



Minutes for 10/04/18
Held at
Finchampstead Baptist Church Centre - Library

Attendees-

Rob Stanton (RS)	(WBC Councillor & Wokingham Mayor) - Chair of FinchNAG
Steve Bromley (SBro)	(FPC)
Simon Weeks (SW)	(FPC)
Roger Woof (RW)	(FPC)
PCSO Marie Graham (MG)	(TVP)
Stephen Eddy (SE)	(Resident)
Helen Folly (HF)	(Resident)
Wendy Harcourt (WH)	(Resident & Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator)
Peter Jansen (PJ)	(Resident)
Julie McLemore (JL)	(Resident)
Betty Mold (BM)	(Resident)
Mark Tompkinson (MT)	Community Warden

1. Apologies –

Richard Rampton (RR)	(FPC)
Rev Hannah Higginson (HH)	(St James Church)
Joyce Stoner (JS)	(WBC) Engagement Support Officer
John Folly (JF)	(Resident)
Jennie Grieve (JG)	(Community Development Worker – WBC)
Barbara Wojna (BW)	(Nine Mile Ride School Governors)
Inspector Al Lloyd (AL)	(TVP)
Sgt Tim Woolford	(TVP)
PC Andy Roberts	(TVP)
Karen Collins (KC)	(TVP) – Minute taker

2. Minutes from 6 February 2018 were approved as an accurate record.

3. Matters arising

Updates to items and actions raised in the previous meeting.

- a. Confirm signatories on HSBC bank account are RS, SW and SBro

4. Thames Valley Police update – MG

Apologies from AL who had to attend an emergency meeting in Earley. There has been a spike in car crime especially theft of tools from vans and an operation is underway, including plain clothes officers to tackle this. The spate of burglaries over the Winter is tailing off. This tends to be seasonal and is fuelled by the release of offenders before the Christmas period who then go on to re-offend in spite of many good rehabilitation programmes in prison. MG has been holding crime prevention sessions for neighbours in the homes of people who have been burgled. These are difficult to set up but highly effective. Drugs are an ongoing problem. RS asked how the NAG could best help the police. MG said that the most important thing was for the public to provide intelligence, especially reporting index numbers of vehicles acting suspiciously. Any CCTV/Dashcam footage is even better. This could be by email to FinchampsteadNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk, phoning 101 or text to MG on 07837 095543.

Alternatively, you can give information anonymously by calling Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. No personal details are asked for or recorded so you will not attend court.

101 calls go to a call centre but are then logged and sent on to the appropriate local police force. Anything that NAG can do to get more people to provide intelligence would be really useful. WH reported that she had recently seen two instances of shoplifting at the One Stop which were reported but police did not attend. MG explained that police would not always attend unless this would provide further evidence but would concentrate on solving the crime. SE reported that he had seen some good results from reporting suspicious vehicle activities to 101 and had been given some feedback on the status of vehicles at the time. SW said that theft of lead from rooves was also becoming common. MG had also had lead theft reported at one of her crime prevention meetings.

5. PPCF grant applications

Both NAG and FPC grant applications were unsuccessful. SBro had obtained information about the successful applicants which were largely crime prevention programmes including Free legal advice group for domestic violence, Twyford Youth and Community centre and West Berks CAB. As this is a new fund the criteria may change going forward.

MG asked if there was any funding available to support Alcohol and Drug rehabilitation sessions in Finchampstead and offered to arrange for organisers of such sessions to come and talk to the NAG. Funding was chiefly necessary to provide room hire. SW suggested that we use our contacts to try and get free rooms at the Memorial Hall, Ratepayers Hall, FBC, St Mary and St John's Centre, Community House and St James's Church Centre. MT will talk to the Community House and provide MG with details of WUC who may provide funding. SBro offered to look into providing free room on Sunday evenings at Ratepayers Hall.

Actions: MT to investigate use of the Community House & funding, and SBro to investigate use of the Ratepayers Hall for weekly Alcohol and Drug re-habilitation meetings.

6. Road traffic matters

- a. SBro advised that there have been 3 notable SID sessions since the last meeting. Longwater Road 33 vehicles reported, Park Lane 35 vehicles reported and Nine Mile Ride (near White Horse Lane) 54 Vehicles reported. The 2 latter locations are in the area where speed limit has recently been lowered to 30mph so SBro is treating this as an education process, though TVP have offered extra enforcement activity. WBC have deployed portable VAS signs and FPC have ordered two pole mounted SIDs which could be used there. SBro has also suggested that WBC install road signs advising that a change in speed limit is in place, but no response yet.
- b. We are still waiting for results of a long-term proposal for WBC to re-configure existing VAS signs. Traffic monitoring shows that speeding on Finchampstead Road at the Surgery has reduced in the early mornings which is encouraging.
- c. FPC consultation has shown that Traffic/ Road Safety issues are a top priority. Unfortunately, it also shows a lack of awareness of the efforts that FPC and the NAG are making. FPC have now issued a Road Safety leaflet and this has also been placed on their Web Site. RS asked what the NAG should do to publicise its activities. SBro suggested that we could use the FPC Road Safety leaflet at any events we attend and should look at producing a NAG leaflet explaining all our other activities. RS and SBro will look into this.
- d. RS asked if the NAG Web Site was "up to date" and SBro explained that it only contained core information which was not really subject to change. He would be happy to put up any content that members provide. RS questioned what should be done with the web site in future?
- e. HF asked why speed roundels could not be put on Nash Grove lane. SBro replied that Highways England state that roundels cannot be used in 30mph lit areas. He promised to chase WBC for the results of their 2017 traffic statistics when the WBC VAS signs were deployed in Nash Grove lane.

Actions: RS & SBro to investigate producing a NAG information leaflet
SBro to ask WBC highways for Nash Grove Lane statistics when they last deployed their VAS signs



7. Feedback on and plans for events

The Litter Pick Planned for March 18th was called off due to snow. Some areas including The Village and Heath Ride went ahead the following week. Numbers taking part were understandably reduced as they were across the Borough. Some felt that publicity for the event had been less visible this year and in some areas the quantity of litter seemed to have reduced. RS stated that the litter pick needed to be boosted next year.

The FPC litter warden Roger Long was commended by SE for his work on Sandhurst Road. The date for the Family Fun Day at FBC is the 8th of August and Finchampstead Village Fete is on the 16th of June. Volunteers to represent the NAG on both days are needed.

8. General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

The NAG will have to comply with these new regulations which come into force on the 25th of May. RS will send a form to all members for them to sign.

Action: RS to contact all NAG members regarding use of their contact details to receive information from the NAG

9. Any other business

- a. SW gave an update on progress with California Crossroads re-development. Design work has started and a budget of £5.1 million has been allocated to the project which will be carried out in 2020/21.
- b. SBro reported that FPC have proposed that the condition of footways, road signs and kerbsides be included in the workplan for WBC's Overview and Scrutiny Committee. They would welcome reports on problem areas from members of the public.
- c. SE asked if there was any possibility of re-opening the "missing" stretch of Bridleway 34 as this blocks a circular route. RW and SW explained the background to the Right of Way being extinguished and that FPC had tried unsuccessfully last year to get landowner agreement to open an alternative route.

10. Future meeting dates

Tuesday 5 June – RS unavailable but SW will chair the meeting
Tuesday 4 September
Tuesday 6 November.

The meeting ended at 9:18