



Minutes for 06/11/18
Held at
Finchampstead Baptist Church Centre – Waverley Room

Attendees-

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| Rob Stanton (RS) | (WBC Councillor & Wokingham Mayor) - Chair of FinchNAG |
| Steve Bromley (SBro) | (FPC – acting secretary) |
| Peter Jansen (PJ) | (Resident) |
| Helen Folly (HF) | (Resident) |
| Jennie Grieve (JG) | (Community Engagement Officer WBC) |
| Wendy Harcourt (WH) | (Resident & Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator) |
| Betty Mold (BM) | (Resident) |
| Barbara Wojna (BW) | (Nine Mile Ride School Governors) |
| Stephen Eddy (SE) | (Resident) |
| PCSO Patrick Glenister (PG) | (TVP) |
| PCSO Craig Boyd (CB) | (TVP) |
| Karen Collins (KC) | (TVP) – Minute taker |

Apologies –

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Rod Clay (RC) | (Resident) |
| Richard Rampton (RR) | (FPC) |
| Simon Weeks (SW) | (FPC) |
| Roger Woof (RW) | (FPC) |

2. **Minutes** from 4 September 2018 were approved as an accurate record and signed accordingly.

3. **Matters Arising** - Updates to items and actions raised in the previous meeting.

a. Litter pick 2019

The FBC litter pick date has been set for 17th March 2019 and the borough wide pick has been set for 23rd & 24th March. SBro clarified that RR arranges the Gorse Ride litter pick and SW organises the litter pick in the village. (Post meeting note: The Village litter pick is 24th March 2019)

b. Community Fun Day 8 August 2018

PJ asked for confirmation of how many surveys were taken and SBro confirmed there were 58. PJ said he was surprised at how highly the issue of congestion scored. The NAG members commented that the buses in the area are often empty. SE pointed out that they do not remain empty once they leave the local area.

4. **Thames Valley Police update** - PCSOs Patrick Glenister and Craig Boyd.

CB advised that the recent murder had been reported on the local news and this included the latest available information, while PG advised that Nine Mile Ride may be closed for several days. SE advised there is a rumour that the murder was connected to the previous murder in the area. KC read out the Thames Valley Alert which had been sent regarding the incident and PG and CB advised they had no further information to add.

PG mentioned there had been some recent anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the area and the team are proactively dealing with incidents which included kids throwing eggs at vehicles and houses, and bonfires being lit in alleyways. He advised the ASB is mainly concentrated in the Gorse Ride area which is on their patrol plans and the team perform visible patrols there at least once a day either on foot or by



car when on duty. A letter drop was carried out recently to the whole estate asking whether anyone would like to provide information on who is perpetrating the ASB.

RS asked whether the Neighbourhood policing team were happy that sufficient action was being taken over the issue. PG advised that many of the perpetrators were youths and it has always been an ongoing issue. JG advised that the council have discussed making people more aware that ASB can affect their tenancies and that people can make an entirely confidential report to avoid reprisals. The council have many powers to deal with ASB, but don't always use them. JG advised she would speak to her colleagues regarding this issue.

PG and CB confirmed that Wokingham Police Station is now closed leaving Loddon Valley and Bracknell as the main stations in the area.

SE asked where there was any further update on the collision at the Park Lane / Reading Road junction. SBro advised what was posted on social media, that one van travelling down Park Lane failed to stop at the junction with Reading Road and crashed into the side of another van travelling along Reading Road. The three youths in the offending van ran away from the accident. A third vehicle also suffered minor damage.

PG and CB assured the members that the team are doing their best to deal with all the issues in the area and the crime rate is still low in Finchampstead.

JG to speak to her colleagues at the council regarding dealing with ASB.

5. Road Traffic matters

SBro advised that they had just released the next three-month Speed Watch rota and he wanted to thank all the volunteers for filling up the rota so quickly. He reported that the worst current speeding hotspot is down the end of Nine Mile Ride going into Park Lane where the speed limit has been reduced from 40mph to 30mph last October. SE mentioned that he sends a polite email to any companies whose vans are reported during Community Speed Watch sessions.

