



Minutes of the Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Association (CNWA) AGM

on Thursday 12th November 2020 at 6.30pm (Zoom meeting)

Present: Julia Griffiths (Chair); Helen Kynnersley; David Brown; Bob Marshall; Heather Thompson (Communications); Joan Gibbison (Treasurer); Supt Peter Crowcroft; Graham Bushill (Secretary); Clare Harrison; and 35 members from the Cheshire community

Apologies: Clare Frost; Kevin Rimmer; Janet Heaton; Graham Marsden; Reg Barrit

Meeting started at 6.30pm

- Welcome, Apologies and Order of Event:** Julia welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave apologies as listed. After thanking all volunteers for the work they do Julia confirmed that there were no objections to recording this meeting.
- Chair's Report and Financial Report:** Copies of Chair and Financial reports had been circulated with the invite reminder and a copy of each report is attached to these minutes. The reports were accepted.
- Election of Officers:** Clare read out the following nominations

Role	Nominated	Proposed	Seconded
Chair	Julia Griffiths	Bob Marshall	Dave Brown
Vice Chair	NA	NA	NA
Treasurer	Joan Gibbison	Helen Kynnersley	Bob Marshall
Other	Heather Thompson	Dave Brown	Helen Kynnersley

- Local Policing – address by Supt. Peter Crowcroft:** Peter thanked all the volunteers and complemented them on all their hard work, especially during the current crisis. Police resources are stretched to the limit and the value of the contribution made by volunteers at all levels cannot be underestimated.

He then explained how the Cheshire Constabulary Force area has been broken down into 122 Community Areas each with its own dedicated PCSO. These have now been supplemented with 122 PCs matched to each Community Area, so that there are now two dedicated resources per area. Leaflets have been produced which introduce the dedicated PC and PCSO for each area. These have been posted to each household within the force area. Peter then presented a slide showing the ten points of the new Community Area Commitments which can be found on the following page.

He concluded by stressing that the force looks for continued improvement in its work with the community.

Questions:

- Bernie Mitchell from Hale. Their community is on the edge of the area and consequently feels isolated with often delayed response times from Fire, Ambulance and Police. Clare will follow this up and Peter will raise the issue with local officers.
- Timothy Hodges asked if there is any training on security. Peter referred to new website that offers advice and help in this area.
- Steve Murphy from Helping Hands asked about funding for resources. Peter will ask the local PCSO to contact their group to offer support with information of available resources.



Community AREA COMMITMENTS



This Commitment describes the focus of our dedicated Neighbourhood Police Constables and PCSOs to each of our Communities in Cheshire.

We will:

- 01 Have a dedicated resource aligned in each Community, giving a consistent point of contact
- 02 Have a bespoke and tailored patrol plan for each area, which covers vulnerability, road safety issues, diverse communities, businesses, places of faith, places of education and local priorities and incidents
- 03 Work with partners and schools to build positive relationships with young people
- 04 Build trusting relationships to understand, work with and empower our communities and partners to address issues using the OSARA problem solving approach
- 05 Keep communities updated on policing in their area and feedback through publicised local meetings and visits
- 06 Work with partners to protect vulnerable people and communities
- 07 Provide information and advice to help people keep safe and prevent crime, promote the PREVENT agenda and provide feedback to communities to demonstrate the action taken as result of their concerns and priorities
- 08 Reduce the impact of serious and organised crime on their community area through the submissions of intelligence, proactivity and the management of key offenders and registered sex offenders
- 09 Maintain professional knowledge and demonstrate continuous professional development
- 10 Treat all communities and individuals with compassion and fairness and in support of We Care

5. **New Website presentation by Bob Marshall.** Bob shared a screen showing the new website and demonstrated the uses of the various aspects of the site. He asked that people take time to view the site later and to send feedback to info@cheshirenw.org. All contributions are welcome. The site contains printed material to download. The new website address is www.cheshirenw.org.
6. **CNWA Neighbourhood Awards.** This was the second year of hosting the CNWA Neighbourhood Awards. Due to the pandemic two new categories were introduced for this year around Covid-19 volunteering. Heather Thompson reported that 57 nominations were received over the six categories.

Cheshire Covid-19 Community Volunteer Award

Shortlisted nominations were:

- Pam Dyson – Birchwood, Warrington
- Lee Siddall – Northwich
- Ruth Hampshire – Willaston, Neston
- Janet Eaton - Congleton

The winner is Ruth Hampshire

Cheshire Covid-19 Community Support Group Award

Shortlisted nominations were:

- Helping Hands, Orford, Poplar and Hulme – Warrington
- St. Margaret’s Community Centre - Latchford, Warrington
- The Hale Village Brigade - Halton

The winner is Helping Hands, Orford, Poplar and Hulme

Cheshire Individual for Services to the Public Award

Shortlisted nominations were:

- Jean Hartley - Holmes Chapel
- Mike Bishop – Handforth
- Terry Flaherty - Fairfield and Howley, Warrington
- Jean Toyn - Tiverton

The winner is Terry Flaherty

Cheshire Neighbourly Neighbour Award

Shortlisted nominations were:

- Kathleen Edwards - Willaston, Nantwich
- Sylvia Williamson – Malpas
- Reg Barrit, Chester

The winner is Sylvia Williamson

Cheshire New Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator Award

The winner is Bob Marshall - Mobberley

Cheshire Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator Award

Shortlisted nominations were:

- James Bunker - Wilmslow
- Graham Marsden - Tattenhall
- Paul Bailey - Culcheth

The winner is Graham Marsden

7. Any Other Business

- Carolyn Riley mentioned difficulties with the Police 101 service. It is often difficult to get through and calls can take a long time to be answered. Peter Crowcroft acknowledged that there have been difficulties due to increased calls for support during Covid. The service is recruiting more handlers. The amount of data is monitored weekly.
- Ruth Hampshire asked if there was any advice on how to contact other NW groups. Clare suggested checking the Our Watch website or the local PCSO.
- Bernie Mitchell asked about improved communications as they live on the edge of the area and often feel isolated. Peter Crowcroft will follow up and PCC David Keane will arrange a meeting with Bernie to discuss issues.
- Tony Peake shared contact details of Red Cross support services. Their free national support line (0808 196 3651) is open 7 days a week 10am to 6pm for advice, financial support and help with essential items.

8. Reflections and Meeting Close by Cheshire Police and Crime Commissioner David Keane.

David complemented the CNWA team for running this meeting so efficiently. He also thanked all volunteers for their valuable contribution to the work of Neighbourhood Watch especially at this time when statutory services are stretched with the current crisis. The work of Neighbourhood Watch coordinators helps to support members of our communities that are struggling with issues of isolation and depression. Mental Health concerns are a major issue at this time and he stressed the need for us all to work together to change lives. He thanked everyone again for their contribution in helping to keep Cheshire Safe

The AGM closed at 8.30pm.

The Chat function which ran alongside the Zoom meeting included comments from many of the attendees. Some of these comments are shown below:

- Congratulations on the new website
- Congratulations to the Award winners for their outstanding and inspiring contributions
- Congratulations to the NW team for an informative presentation