

# NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

## NORTH SHROPSHIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD & FARM WATCH ASSOCIATION

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on Thursday 22nd March 2018 at the Tern Hill Hotel at 7.30 pm

#### **PRESENT were:**

Dave Roberts (Chairperson), Andrew Carter (Mytton Est, Shawbury), Graham Turnbull (Hollinwood, Whixall), Janet Nowill (Coton), Paul Johnson (Eckford Park/Mill Street, Wem), Herbie Skitt (Towers Drive, Higher Heath), Graham Sturrock & Alan Jones (Mill Lane, Higher Heath), Jean Pennie (Norton in Hales Parish), Roger Ashton (Aston/Lee Brockhurst), David Haynes (Christ Church Lane, Mkt Drayton), Brenda & Pete Pring (Valley View Mkt Drayton), Ted Scales (Waterside Drive, Mkt Drayton), Jackie Carter (Minute Taker).

Also present was PC Dave Carpenter (Guest Speaker).

#### **1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME**

The Chairman welcomed those present.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Catrina Cornwall (Adderley), David Edge (Loppington), Don & Vicki Thorne (Wem), Debbie Scales (Market Drayton), Tony Savil. Sgt Claire Greenaway (West Mercia Safer Neighbourhood Team). PC Alan Ambrose popped in to make his apologies.

#### **3. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on 23rd March 2017:**

The Minutes had been sent out by email and read by those present. It was proposed that these be accepted as a true record. It was proposed by Andrew Carter, seconded by Graham Turnbull, all in favour.

#### **4. MATTERS ARISING:**

There were no matters arising from the previous Minutes.

#### **5. GUEST SPEAKER – Meet your Local Safer Neighbourhood Team**

PC Dave Carpenter made apologies for Sgt Claire Greenaway being unable to attend and PC Alan Ambrose who was detained at an incident. He opened by requesting questions which he did his best to answer. There was frustration that coordinators had no feedback from police on crimes in their area, usually finding out on village social media or being told by locals about burglaries, etc. It was embarrassing as coordinator to be last to know and unable to reassure members that police were investigating. As police resources are stretched it would be to their advantage to liaise with Neighbourhood Watch. Lots of questions were CMS related, it not being user friendly, patchy and some reports irrelevant. He found it difficult to answer these questions as they have no liaison with CMS. He said getting in touch with PCC might help with these issues.

It was also mentioned that online forms for reporting motoring incidents not user friendly to get successful prosecution needs witnesses/camera footage, not one word against another!

Chairman thanked him for coming along.

## **6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ON THE YEAR 2017 - 2018**

The Chairman, Dave Roberts, gave his report on 2017/2018 as follows: We had quite a good year with a varied and interesting mix of speakers coming to coordinators meetings.

At the AGM last year we had Clive and Jackie Dyer from Shropshire Wildlife Trust, who provided us with an insight as to the trusts activities and the number of sites they owned and managed. The 19<sup>th</sup> October 2017 meeting we had no speaker, so decided to introduce a Coordinators Corner which was thrown open to all to have open discussions on problems, tips and experiences. Due to its success it is to become a regular feature at meetings.

On 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018, Alison Teece from Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service gave an informative talk on fire safety in the home.

At the same meeting we met members of the police Safer Neighbourhood Team who came along to introduce themselves. They promised closer liaison with us in the future.

He highlighted the frustration of trying to find and obtain the services of interesting speakers and asked that if anyone has a particular subject they would like brought up at a meeting, or knows of someone who could come and give us a talk of interest, to please let us know. Some speakers may want a small fee or donation to their charity. We do have funds with which to accommodate this eventuality.

Although at the beginning he said we had had quite a good year, it was also a year tinged with sadness due to the death of our long serving member and Vice Chair John McGuinness on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

Steve Corbishley who managed our website has now left to live in Llandudno. However Graham Turnbull has taken on the mantle and is doing a sterling job updating and modernising the website to make it easier to access and navigate. Our thanks go to him.

In order to change the quorum for voting from 15 to 10, members were polled and it was agreed. This was submitted to the Charities Commission for implementation and accepted.

At the Management meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2017 it was agreed to purchase 50 Alarmed Padlocks and to subsidise the sale price to members. Anyone interested please speak to either Andrew or Jackie.

It was felt that we were not receiving the support from the West Mercia Police that we should expect and to that end Jackie sent a letter to John Campion the Police & Crime Commissioner. In it she also voiced concerns over the CMS system which is ineffectual. The letter would appear to have had some effect as it has been passed to the Watch Scheme Review Officer Gary Shephard and the Business & Rural Crime officer Phillipa Jackman-Day with instruction to liaise with us.

Finally, a bit like Burke & Hare we need bodies! Bodies to fill vacancies, become coordinators and new members. He appreciated we are all becoming time poor with so many demands being made on each and every one of us. However, lack of bodies all round can and will lead to our eventual decline over time which no-one would like to see.

In closing he said a big thank you to all the coordinators and committee members and for all the unpaid hours of work carried out over the last year and thanked everyone in advance for the coming year.

## **7. WEB SITE**

Graham Turnbull brought his laptop along to show us the improvements to the Website. It can be used by coordinators, members and those wishing to join. It shows where schemes are, gives lots of security tips, details of events, news and special offers (padlocks). He has already had success in signing up a new coordinator through the site. He asks us all to go to the website (Google: 'North Shropshire Neighbourhood' and select the Hugo Fox site) then sign up for News,

Events and Offers which will be emailed out automatically. The site is secure with mutual links to Crime Prevention Websites.

## 8. TREASURERS REPORT

The Treasurer Andrew Carter went through the copy of the accounts which had been handed out. There were no queries. Andrew Carter said that a vote of thanks should be given to Alan Denison for auditing the account, this was proposed by Roger Ashton and seconded by Paul Johnson – all were in favour. As an aside Andrew mentioned that we have 15 padlocks left in stock.

## 9. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

POSITION	ELECTED	PROPOSER/SECONDER
Chairperson	Dave Roberts	Andrew Carter/Pete Pring
Vice-chairperson	<b>Vacant</b>	
Secretary	Jackie Carter	Andrew Carter/Ted Scales
Treasurer	Andrew Carter	Roger Ashton/Graham Turnbull
Membership Secretary	Debbie Scales	Andrew Carter/Graham Sturrock
Web Site Managers	Graham Turnbull	Janet Nowill/Graham Sturrock
Farm Watch Reps	Richard Edwards Roger Ashton	Graham Turnbull/Janet Nowill Andrew Carter/Paul Johnson
Association Reps	Graham Turnbull Jackie Carter Andrew Carter	Ted Scales/Pete Pring
Co-opted Members	Ted Scales Graham Sturrock	Andrew Carter/Graham Turnbull
Minutes Secretary	Val Povall	Jackie Carter/Andrew Carter

All members agreed to the above nominations.

## 10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Rural and Business Crime Officer, Philippa Jackman-Day has asked to come to the Management meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> May and the Coordinators meeting 25<sup>th</sup> October.

Graham Turnbull asked about the Public Liability Insurance. Andrew stated that we are covered by Our Watch, due for renewal 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018. Andrew will let Graham know when it renews. Graham also asked if all our schemes are registered with Our Watch as he is having trouble registering.

The West Mercia NHW have their AGM on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018. Association reps will attend and hopefully be able to get some information on issues that have been raised.

On the subject of the new Data Protection Regulation, we should be able to cut and paste the information from the Our Watch Website when they put it on.

## **11. DATES OF NEXT MEETING**

Next Management meeting Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May

Next Coordinators meeting Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm