

HUMBERSIDE POLICE AUTHORITY  
**ISLE OF AXHOLME**

POLICE AUTHORITY NEIGHBOURHOOD PANEL

**Chairman:** Mrs Helen Groves

**Venue:** Belton Park Pavilion

**Date:** 18 January 2010

**Time:** 7.00pm

**A G E N D A**

1. Chairman's Introduction. To explain the purpose of the meeting and to introduce any representatives in attendance from other organisations.
2. Progress report on matters raised at previous meeting.
3. Force and Neighbourhood Policing Report.
4. Safety Partnership Report.
5. Open forum. To allow those persons present to raise matters regarding local policing, road safety and community safety issues.
6. Date, time and venue of the next meeting.

## HUMBERSIDE POLICE AUTHORITY

### Isle of Axholme Police Authority Neighbourhood Panel

**Minutes of the Public Meeting held on 28 September 2009**

**@ Althorpe and Keadby School**

Present: Helen Groves HG Police Authority Chair  
Richard Gray RG Police Authority Clerk  
Brett Ruddy BR Neighbourhood Police Inspector  
Michelle Garlick MG Neighbourhood Sgt 2478  
Peter Scott PS Head of NLC Safety Partnership

In Attendance: M Carlile Haxey PC Cllr J Briggs NLC  
A Wills Keadby PC Y Holmes George St NHWG  
E Pryce Belton CLS A Davidson George St NHWG  
K Wilson Epworth P Mortimer Epworth  
R Taylor Epworth J Levesley Epworth  
B Briggs Epworth

Apologies: no apologies offered

**Chairman's Introduction** – HG welcomed everyone who attended the meeting and thanked them for attending. She elaborated the purpose of the meeting and stated all information was summarised for C & P (Communities and Partnerships) committee at the PA.

**Update** – RG reported there were no outstanding updates from the last meeting.

**Police Report** – BR read out the police report - See separate document.

#### **Safety Partnership Report**

January to August 2009:

North Lincolnshire: 49 KSI's (compared to 88 for same period last year)  
372 Slight's (compared to 484 for same period last year)

Isle of Axholme: 4 KSI's (none of these fatal)

PS - summarised the details and mentioned the new targets for accident reduction by the department for trade. The targets are for 2010 – 2020 and are based on the average for the years 2004-08. They are expecting a further drop in KSI's of 33%, slight injuries 10%, children accidents (now includes under 18's) of 50% and Pedestrian / Cyclists of 50%. These are challenging targets and will not be easy to hit without a fundamental re-think on how we do things. A seminar for Parish and Town councillors is being held at Kingsway Centre on 22<sup>nd</sup> October to discuss this amongst other things and people are encouraged to attend.

#### **Question time**: [Questions may have been edited and abridged for space and continuity]

HG opened up the question forum asking for questions relating to traffic control or policing.

Q – Continuing problems at Kings Head Croft, ongoing, with lots of form filling, no action.

BR – Accepted what was said but unfortunately need proof for other parties involved.

There followed a discussion over a closable gate being the easiest and cheapest solution for all parties involved. PS and BR resolved to work together to see if this gate could be approved and actioned somehow. [ ]

Q – Battle green disturbances all the time, broken glass at night on bowling green, car crime. Also problems in the Furlough area. It appears to be late night revellers, police visit but only early evening when problems not so much.

BR – we are aware of issues, and we do liaise with Incident response Units that get calls to area. Calls for service in furlough area are very low.

Q – that is because it is behind the pub and not near residents but it is a childrens play area and the glass is dangerous.

Q – Northside problems not mentioned in report are you aware of them. It is the lane parallel to Church Street, the residents say they have made 8 reports, but the council is taking lots of complaints and flack regarding their lack of action

MG – I do not recall a lot of reports for northside and so many would have stood out as a pattern. It also hasn't come up at the NATS meetings.

BR – This does not ring bells with me either, it depends on timescales and what residents really mean by reporting this.

MG – I will check into this and report back to Haxey PC on my findings. [ ]

Q – George Street in Keadby is regularly blocked to vehicles because of parking, refuse collection; emergency vehicles etc cannot get down. The problem is parking at the T junction.

BR – I will bring to attention of local PCSO's to investigate and action. [ ]

Q – Is parking illegal half on the road, half on the pavement.

BR – There is no specific offence for cars parking on pavements only HGV's. Although there is an offence of obstruction, but every case has to be judged individually so no straight answer.

Q – Is there such a thing as a 112 call in Humberside, there is in Devon?

BR – no we have 999 calls and non emergency 0845 606022. There was a project for another number which some forces took up but we do not have it.

RG – The original project was for a number 101 for ALL emergency services, which would have been free like 999. A few forces such as Hampshire were the test forces, but the Government dropped it, encouraging forces to adopt a local non-emergency number instead.

Q – There was talk in the Authority of using a 0300 number as the 0845 number cost about 10p a minute.

RG – This was investigated by the force about 6 months ago but the cost to the force was excessive. They originally looked at 0800 numbers also but this would have cost the force about £1m to run which would have meant fewer resources or less Bobbies so you could have a free phone call. The local non-emergency numbers are paid for locally not nationally like 999. If you are with BT then 0845 and 0870 numbers are free now as part of your call package.

