

ESSEX COUNTY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION
CHAIRMAN'S NOTES MEETING TUESDAY 10th MARCH 2020

Attended :

Clive Stewart (CBS) (Chairman & Secretary ECNWA representing Braintree District) ,
Colin Freeman (Event Co-ordinator) , Graham Stehle (Colchester) Roger Passfield (Vice Chairman ECNWA –
Thurrock) Peter Fisk (ECNWA website Manager) , Dave Sexton and Colin Pendall (Tendring) ,
Sarah Carless and Janine Dunn (Harlow) Sue Thomson (Maldon) Clive Woodward & Frank Ferguson (Basildon)
Celia Shute (Braintree), Jeff Appleby (Essex Police) Mike Compton (Epping Forest). Alan Norman(Southend) ,
Derrick Giffen (Uttlesford) Mike Hooper (Treasurer ECNWA -Rochford) Kate Raven (Essex Police -Castlepoint)

Apologies: John Scott (Castlepoint) Peter Salmon (Vice Chairman ECNA – Brentwood)
Mandy Chapman (Maldon), Colin Dobinson (Crime Stoppers) Tracey Graham (Epping Forest),
Darren Horsman (Office of Police Fire & Crime Commissioner) , Steve Leverett (Chelmsford),
and Jenny Brouard (Essex Police).

ESSEX POLICE: Jeff Appleby gave a report which will be emailed in the next few days for CBS to distribute.

THE OFFICE OF POLICE FIRE AND CRIME COMMISSIONERS : Darren Horsman will send an report soon.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It was great to see so many of you at the last special meeting at which we celebrated our 25th Anniversary at the beginning of 2020 and to welcome Jane Gardner Deputy Police Fire & Crime Commissioner.

A few days after the meeting I sent a letter to our President Geoff Ireland and also enclosed one of our special badges. It is hoped that either his machine will read out the letter or a neighbour/family member and hand him the badge. So we have one more meeting before the Annual General Meeting and Conference, a date I am sure you have all booked in your diaries. We shall have a slightly extended day and Colin Freeman will explain the format at this meeting so I have attached a draft Agenda for the day which has been approved by Colin.

So why do we meet every two months? Fundamentally it is to be kept up to date with any outstanding matters and to know what each District actions to promote Neighbourhood Watch and we can exchange ideas and even help each other. Just want to remind everyone that I (as Secretary) do not take any minutes but the Chairman's report of the meeting is published on our website within a week after the meeting.

On the Agenda today are a few important issues to discuss and agree and therefore it would be appreciated if we could sort them out before the end of the meeting.

1. Sub Committee's Proposals on Neighbourhood Watch Facebook Groups-discussion and agreement (**CW**)
2. Neighbourhood Watch Member(s) of the Year Award 2020 discussion and agreement. (**CF**)
 - (a) Awards for Teams and/or Individuals.
 - (b) Independent Sub Committee - agree the members and also a meeting when they decide the Awards.
 - (c) Nomination forms agreement and reply date.
3. Discussion on Next Door App. **Please read my emails to you in February and their responses to my concerns.**

ACTION:

As I have not heard any more from them and a brief statement will be sent to all by CBS using Derrick Giffin's email .

Letter from Roger Hirst Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner

I received a letter dated 21st January from Roger Hirst in which he thanked us for the 25th Anniversary badge and said he was pleased to know from Jane Gardner and the team that the last meeting (and celebrations) went very well.

Finance for 2020:

Just to let you know that I shall invoice The Office of Police Fire & Crime Commissioner in April to request the core funding of £15,000 for Neighbourhood Watch in 2020 which has already been approved.

Once the funds are in our account in May each District will receive £1,000.

As I have advised earlier this is OUR only funding from The OPFCC in 2020 so please do NOT apply directly to them for any more funds.

BBC Radio Essex Saturday 18th January :

I was interviewed on Saturday 18th January at 7.15 am, as they wanted to know more about our 25th Anniversary and of course Neighbourhood Watch.

Well I was able to answer the questions and had ten minutes or so.

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25th Anniversary media Coverage

With the help of The Office of Police Fire & Crime Commissioner we managed to extend our promotion of Neighbourhood Watch in Essex which was appreciated. The photo of the cake was in various magazines and also on The National NW newsletter page 13. (My niece in Sandhurst received the National NW newsletter from the local Police and saw the cake picture).

25th Anniversary badge:

It is hoped that you wear it as often as you can. IF you need more I do have almost 150 spare as they are to be given to those people that are worthy. Only two Districts have asked me for more.. More badges were handed out to District Co-ordinators at the meeting- we still have sufficient in stock for the AGM/Conference .

Members badges (BIG ones) :

Yes I know you bought them IF you need more please let me know as they cannot be purchased from any website. Braintree can sell them to you at 92p each or I can ask the supplier for a quote for you.

Re print of 12,000 Essex County NW Members Guides.

By this time you should have all the extra Members Guides to eleven Districts (including Castlepoint). Just to confirm that the Office of Police Fire & Crime Commissioner has funded in total 50,000 printed copies in the past twelve months. Harlow wanted another box of 140 which was handed to them at the meeting.

