

ESSEX COUNTY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TUESDAY 6th JUNE 2017

This is my last report (at the end of my second consecutive year as Chairman) for the ECNWA meeting before the AGM/Conference in July.

May I say that I very much appreciate everything that each District Co-ordinators and their Deputies have achieved in the last year, and thank them for their efforts in making better communications/relationships with not only Essex Police but also all other partners e.g.: Community Agents Essex, Crimestoppers and many others and increasing NW membership.

Special thanks to:-

Peter Salmon (Vice Chairman) for his excellent actions being our representative on the Community Agents Essex Board (replacing Roger Passfield), also with Crimestoppers, Rural Crime Forum and Victim Support.

Peter, it is appreciated.

Roger Passfield (Vice Chairman) for liaising with Community Agents Essex re Message in a Bottle and also arranging the bulk purchases of Neighbourhood Watch items e.g. purse bells and card protectors.

Mike Hooper (Treasurer) for his excellent skills in balancing the books and ensuring that funding is allocated to each District as appropriate.

Colin Freeman (Event Organiser) for his superb actions in making our last year's Conference a success and also his brilliant actions regarding resurrecting Harlow.

As far as I was concerned it was a year of consolidation to ensure we have a firm base and establish a great Team going forward to a better 2017/2018.

That's how I see Essex County Neighbourhood Watch Association as Team with strong aims to keep our society safe.

In the past year I have endeavoured to consolidate the excellent relationships we have with Essex Police as together we can reduce the opportunity of crime.

Special thanks to Jenny Brouard and her team who have been tremendous in always responding to any matters and resolving any "issues" quickly and in a positive manner!

We also can be pleased with our efforts as being very proactive finding volunteers for Active Citizens and this has been acknowledged by Essex Police.

Also I have kept in regular contact with The Office of Police and Crime Commissioners who have again been so supportive to Neighbourhood Watch.

It was good to have a regular contact with Darren Horsman Deputy Director Communications & Engagement and we appreciate his attending our two monthly meetings.

In addition I have kept directly in touch regularly with National Neighbourhood Watch to ensure that any "issues" that we had at the time were resolved quickly and on a friendly basis.

Indeed they are delighted with our total commitment to them.

When you look at both our Constitution and also that of National Neighbourhood Watch there are a few issues with which we may raise "comments" but in essence I feel we all have the same objectives and want to reduce crime and protect our property more effectively and also help those who may feel vulnerable to do the same. So the more we work together with National Neighbourhood Watch the better! Finally may I please remind you all that it would be beneficial to ensure that all Groups which are on your database do register with National Neighbourhood Watch?

I was asked in my first year of being appointed about my providing a "business plan" and "objectives" and you may remember my reply.

Well now two years on I feel that we have established a stronger Essex County Neighbourhood Watch in all Districts by the excellent efforts of each and every one of you.

This has been achieved by improved relationships/communications with all partners we "work with".

My phrase for last year was "Better Communications is the Key" to a safer society.

This has been proved time and time again and more recently the success in re-establishing Harlow Neighbourhood Watch and the successes in crime incidents in which Neighbourhood Watch have been pro-active e.g. Epping. Indeed I could name many other Districts that achieved so much too.

So there was no need to have a subcommittee to talk about plans and objectives but for all of us to continue as we do and be even more effective increasing membership and keeping in touch with your local Essex Policing team and local residents-this is what we all do very well!

So thank you for your support for me as Chairman for 2016/2017.

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“Better Communications between Essex Police and Neighbourhood Watch”

Those of you who attended the meeting with ACC Mason some months ago will remember that a Sub Committee was formed to establish better communications with NW and Essex Police. There have been two meetings now and the “brief” has been widened to include ALL partners who work with Essex Police. A report is due out very soon. I am awaiting an update.

Office of Police and Crime Commissioner.

Funding.

As mentioned in an email sent on Saturday 13th May I am delighted to advise you that we have received £10.500 for the year 2017/2018. The OPCC Press Release (which I approved and added a few figures) has been in many newspapers and also on the OPCC website. Each District will receive £675 (same as last year) (not the £500 as stated in the newspaper).

National Neighbourhood Watch

The new Partnership Agreement (that you all agreed last year and also the updated version which our Executives have approved) has been signed and sent to them. Copy of the signed page is attached.

National Neighbourhood Watch was very pleased to have our agreement in fact I believe we were one of the first County NW Association to do so.

Essex County NW Website.

Please forward your reports to Peter Fisk for our website especially as he has worked very hard to manage our website and we all need to support his efforts (by directing people to read it) as well as provide input to the website please.

ECNWA AGM and Conference 12th July 2017.

Please see this meeting’s e Agenda as I shall advise you of the numbers of Nominations for Neighbourhood Watch Member of the Year Awards.

It is hoped that we shall receive Nominations from EVERY District and please note that I need them by no later than 30th May.

The Awards will be decided by the Sub Committee immediately after our ECNWA meeting on Tuesday 6th June.

For your interest the Sub Committee members are I, Colin Freeman, Roger Passfield, Peter Salmon and Clive Woodward.

If you and others are keen to attend the AGM/Conference please remember that I need to know the names by no later than 5th July please.

There will be a number of exhibition stands including: Cristina Gavrilovic Anti-Slavery Partnership Co-ordinator Serious Crime Directorate Kent and Essex Police, The Office of Police & Crime Commissioners, Community Agents Essex, Crimestoppers and Victim Support.

Parish Safety Volunteers. I am hoping to have an update with Kieron Moir (Essex Fire Service) very soon.

Media I was contacted by BBC Radio Essex on Tuesday 16th May to ask if I would agree to be involved in their programme the next morning (at 07:00hrs) . When asking what the issues would be to discuss they advised me that they would be related to lack of Police on patrol and also it was to reply to political parties policies on policing as there is the general Election in June.

I advised them that we are a non-political organisation and what we do best is working with Essex Police and Crimestoppers to distribute information to reduce the opportunity of crime. They did not call me back to invite me on the programme.

ECNWA/ECM Sub Committee: This sub-committee has now been disbanded as the day to day procedures with “UMS” has been moved to a separate Division in Essex Police. Any members of ECNWA who wishes to raise any requests for modifications in the software or operational actions are to send their requests to the Chairman of ECNWA who will direct them to Essex Police.

The day to day management of ECM with Essex Police and Neighbourhood Watch remains the same with any one contacting directly Jeff Appleby!

My Diary.

Thursday 18th May. I shall attend a Force Tasking meeting at Police Headquarters and have sent them a report (anyone who would like a copy please let me know).

Wednesday 7th June. ECNWA will be represented by myself, Roger Passfield and Peter Salmon at the PCC “Local Visible Accessible Policing “Conference at Foakes Memorial Hall Dunmow.

Tuesday 27th June I have a meeting with ACC Mr. A. Prophet at Police Headquarters to discuss more ways we can work effectively with Essex Police.

Clive Stewart, Chairman, Essex County NW Association, Tuesday 6th June 2017.