SBro advised that the pole mounted Speed Indication Devices (PSIDs) have been successful in reducing speed by up to 2mph wherever they have been deployed. RS advised he would like to write to Supt. Shaun Virtue regarding obtaining police support with the speeding issue on NMR. RS thanked SBro for all the work he has done on this issue.

RS to write to Supt. Shaun Virtue regarding police support with the speeding issues on NMR.

Recent hourly Speed watch sessions showed: B3430 NMR (nr 40/42) 60 vehicles reported between 17:00 & 18:00, B3430 NMR (nr California CP) 37 vehicles reported between 12:00 & 13:00, B3430 NMR (nr 114 WB) 33 vehicles reported between 14:00 & 15:00 and B3430 NMR (nr Johnson Drive) 33 vehicles reported between 16:00 & 17:00. There was one session on the B3430 NMR (nr 40/42) where 25 vehicles were reported during ½ an hour between 19:30 & 18:00 before failing light curtailed the session – equivalent to 50/hour.

6. Future projects and priorities

JG advised she felt that the entrance into the Red Oak stores on the California Crossroads was dangerous. SBro mentioned there is likely to be a public consultation on the roundabout due to the new developments and that California crossroads may be turned into a shared space. JG mentioned that blind and visually impaired people with guide dogs are having to get their dogs retrained to use shared spaces. SBro advised that the visually impaired are being taken into consideration with the design of the shared space solution.

RS advised that the area's litter picks have been an amazing success over the years. SBro confirmed that the FBC advertised and have hired two new Litter Wardens to cover the area as the old litter warden - Roger Long is currently off for an extended sick leave period.

7. Any other business

- a. WH reported that the hedge and tree in Woodside Close need to be trimmed back. SBro advised the NAG members that they need to report these issues directly to WBC. WH advised it has been reported 4 times already. RS asked her to write to Peter Baveystock copying RS in and report the issue again.

WH to write to Peter Baveystock copying RS.

- b. JG advised the regeneration of Gorse Ride will be completed in phases and has kindly provided the following update: -

Phase 1

This project is the end of Arnett Ave including Cockayne Court.

Preparation for demolishing this area has begun. When the area is clear, WHL (Wokingham Housing Ltd) will build 10 x 3 bed houses and 2 apartment blocks consisting of 1 & 2 bed flats. The expected finish date will be around Summer 2020.

Phase 2

This is the main Gorse Ride estate and is split into 3 stages:

Phase 2a, 2b, 2c. It's still in the design stage and a planning application will be submitted in May 2019.

- **Phase 2a** will start approx **Summer 2020**. It will include Firs Close, Dart Close and some of Billing Ave.
- **Phase 2b** will start approx **2022**. It will include Orbit Close, some of Billing Ave and some of Whittle Close.
- **Phase 2c** will start approx **2025**. It will include one side of Gorse Ride South, some of Whittle Close and the rest of Billing Ave.

Phase 2 is expected to take around 8 years to complete and will provide 255 new homes. Most of the homes will be social housing but some will be available for sale. Zareena Ahmed-Shere, Project Manager, is meeting residents individually to talk about their housing needs. For example, whether people prefer a house/bungalow/flat, the number of bedrooms they need, any disabled adaptations etc.

Further information regarding the development can be found on the councils' website: -

<https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/>

The hope is that the regeneration will significantly reduce ASB and fly-tipping as well as improving the local environment.

- c. SE mentioned that the bin men are loading the recycling and general waste into the same area in the lorry. RS confirmed the recycling and blue bags are separated at the recycling centre and the blue bags are sent off for incineration at Slough, creating energy which powers most of Heathrow. RS said he would write to Peter Baveystock requesting a NAG visit to the RE3 recycling facility is arranged.

RS to write to Peter Baveystock regarding an RE3 recycling visit.

- d. BW asked where lightbulbs can be taken. RE3 was the only known place. Some of the NAG members advised they put theirs in the blue bags.

8. Future meeting dates and times

SBro advised there is a choice of a 7:30pm start in the Atrium which is very small or the California room at 7:45pm. After a brief discussion. the date for next meeting is Tuesday 8th of January 2019 at 7:45pm in the California room.

The meeting ended at 9:19pm.