**Minutes of Meeting – 12th April 2018 at The Old Court House, Bingham**

**Attendees;** David Cartledge (Flintham PC), Bev Bingham (Shelford PC), Eileen Smith (Shelford PC), Winifred Pell (Staunton Group NHW), Bob Clarke (Orston NHW), Julie Brown (Aslockton PC), Anthony Gee (Radcliffe NHW), Mary Mackie (Elton Parish Clerk), Paul Bancroft (East Bridgford PC & NHW), Rowan Bird (Mayor, Bingham) and Cllr Francis Purdue-Horan

**Apologies:** Gillian Dunn (R.O.T PC), David Griffin (Area Co-ordinator Radcliffe NHW), Karen Griffin (Radcliffe NHW), Alan R Harvey (Saxondale PM), Ann Coy (Granby PC), Maureen Stockwood (Cranmer Ward), Andrew Shelton (Bingham) and Ann Crowley (Aslockton PC)

**Matters arising from meeting 18th January 2018**

Bob Clarke gave an update on two ‘issues arising’:

* **Use of ‘999’ and ‘101’** - David Griffin and Sue Clegg had expressed the view that further education of the general public was required on the use of ‘999’ and ‘101’. Bob Clarke distributed credit card sized “useful numbers” cards to the meeting he had designed using the on-line vistaprint. These are personalised to Orston NHW and have been given to every household. The cost for 1,000 was £55.
* **Lighter nights, warmer days** - Sue Clegg and David Griffin had suggested we should consider discussing security and safety in the garden as a ‘priority’. This is dealt with later in the minutes.

**Local Crime Levels and Trends & Recent Police Activity**

PC Kelly Carlile gave a run through of recently reported incidents. When asked about trends or ‘spikes’ Inspector Berry mentioned **vehicle crime** (theft of /from & damage to) as an emerging problem.

Although cars are still being stolen following car key burglaries, apparently culprits are now using sophisticated techniques to scan electronic key fobs (“relay theft”). Five BMWs have been stolen in West Bridgeford apparently using this technique. The Force has passed this issue to the Police Intelligence Unit to investigate, to better understand the problem. This should facilitate the correct police response and appropriate security advice.

**“Relay Theft”** - Thefts typically occur in residential areas, where cars are parked relatively close to the house, especially at night. The thieves can use equipment to capture signals emitted by certain keys which are used to start new vehicles. One thief stands by the car with a transmitter, while the other stands by the house with another which picks up the signal from the key that is usually kept near the front door on a table or hook. This is then relayed to the other transmitter by the vehicle causing it to think the key is in close proximity and prompting it to open. Thieves can then drive the vehicle away and quickly replace the locks and entry devices.

Technically, any vehicle with keyless entry could be vulnerable.

Currently the **general advice** is to keep keys a safe distance from the door and consider storing them in a metal box. Aftermarket security devices would also help, including mechanical steering wheel locks and trackers.

**Power tools theft from vans** is a continuing problem. Thieves tend to target one locality and then move to another part of the county.

Mary Mackie asked if **theft of field gates** was a problem. Inspector Berry/ PC Carlile confirmed there was no evidence of this, but that it may be farmers were not bothering to report incidents. This led to a discussion on the difficulty of reporting some rural crimes via “101” as fields don’t have post codes. It was agreed it was still important to report these crimes so that new threats of crime could be shared.

**Police Restructure – Inspector Craig Berry**

The chairman allotted time for Inspector Berry to explain the local police restructure.

Inspector Berry said that after twelve months since the appointment of the new Chief Inspector the shape of the Force is **moving back in favour of local neighbourhood policing** as opposed to a ”fire brigade” type service from a central hub. The introduction of “hub” policing, or centralising operations, had been of necessity with the drastic reduction in resources. A substantial recruitment drive throughout 2018 will help facilitate the new model.

**The benefits include**:

* Local ownership and accountability
* More officers developing local knowledge of their patch
* CID and dedicated Burglary teams working from Rushcliffe
* Facilitating local projects to target, for example, local known offenders, drink drive suspects and known drug dealers
* Faster response times, and
* A more visible presence

Inspector Berry also asked delegates to encourage as many people as possible to **sign up for Neighbourhood “Alert” and Facebook**. Rushcliffe South is using Facebook increasingly to support crime detection, locate missing persons, etc...

**Progress with Priorities Agreed in January**

* **Burglary** – PC Carlile said that an ex-offender has been charged with a number of incidents in our area. Burglary continues to be a Force priority
* **Anti-social Behaviour** – The PCSOs in particular continue to deal effectively with reported incidents. Rowan Bird said there had again been a motorcycle on the rugby ground in Bingham. This seems to have been a ‘one-off’ incident. He asked if **Operation Jericho** which targets the illegal use of **‘off-road bikes’** was still operating. PC Carlile confirmed that due to lack of money it was not currently active.

**Hare coursing** was mentioned and PC Carlile confirmed Operation Galileo, run by Lincolnshire Police, continues to focus on this problem. PC Carlile said that Nottinghamshire Police and the Nottingham Police and Crime Commissioner produce **news bulletins to update rural communities** about police activity in the county. (To sign up for this newsletter write to “nopcc@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk” or access the web page “<https://www.nottsruralwatch.co.uk/about.html>”)

* **Speeding** – Bob Clarke asked if we could receive regular data on police activity giving locations, number of incidents, etc. PC Carlile confirmed this information was available and could be provided. Bob asked that this information be sent to him initially for distribution.

**Actions/ Priorities for the next three months**

Attendees were asked to raise any concerns affecting their localities. The following were the main ones:

* **Elton** – Concern expressed that **Police Liaison School Officers** had been withdrawn. Inspector Berry said there were now 6, involved with city schools. PC Carlile said the beat team do work with schools but need their cooperation. They need to be invited.

Builders vans **parked dangerously** on Sutton Lane. PC Carlile said the police will visit.

* **Shelford** – **Suspicious vehicle continue to use Stoke Ferry Lane (drugs?)**. This information should be passed to PCSO David Wesson
* **Flintham – School pick up and parking**. David Cartledge asked if support was available from a PCSO to speak with the school. PCSO David Wesson should be contacted.

**Future Priorities**

The following were agreed as priorities for the next 3 months:

* **Burglary** – Specifically concentrating on lighter nights/ warmer weather, outbuildings and gardens. Rowan Bird provided the following web site for access to relevant information [www.thecrimepreventioHYPERLINK "http://www.thecrimepreventionwebsite.com/"nHYPERLINK "http://www.thecrimepreventionwebsite.com/"website.com](http://www.thecrimepreventionwebsite.com/)
* **Vehicle crime** – Theft of and from vehicles
* **Anti-social Behaviour**

**Date of the Next Meeting**

**Thursday 26th July 2018 at 7pm. Venue The Grange, Radcliffe-on-Trent**

**Note Ends**