

Town Clerk | Swaffham Town Council

From: Makepeace, James <Ivor.Makepeace@norfolk.police.uk>
Sent: 19 February 2021 21:23
To: Town Clerk | Swaffham Town Council
Cc: Gilluley, Paula; Howes, Matthew; Abbs, Amie; Provar, Louis
Subject: RE: Letter to Inspector Makepeace

Dear Mr Bishop,

We have received another representation from the local community about the posting of PC Higgins and I forward to you the response to that communication below from our Superintendent Lou Provar.

"I'm grateful to hear of the excellent work that the Constabulary has been able to achieve with your council, particularly through the efforts of Pc Higgins.

Whilst I won't be drawn on the specific reasons for the change to your local beat manager, you have my assurance that there will be no loss of service to the detriment of the local partnership between ourselves.

A new Beat Manager will shortly be announced, and I will ensure they link into your committee promptly, but in the meantime you have Sgt Matt Howes direct email (copied in) who is the Local Policing Team Sergeant. Sgt Howes will ensure a continuity of effort that Pc Higgins has undertaken with yourselves will continue.

I'm grateful for you taking the time to write with such enthusiasm for what has been achieved, and I reflect only with optimism for what is to come, even if that may at this stage bring you some concern."

Change is a nature of modern policing and whilst we aim for stability in our community posts, change is sometimes unavoidable.

I am sure that you will find an improved level of service as I have increased the beat manager post in Swaffham to two officers.

Thank you for your communication.

Sincerely



Inspector James Makepeace 1540

Local Policing Commander Breckland North
Dereham Police Station
Commercial Road
Dereham
Norfolk
NR19 1AE

Tel: 101

THE SPIRIT OF POLICING

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From: Town Clerk | Swaffham Town Council <townclerk@swaffhamtowncouncil.gov.uk>

Sent: 19 February 2021 12:55

To: Gilluley, Paula <Paula.Gilluley@norfolk.police.uk>

Subject: Letter to Inspector Makepeace

Dear Paula,

Please can you forward this e-mail to Inspector Makepeace, as my investigation to try and find a direct e-mail address anywhere has failed. If you could just acknowledge that this has been done – thank you. Richard Bishop, Town Clerk, Swaffham Town Council.

For the Attn of Inspector James Makepeace:

Dear Inspector Makepeace,

First of all apologies for having to write to you in this way, but there are just no direct contact details publicly available, so I do hope this reaches you safely.

Swaffham Town Council would like to express their disappointment at the re-location away from Swaffham of our local PC 470 Jo Higgins after some 6 years in her position. Jo's knowledge of the Town and the area in general is second to none, in regard to police matters and how to deal with issues where our responsibilities occasionally cross over. She has been a joy to work with and despite her lack of height and friendly demeanour, her reputation has grown in stature in her time here, she leaves such large shoes to fill in our community. The Council do not know the reasoning or rationale behind her sudden departure, and would like you to re-consider this re-location, unless this is for some form of promotion, in which case they would understand.

Working in such troubling times, we find ourselves in the middle of a global pandemic, and the Town Council would value Jo's presence in the Town as something like normality is restored in the remainder of this year and in the foreseeable future. There will inevitably be circumstances arise where her knowledge of the Town and the area, would be of great benefit. The Town Council commend Jo's work ethic and commitment to the Town, as she certainly had her finger on the pulse of what is happening on her patch as the Beat Officer.

In conclusion, we don't want to lose her as the Swaffham Beat Officer and the Town Council would like you to reinstate her in her rightful place back at the new Swaffham Police Station.

Best regards,

Richard Bishop
Town Clerk





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