
KATESGROVE NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP

Date & time of meeting: 4th June 2009, 7pm.

Location: New Christ Church Primary School, Milman Road, Reading, RG2 0AY

Chair: Kath Langdale (KLA).

Present: PCSO Kayleigh Baker (PKB), David Boobier (DBO), Mark Cutler (MCU), Riann Davies (RDA), PCSO Rod Holmes (PRH), Louise Keane (LKE), PS Pete Moody (SPM), PC Richard Noone (PRN), James Schlackman (JSC), Maria Soulsby (MSO), Cllr. Warren Swaine (WSW).

Apologies: Uda Chalk (UCH), Peter Kennedy (PKE), Mary McManus (MMC), Carol Shepherd (CSH),.

MINUTES

1. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

KRA noted that there were too few members attending for the AGM to be held. Agreed to reschedule to 9th July.

2. CRIME STATISTICS

SPM began by noting that the neighbourhood crime survey concludes on Sunday 7th June. 600 surveys were distributed via schools, more than 400 by PCSOs, and a further 100 by the NAG, which were distributed by PKE and CSH at an open day at Waterloo Meadows.

SPM presented crime statistics for Katesgrove as published on the [Thames Valley Police website](#).

Vehicle crime overall is significantly down compared to 2008 figures. This is still being worked on as a neighbourhood priority until the survey concludes and any different priority is identified.

Anti-social behaviour is also down compared to last year. This result has been mirrored in a drop in reports to the Reading Anti-Social Behaviour Action Group (ASBAG).

SPM stressed that figures only reflect reported crime, and urged continued reporting to Thames Valley Police on **08458 505505**

SPM was asked by KLA to request graffiti incidence figures from PC Katy Lucas, Neighbourhood ASB Support Officer.¹

WSW noted that the graffiti wall project discussed at previous NAG meetings is still on the Safer Reading Forum agenda.

SPM reported that warrants continue to be executed across Reading, with local arrests for possession of drugs and stolen property.

A query on the use of quad bikes was raised. SPM explained that helmets are not required by law for quad bike users, though the normal car requirements of number plates, road tax, driver's licence, and insurance are.

Various reports of illegal quad bike use were reported from several NAG members. SPM reported that Thames Valley Police are proactively checking insurance and licence details of riders. JSC queried the category of drivers licence required. SPM replied that a car driver's licence is necessary, not a motorbike licence.

DBO queried the situation following a recent mugging in the Waterloo Meadows area. TVP acknowledged the report but reported that no trend had been observed and follow-up patrols had not noted anything suspicious in the area.

3. RECENT NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENTS

PRH reported on recent neighbourhood activity by himself and PKB. This focused on:

- The aforementioned surveys.
- Traffic management duties in the Whitley Street area. 12 vehicles have recently been removed from the area, mostly from Mount Street, and generally for lack of road tax.
- A 'Section 59' order served on the rider of a motorbike who has been harassing the Elizabeth Walk area with antisocial riding.
- Patrols behind and in the area surrounding St. Giles' Church.
- Beggars on Southampton Street, two of which have been made subject to Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs).
- Car security talks at Green Park.

PRH reported that most of the Persistent Prolific Offenders (PPOs) in the area are currently serving custodial sentences and therefore not currently active in the area.

MSO suggested to PRH that he could be involved in a mini-NAG set up within the primary school. This was given wholehearted backing by Thames Valley Police.

WSW noted that Cllr Gareth Epps is now the Liberal Democrat crime spokesman for Reading, and was seeking for the small publicity budget that has been devolved to NAGs to be used to feed back on issues reported by residents to the council, which is not undertaken at present. This was perceived to be an area of dissatisfaction for residents who reported problems but never heard if they had been resolved.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

SPM reported that Insp. Kevin Sinfield has been named Community Officer of the Year in the 2009 Community Policing Awards. Details can be found on the TVP and NAG website.

PRN reported that PRH has recently received an Area Commander's Commendation for his work throughout neighbourhoods in Reading.

It was noted that Reading 107 are keen to publicise local events at present and so could be a useful avenue for NAG publicity.

SPM reported that further work to make the Aveley Walk police office operational is being undertaken at present.

RDA passed on a request from the University of Reading Students' Union that a student member join the NAG. This was warmly accepted by the NAG.

5. NEXT MEETING

New Christ Church School, 7pm, Thursday 9th July.

AGM is scheduled for this date. JSC will produce a flyer and send to DBO for display on community notice boards, and to KLA for NAG notice boards.²

SPM sent his apologies in advance.

ACTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING

1. SPM to request graffiti incidence figures from PC Katy Lucas.
2. JSC to produce AGM flyer and send to DBO and KLA.

NOTES

** Details of some items discussed by Thames Valley Police cannot be publically minuted so as not to compromise police operations.*