Our website

There are still a number of Districts which have not updated their information on the website, maybe they do not have any updated news (which I doubt) but you could advise Peter Fisk to delete any "old" news otherwise this does show that we do not care.

PLEASE It will only take you a few minutes to look at your own Districts and send changes to Peter!

Hertfordshire NW Association.

I had a lengthy telephone call with Sue Thompson Chair of Herts NW Association who was asking about our "systems" when linking with Essex and Kent Police.

She was also impressed by the way we work and our links with National NW ..especially the sentence for people to contact us when registering (which she has tried to action with them for many years) and my access to the National NW database, also with our new badges too!

Essex Police website :

If you look at the their website and find (some how) references to Neighbourhood Watch sadly the link does NOT show Essex County Neighbourhood Watch Association but The National Neighbourhood Watch website.

I have requested for this to be changed and I am hoping by this meeting it will be amended to show OUR email address at least. Jeff Appleby said that he was told that Essex Police have to put in National NW website details but this Clive Stewart Chairman said that this was not the best way for anyone to know in Essex who are their local NW District Co-ordinators. It is hoped that Essex Police will think again and at least put in OUR website details too.

National Neighbourhood Watch

1. I was telephoned by Cheryl Spruce (new) Head of Membership & Community Engagement to enquire what we have planned for 2020 and also what we have achieved. I sent her the email Members Guide (she was impressed) , the pictures of the new 25th Anniversary ECNWA badge and the BIG new members badge (she was impressed). I was asked was there anything more they could do and I said well a few more window stickers would be great-so will see what she sends me .

Window Stickers: I have received 2,500 from them and now only 500 lefts ss many Districts wanted more.

2. The New National NW website will be launched in mid March and the Visav/NW registration system/database will be launched in mid Spring 2020. (See the latest letter) .

Essex Police and crime reports

Please read my email sent on 19th February and do ask those Liaison Officers who send out the crime reports to your NW members on YOUR behalf to mention your contact details as regards being the Neighbourhood Watch District Co-ordinator.

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Dates in your diaries :

Yes not only 2020 meetings but now I have booked The Tower Room for 2021. Why you may ask?
Well it is important to "book" ahead as this venue and room is very popular and it is FREE to us.
IF you just place the dates in your diary it would help please!

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mike Hooper gave out a report and we have £2.023 in our account but in addition also we have in the account £820 which is ringfenced for Castlepoint from which £234 will be used to pay for the printing costs for the leaflets for Castlepoint meetings.

Mike Hopper has sent a report to The Charity Commissioners for this year.

ACTION: Can all Districts who have not done so please send their updated Accounts to Mike asap.

CRIME STOPPERS

Colin Dobinson was unable to attend but sent a report which CBS had distributed to all the day before.

FACEBOOK GROUPS SUB COMMITTEE

The report from the Sub Committee was well received and everyone thought it was excellent on many issues.

ACTION: CBS asked Grahame Stehle to submit a summary of the report based on the last five points so that they can be distributed to all Districts who then will explain the guidelines and "rules" to their NW facebook groups in their areas what they need to do to have them approved.

COUNTY CO-ORDINATOR REPORT

Roger Passfield advised that the meeting at Castlepoint recently was a great success and 33 people attended and not only do we have a Chairman but also a Committee. Another meeting will be held very soon.

CBS praised Roger Passfield and Mike Hooper for all the dedication to make this happen.

DISTRICT CO-ORDINATORS REPORTS.

There was not sufficient time to go round the table due to two guests , one from Essex Police and the other from Essex Highways so CBS asked for everyone to send their reports to Peter Fisk for the website.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE

There were three proposals as to how the Sub Committee to decide the Awards was to be formed.

CBS had included one in the Agenda which was that he and Colin Freeman and three others

he suggested verbally Colin Dobinson, Darren Horsman and Jenny Brouard as the three who have agreed to be on the Sub Committee if it was agreed at the meeting.

Clive Woodward and Peter Salmon proposed that no members of the ECNWA are to be included and to have the same three as CBS proposed.

Finally Alan Norman proposed that there should not be any change to the Executive choosing the Awards which was seconded by Frank Ferguson.

There was a lengthy discussion and The Chairman put to the vote the last proposal .

ie There is to be no change to the current procedures and that the Executive decide the Award winners.

The vote was eight in favour of this proposal and 3 against

but CBS added Peter Salmon's "proxy" vote to make it 4 against.

No other vote was taken so it was agreed to leave the arrangements as they are.

ACTION: CBS to email the Nomination paper and a covering letter to each District in the next few days.

The Agenda for the day had already been distributed and this was accepted by all with a morning session as well as an afternoon.

ACTION: CBS to write to each Guest speaker to confirm the day's agenda.

The meeting concluded with a talk by Olive Porter (Essex Highways) which was well received..

The meeting ended at 12:15 hrs

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY 12th MAY 2020 AT 09:45HRS.

Clive Stewart, Chairman , 10th March 2020