's thoughts and if they were supportive it could be trialled over the next few months.</p> <p>However, the meeting's view was that it should be kept in its current concise format, it was easy to produce and publish and a problem with diary dates was that when the newsletter is distributed and delivered the dates have often passed. Previous experience showed that when this was done people became angry and complained to Committee members. Additionally, it would put more unnecessary pressure and work on the Editor The Committee did not know who the organisations/people were who had canvassed VS to be in the newsletter. It was proposed that for these reasons and those stated in item 5.2 of the 2 November 2021 minutes the idea should be rejected.</p> <p>Proposed: CW Seconded: CM Vote: Unanimous</p>	<p>EF 0122/07</p>
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7	<p>Treasurers Report</p> <p>7.1 Accounts</p> <p>BNW had spent £1,922 in the nine months from the start of its financial year on 1 April 2021 to 31st December 2021, comprising £1,222 for administrative expenses and £700 for grants.</p> <p>Administrative expenses were analysed as £1,116 for printing and stationery and £106 for sundries. Printing and stationery comprised £1,051 for nine editions of the Newsletter and £65 for the reimbursement of two Committee officers for purchases of paper and printer cartridges. Sundries comprised £60 for the hire of St John's church hall and £46 for miscellaneous items.</p> <p>BNW's bank balance with Barclays Bank was £4,499 as of 11th January 2022.</p> <p>7.2 Donations</p> <p>BNW has made three donations so far this financial year which were £300 to Community Speed Watch, £350 to Broadstone Wessex Bowling Club towards a new alarm system and £50 to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.</p> <p>7.3 Financial Strategy</p> <p>The Treasurer had circulated the Committee with his Financial Strategy Document titled 'Funding the Activities of the Broadstone Neighbourhood Watch' for their consideration and discussion.</p> <p>The document stated that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • existing policy to fund its activities BNW collected an annual subscription of £1 from all member households; • no collection had been made in 2020 and 2021 due to Covid; • subscription income had been a key factor behind the growth and success of BNW; • subscription income paid for BNW's administrative expenses, chiefly comprising the monthly newsletter; • subscriptions also paid for donations made in support of community projects and bodies in Broadstone. <p>However, there were some drawbacks to the annual subscription policy. These were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in essence, it had meant that BNW usually operated with a higher bank balance than it strictly needed; • this in turn reflected the general impracticability of making donations that were Broadstone-focused and directly linked to its primary objectives; • the Watch's primary objectives as a neighbourhood watch was the prevention of crime and anti social behaviour; • most of the donations made by BNW in recent years had had little or no links to these objectives; • moreover, member feedback received by the Treasurer was that the high regard in which BNW was held was due mainly to its monthly newsletter, not to donations, which in fact usually benefited relatively few people. <p>Further drawbacks were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the tasks of managing, recording and accounting for the collection of roughly £3,600 each year(the average subscription income for the past 10 years); 	

- this income when collected comprised mostly £1 coins and other small denomination coins;
- these tasks required a lot of time and work for the Treasurer and Membership Secretary;
- they tied up both officers for six months over the Spring and Summer;
- the exercise was also dependent on the goodwill and participation of Co-Ordinators and Contacts;
- it should not be assumed that these arrangements would continue indefinitely;
- feedback to the Treasurer from a number of Co-Ordinators and Contacts was that they were happy delivering the newsletter, but did not like asking for cash;
- Co-Ordinators and Contacts also said a big downside to cash collecting was the number of times they had to frequently return to households because the resident wasn't in, didn't have the cash etc;
- the Treasurer did not intend to lead on the subscription collection for 2022;
- he would gladly show the ropes to anybody willing to take on these tasks; and
- would step down from his post if required.

In conclusion, the Treasurer's opinion is that much of what BNW does by collecting subscriptions, making donations and publishing a monthly Newsletter, makes it an exception to the rule compared with Neighbourhood Watches across the country. Consequently, there was a very good case for trialling other ways of doing things, which the Treasurer maintained, would not make BNW any less successful or effective as a Watch. Therefore, it is proposed that BNW should:

- discontinue the annual collection of subscriptions;
- cease making donations that have no direct connection with the primary objectives of a Neighbourhood Watch;
- continue to distribute the Newsletter to existing members,
- require new members to pay a joining fee to become members and receive the Newsletter;
- maintain funds, as and when necessary, by using the Newsletter to ask members to make a voluntary contribution towards BNW's expenses;
- voluntary contributions to be made by means of a transfer to the BNW bank account;
- not make it a condition of continuing membership nor update the membership records for these voluntary contributions;
- further maintain funds, as and when necessary, by asking willing Co-Ordinators and Contacts to collect voluntary cash contributions from members but on the same non-conditional arrangements as with voluntary contributions to the BNW bank account;
- build on the strong BNW 'brand' to seek sponsorship from financial institutions, supermarkets, solicitors, estate agents and other businesses in and around Broadstone.

The Committee discussed these proposals in-depth, agreeing that none of them necessitated changes to BNW's Constitution. Accordingly, the proposals were put to a vote by the Committee.