Q – Do you think safer driving has caused the reduction in accidents?

PS – Asked same question at Scunthorpe north recently. It is difficult to say what the cause is. Looking at a 3 year rolling average we are down consistently year on year. Lots of things contribute to this, lower speed limits, more enforcement, in car safety design, road improvements all help. Why such a drop this year, I have no comprehensive answer, but I wonder if the credit crunch and people driving less has helped, also the Scrappage allowance has taken some older unsafe cars off the road.

Q – Do you have statistics on the exact number of accidents caused?

PS – We only record the number of accidents with personal injuries, which are reported to the police. As a rule of thumb for every one of these there are most likely 10 non injury accidents, and for every one of these there are probably 10 near misses.

Q – My regular request is that Epworth fieldside is a rural road to a school with over 1,000 kids getting dropped off, it needs salting as it is dangerous.

PS – I will take back your request but as you know it is a choice of where you put resources. There is strict criteria for which roads get salted, and usually it is the faster road which would cause more carnage that get priority.

Q – Can observations be made at Belton School regarding the parking issues?

BR – I believe this has already been done and reported back to the council.

PS – A zebra crossing was put in several years back; it does make you wonder sometimes why they park as they do, when across the road there is plenty of parking.

Q – The problem is compounded by a doctor's surgery there as well.

Q – There is a section on Haxey website for Police updates and it is annoying when other private publications seem to get reports and we don't.

MG – I will speak with PC Starbuck who does the reports and make sure she is aware you would like a regular report. [ ]

Q – Has anymore been done about the one way / 20mph zone in Keadby?

PS – There was a meeting about this 4 weeks ago and a report and details have been sent for next council meeting in 2 weeks]

HG thanked all comers for their attendance and issues raised and confirmed the next meeting was at Haxey Memorial Hall on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

HG declared the meeting closed.

**ACTIONS LIST:**

- |    |   |    |
|----|---|----|
| 1. | PS to find out funding stream for gate at Kings Croft Car Park and work with BR and residents to get workable solution. | PS |
| 2. | MG to find out source and detail of Northside complaints and report Back to Haxey PC                                    | MG |
| 3. | PCSOs to patrol George Street area, Keadby, to investigate parking problems.  | BR |
| 4. | Contact PC Starbuck about regular reports for Haxey website   | MG |
| 5. | Book Haxey Memorial Hall, Haxey<br>1800 – 2100 on Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> January 2010                                  | PA |

**Subsequently, owing to the non-availability of Haxey Memorial Hall, the meeting venue was changed to Belton Park Pavilion.**

## Epworth Panel Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> September 2009

### Crime

The crime figures are for the last 6 months, to the end of August 2009, compared to the previous 6 month period, September 2008 to February 2009.

**Burglary to people's homes** have increased by 18% over the last 6 months. In numerical terms this means an increase of 6 crimes.

Burglary is a priority for the Division. A lot of work goes into trying to detect this type of offence both in terms of investigation and exploring all forensic opportunities and in trying to identify potential suspects. Our Divisional Intelligence Bureau links in with surrounding forces areas, particularly South Yorkshire Police and appropriate targeted activity is directed towards known suspects.

Prevention and reassurance are also important. Our traffic officers are patrolling the Isle of Axholme, particularly at night and our Roads Crime Section is also at work on the Isle.

Residents can help us reduce the number of crimes by taking precaution such as fitting good quality door and window locks and by looking out for each other, reporting any suspicious activity to the police.

9% of all Burglaries to peoples homes on the Isle of Axholme during the last 12 months were 'sneak in' type offences 'where access has been gained via an insecure door (often to the rear of the property). This is lower than other areas of North Lincolnshire and lower than I reported at our last meeting (16%) so please keep up the good work by making sure your back door is not only closed but locked too.

Better results in relation to **Vehicle Crime** in this area.

Thefts of Vehicles have decreased by 9.7% during the last 6 months and Thefts from Vehicles has reduced by 24% which is obviously good news. Please make sure you lock your vehicle when leaving it (you'd be surprised how many people don't!) don't leave items of value on view and report any suspicious people or activity to the police.

The Neighbourhood Team continue to focus on and investigate **Criminal Damage** and although we have had some successes it is disappointing to have to report an increase of 22% in this type of crime during the last 6 months. This means we had 28 more crimes than in the previous 6 month period.

Incidents of **Anti-social Behaviour** cause concern to the community and the Neighbourhood Team. A lot of effort is being put into identifying the minority of teenagers who engage in anti-social behaviour, identifying hot spot locations, by monitoring calls for service made to the police and through community contact and then targeting police patrols to those locations.

During the last 6 months calls for service relating to anti-social behaviour have increased slightly, by 2%. Frustrating, but to some extent expected, as the period does include the school summer holidays when we tend to get an increase in calls and we are encouraging people to report incidents.

#### Turning to Local Issues:

At **Axholme North Neighbourhood** the Neighbourhood team is working in the community to tackle local issues.

