

# NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

## NORTH SHROPSHIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD & FARM WATCH ASSOCIATION

**MINUTES of the Co-ordinators' meeting held on Thursday 19th January 2017  
At the Tern Hill Hall Hotel at 7.30 p.m.**

**PRESENT were:** Alison Chadwick (Whixall, Hollinwood & Sandybank); Ray Hewitt (The Firs, Bryn Estyn), Hazel Roberts (The Fires & Bryn Estyn); Janet Nowill (Coton); Pete Pring (Valley View, Mkt Drayton); Andrew & Jackie Carter, (Mytton Estate, Shawbury); Roger Ashton (Aston/Lee Brockhurst); Tony Savil (Higher Heath); Herbert Skitt (Towers Drive); Len Hawkins (Newtown); Ted Scales (Waterside Drive, Market Drayton); Eric Balchin (Hinstock South); John McGuinness (Hinstock);  
**New Coordinators:** Graham Turnbull (Whixall, Hollinwood & Sandybank); Jean Pennie (Norton-in-Hales); Val Povall (Minute Taker).

**APOLOGIES received from:** Dave Roberts (Chairman), Debbie Scales (Waterside Drive, Market Drayton), Paul Johnson (Eckford Park, Wem), Steve Corbishley (Mill Lane, Higher Heath).

**CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME:** The Vice Chairman, John McGuinness welcomed those present.

### MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS CO-ORDINATORS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record and signed accordingly.

### MATTERS ARISING:

John McGuinness said that nothing had happened with regard Mick Sturland and Smartwater's 'Crime Doesn't Pay' initiative. Police manpower is preventing anything happening at the moment. He said that physical crime has gone down in the area. He asked Andrew Carter about progress in trying to make Shawbury a Smartwater Village. Andrew said the Parish Council have to raise about £10,000 but that they are still short of funds and they are trying ascertain how much has actually been raised.

### GUEST SPEAKER

John McGuinness then introduced the Speaker Rob Gittins of the Computer Co. who was speaking about Basic Computer Security and emailing Protocols. Cyber Crime is big business for criminals now. He spelt out how some programmes can be affected by Adware & Adware Pro which downloads Ads that pop up on screen, aiming to collect information that can invite infections to your computer.

It was emphasised how important it is to have a fully paid up and fully updated Antivirus and Internet Security with Firewall software installed (it scans the computer and removes or quarantines malware). You only need one of each otherwise they will conflict with each other. Also Windows Updates protect and act like vaccines so need to be kept up to date.

Be wary of opening links on unsolicited emails, especially zip files, they may contain viruses or other programs that may harm your computer. To verify secure web sites you can hover over the address with the cursor to see the true sender. Any emails from banks asking you to contact them, treat with suspicion and do not click links. Open another window and visit your banks website using your normal method.

When using Google, bookmark any important original websites you use regularly in favourites. Safe sites on Google have green circle with white tick in it.

For strong passwords – use upper and lower case, figures and symbols, £ sign not on foreign keyboards! Sample: Ne!ghB0urHOODW\*tch £.

Social Media tips: Use caution, avoid links and assume everything you put on social networks is permanent. Don't allow access to address book. Check profile to make sure only the people you want to see your posts see them.

Rob received and answered lots of questions on the subject.

## **PROPOSED CHANGE TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS REQUIRED TO FORM A QUORUM FROM FIFTEEN TO TEN**

Andrew Carter explained to the meeting that because of the fall in numbers attending meetings it was not always possible to have the required number to be quorate. He gave as an example the last Annual General Meeting, when it was not possible to vote on any changes because we did not have fifteen members present. To change the Constitution a vote needed to be taken and those present were in favour of reducing the number of members required. Andrew will report to the Charity Commission that a vote has taken place and hopefully the amendment will be in place for the AGM on 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

## **CO-ORDINATORS CORNER**

John McGuinness explained to the new members present about Smartwater and how it works. Members mingled and discussed the evening's talk having found it very interesting and informative.

## **AOB**

No items under AOB.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

## **DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS**

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 7.30 - Last meeting of the Management Committee.

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 7.30 - Annual General Meeting