Proposed : RH
 Seconded: CB
 Vote: Unanimous

<p>8</p> <p>8.1</p> <p>8.2</p>	<p>Membership Officers Report</p> <p>Membership Numbers</p> <p>Membership seems to be steady and one new member was recruited by making contact via the OurWatch website. No new members were forthcoming from the Musical Market stall.</p> <p>Vacancies</p> <p>The vacant Contact role in Fairview Drive was quickly filled and WP has received 8 other offers for that area. Details have been filed in case someone is needed in the future.</p> <p>The Contact in Selby House has had to resign due to ill health and another resident is needed to take on the role.</p> <p>The Co-Ordinator for Amber 4 has given notice that they will have to give up the role after delivery of the March newsletter. WP has details on file of a prospective replacement, but they have indicated that delivering the 67 individual newsletters plus 29 to a Contact would be too onerous. However, they are willing to help out if another individual could be taken on.</p> <p>BNW now has Contacts delivering to a great many households.</p>	
<p>8.3</p>	<p>Estate Agents</p> <p>The Watch had received a suggestion from a new resident, Alan Banks, that he would be willing to liaise with local Estate Agents to target people moving into the area to become members. The Committee thought it might not be appropriate for this “gung ho” approach to be undertaken by a member. It was something the Committee needed to control and be mindful of what Estate Agent’s involvement might be. They cannot provide information on people as it is protected information. The way forward could be to provide Estate Agents with the Newsletter for them to photocopy and give to potential house buyers.</p> <p>It was decided that Alan Banks should be advised that liaison cannot be done as he had suggested. Also he had given no encouragement of wanting to do Newsletter delivery. It was agreed someone from the Committee should go back and speak to him once he and his wife, as new residents, have settled in. JL agreed to undertake this task.</p> <p>Action: Alan Banks to be spoken to further about his Estate Agent liaison suggestion once he has settled into the area</p>	<p>JL 0122/08</p>

<p>9</p> <p>9.1</p> <p>9.2</p>	<p>Editors Report</p> <p>Newsletter</p> <p>Production of the Newsletter is going smoothly.</p> <p>Dates for 2022</p> <p>Monthly deadline dates for Newsletter content in 2022 have been tweaked slightly by the deadline being the last Monday of every month to be received by the Editor. Draft of the Newsletter will be sent to Committee members by Tuesday/Wednesday for comment/amendment etc and to RH by the Friday for sending to printers. CM will send a revised schedule to Committee members after the meeting. Stepping Stones report will remain a component of the Newsletter and its inclusion will carry on as normal.</p> <p>Action: Revised deadline schedule to be sent to Committee members</p>	<p>CM 0122/09</p>
<p>10</p> <p>10.1</p> <p>10.2</p> <p>10.3</p> <p>10.4</p> <p>10.5</p> <p>10.6</p>	<p>IT Officers Report</p> <p>Facebook</p> <p>Views continue to grow albeit slowly. Interestingly, the recent posts attracting most attention are those relating to Cyber Crime.</p> <p>JL considers Facebook needs more information about the Watch's activities rather than just warnings etc.</p> <p>Instagram</p> <p>Followers are now up to 25 from 9 at the end of 2021. Now starting to react with other Neighbourhood Watches. JL said there are some interesting Watches out there.</p> <p>BNW Web Page</p> <p>Position remains the same with a slight increase in visits. There is always a boost in visits once Committee meeting minutes are published. Likewise there have been some re-directions from Facebook and Instagram.</p> <p>Next Door</p> <p>JL is on Next Door and is pushing BNW's role. He has created a group with 6 members already, but he is receiving questions from some people which is of low level content.</p> <p>Online Attendance</p> <p>JL has attended 3 online Webinars which were very well run with some excellent speakers. Subjects covered were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti- Social Behaviour • Street safe • Counter Terrorism Policing and Community Vigilance (Action Counters Terrorism) (ACT) <p>Our Watch Online Courses</p> <p>The meeting's attention was draw to various online courses that were of interest.</p>	

10.7	<p>The main ones were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Ordinator Skills Training. This is a free bespoke course provided through the new Neighbourhood Watch Learning Platform – a training platform tailored to Watch volunteers; • Bystander Training; • Tackling Hate Together <p>Statistics</p> <p>The following statistics of visits to the Webpage in November were detailed in the StatCounter Monthly Analytics Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page Views – 3.3 (7.2 last month); • Unique Visits – 2.4 (2.5 previous month); • First Time Visits – 2 (1.9 last month); • Returning Visits – 0.3 (0.6 last month). 	
11	<p>Police Report</p> <p>There was no police report this month.</p>	
12	<p>CCTV Requests</p> <p>The police want BNW to create and hold a register who have CCTV on their premises so they can immediately gain footage instead of having to do a general call-out asking people with CCTV to get in touch with the police urgently as at present.</p> <p>It wasn't considered a good move not only for the amount of work involved in producing and maintaining such a register, but also because of data protection issues.</p>	
13	<p>Speaker for AGM</p> <p>EF had not had much luck finding someone in Trading Standards. CM said he had a contact name that he would pass onto her. This would be a continuing action under the still open Action Point 1121/07.</p>	
14	<p>AOB</p> <p>CB wanted to know how to communicate feedback to the police on the excellent service given by a PC 874 who had attended a neighbour's house to provide help and advice to her friend staying with her who was being stalked by an ex-partner with whom she had been in an abusive relationship. The officer had been very understanding, sympathetic, spending over 2 hours talking to her and being extremely professional throughout.</p> <p>CW advised that the Dorset Police website included a section whereby feedback, accolades, praise etc could be conveyed on individual police officers.</p>	

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.25 hours	
Date of Next Meeting:	Tuesday 1 st March 2022 (Hopefully at the usual venue)
Minutes taken by:	Chris Burt
Minutes issued on:	31 st January 2022