PCSO Wendy Frear joined the team, as promised in June. She has previously worked as a PCSO with Humberside Police in Hull so came to us fully trained. She is working with PC [REDACTED] Graham Godley and PCSO Paul Fearon and quickly getting to know the area.

The June meeting of the Neighbourhood Action Team identified St Oswalds Church at Crowle as a priority due to reports of anti-social behaviour and under age drinking in the church grounds. Attention has been given to this location. Graham and the PCSO's have been engaging with young people as well as linking in with the local Neighbourhood Watch group and our colleagues at Safer Neighbourhoods.

Residents report a significant reduction in Anti-social behaviour but the team will continue to patrol the area

Other locations at Crowle subject of regular patrols are the playing fields at Johnsons Lane and the cemetery at Mill Road. Both have been subject of calls for service relating to young people, Anti-social behaviour and drinking of alcohol. Where young people have been found with alcohol, it has been seized.

Issues of Anti-social behaviour have been reported at Windsor Road, Crowle. Joint action between the Police and North Lincolnshire Homes resulted in the eviction of a tenant and the situation has improved.

During the summer months the team has taken the opportunity to engage with local people at the many and varied events, fairs and fetes. Valuable information has been provided by members of the public and some of this resulted in the Neighbourhood Team obtaining and executing a search warrant under the Misuse of Drugs Act at an address in Crowle. Cannabis and equipment used in the cultivation of cannabis was seized and a man arrested.

On the subject of drugs, seizures from people in possession of small amounts of cannabis have taken place at Ealand and at Keadby recently.

Graham has also dealt with two 16 years olds for causing damage with yellow spray paint at Crowle and with the assistance of PCSO's several motorcycles being used on public roads without insurance or in a manner to cause nuisance have been seized.

#### **At Axholme Central Neighbourhood.**

PC Tina Starbuck and PCSO Stewart Pearson are working with local people to tackle the recurring theme of young people and Anti-social behaviour

The Kings Head Croft car park at Epworth continues to receive passing attention following complaints about nuisance caused by young people in motor vehicles and their manner of driving. We do need local people to report incidents at the time they are happening and if possible give us the registration number of vehicles involved. The team will follow this up with visits to the keepers address.

Similar problems are reported at the Belton Picnic area. Attention has been given to this location. Reports suggest some of the problem may have been dispersed to the old railway lines so Tina and Stewart are focussing their attention here too.

Battle Green and Carrside are locations causing concern to residents and the Neighbourhood Team. Here nuisance by youths, damage to vehicles and inappropriate use of vehicles have been reported. Attention is being paid by patrols and information and evidence to identify those responsible is being collated.

A new Neighbourhood Watch Group has been established at Stool Close Belton and Tina and Stewart are assisting with the scheme and tackling issues arising

Mini motorcycles have again been causing problems, a danger and nuisance at Epworth. Stewart and PCSO Sue Fahy recently spotted one being ridden on fields and public footpaths at Burnham Road. They were able to stop it when it emerged onto the A161 and it was seized.

Stewart and Sue were also instrumental in identifying a woman who made off from a petrol station at Epworth without paying. A few days after the offence they saw the vehicle and with the support of police officers, the matter was resolved.

#### **On Axholme South Neighbourhood;**

Tina and PCSO Sue Fahy continue to focus on Owston Ferry as a result of concerns raised by residents about the behaviour of young people making them feel frightened and intimidated. Visits are being made to the village and

with support from Safer Neighbourhoods residents are being spoken to ~~clearing~~ expressing their views on the issues impacting on them. This helps us identify the problem and work on a solution.

Young people are being spoken to by PCSO and advised about the impact their behaviour can have on others in the community. During a stop check of teenagers recently one was found to be in possession of cannabis. He was dealt with by police colleagues.

The playing field at Westwoodside has been subject of targeted patrols following reports of damage being caused to play equipment and motor scooters being used on the grassed area whilst children were playing there. Anyone with information as to who is responsible, please contact the Neighbourhood Team.

The team has visited and supported many community events throughout the summer, taking the opportunity to engage with local people. Sue was delighted to officially open the vvroot Fest in July and judge many of the competitions, especially the cake stall.

Although a lot of my report refers to anti-social behaviour and teenagers it is fair to say that the vast majority of young people on the Isle of Axholme are responsible members of the community. This is evident from the numbers who take part in Life Styles projects and from the interaction the Neighbourhood Team has with them. It is the minority of young people who cause the problems and it is those whom we need to focus on.

PC Mick Tune is the Divisions Youth Diversion Officers. He is doing a lot of work with partner agencies seeking to identify what activities are available for young people and how they can be further developed and coordinated to meet the needs of the community.

A reminder about opportunities to meet members of the Neighbourhood Team:

Why not come along to a Police Surgery held on the first Monday of each month at the Crowle Resource centre ( 2 until 3 pm ) and at Haxey Library ( 3 til 4 pm ) for a chat or to raise local concerns.

Finally, I am please to introduce Michelle Garlick who took up the post of Neighbourhood Sergeant in June and is supporting and directing the Neighbourhood Team.