

ESSEX COUNTY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION
CHAIRMAN'S NOTES OF MEETING AND CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 12th January 2021
BEFORE THE MEETING

Clive Stewart (Chairman) asked everyone to give a round of applause to congratulate Jenny Brouard who had been awarded the British Empire Medal in the latest New Year's Honours List.

1. **Attendees:** Clive Stewart (CBS) (Chairman /Secretary & District Co-ordinator for Braintree District), Peter Salmon (Vice Chairman & Brentwood), Mike Hooper (Treasurer & Rochford), Colin Freeman (Event Co-ordinator and Executive), Clive Woodward (Basildon) Celia Shute (Vice Chairman Braintree) Peter Fisk (Website Manager) , John Scott (Castlepoint), Steve Leverett (Chelmsford), Mike Compton & Tracey Graham (Epping Forest) , Grahame Stehle and Peter Rudlin (Colchester) , Derrick Giffin (Uttlesford) , Alan Norman (Southend), Sarah Carless (Harlow) Jenny Brouard & Jeff Appleby (Essex Police) , Darren Horsman (The Office of Police Fire & Crime Commissioner), Stuart Rawlins (Crimestoppers) and guest speaker Chief Inspector Leigh Norris (Essex Police).
2. **Apologies for absence:**
Mandy Chapman (Maldon) Dave Sexton (Tendring) , Roger Passfield (Vice Chairman & Thurrock District) Ken Collins (Thurrock) and Janine Dunn (ECNWA MSA Co-ordinator & Harlow)
3. Clive Stewart (CBS (Chairman welcomed everyone & introduced Chief Inspector Leigh Norris (Essex Police)
4. **Chief Inspector Leigh Norris** gave a talk on "Darker Nights Burglary campaign" and CBS advised that the appropriate leaflet had been sent to everyone to distribute to their members. Everyone appreciated his attendance and CBS sent a thank you the next day.
5. **Essex Police report:**
Jeff Appleby and Jenny Brouard gave a report on many changes in Essex Police including Jeff Appleby being promoted , Special Constable total 517 to date .CBS asked if it was appropriate to still promote Active Citizens (as he continues to do so in the Braintree District NW weekly newsletter) and Jeff Appleby confirmed that it was fine but there would not be very much activity for the moment due to the coronavirus issues.
6. **Report from each member of ECNWA** These will be sent to Peter Fisk for the website .
7. **Treasurer's Report:** Mike Hooper There was only one transaction in the past few weeks and that was a credit form Braintree District NW who pay £20 to use our Zoom account for their meetings.
8. **Crimestoppers Report:** Stuart Rawlins gave a report.
9. **The Office of Police Fire & Crime Commissioner report:**
Darren Horsman gave a report and will also email it to CBS to distribute in the week ahead.
10. **Chairman's report:**

What can I say about 2020? Well sadly due to the coronavirus everything has changed in the way we communicated with each other throughout the world.

Yes it affected all our plans for raising the profile of Neighbourhood Watch which we promoted in January at the Office of Police Fire & Crime Commissioners with Jane Gardner Deputy Police Fire & Crime Commissioner cutting the cake to celebrate our 25th Anniversary and my presenting special badges to everyone with Darren Horsman organising the event after our County meeting.

But then again it affected many lives in so many ways and we can just hope that 2021 will be a safer place to live..where ever you live!

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So what about how Neighbourhood Watch has progressed in the months after our last face to face County meeting in March? We have had two Zoom County meetings and I am delighted to say that more of you are attending each time. Being new as a Zoom organiser I hope that each meeting I can manage it better and that each of you will have the opportunity to speak at these meetings and update us on your progress in these difficult times.

1. **To begin another year**

I therefore welcome you to our ZOOM meeting which will begin at 09:30hrs and the links may be clicked from 09:00hrs to ensure that you are welcomed and involved. See the email again which I have sent with this report.

2. **Our List of ECNWA members & MSA (National Neighbourhood Watch "Multi Scheme Administrators)**

Please note that the ECNWA current list now shows who are MSAs and which Districts I am Acting MSA.

Can those who are MSA's look at the Alert database even once a fortnight to check on new registrations as these people will feel that they are approved Co-ordinators or NW members in their areas and then will not receive any more from National NW apart from the Alert UK based newsletter..only

We can supply the NW items they need eg: window stickers & members guides etc..

Please also can I remind those Districts, as your MSA, to actually make contact with those I send you..

3. Essex Police

Some months ago I sent you an email from ACC Mrs. Rachel Nolan and suggested that you use it as often as possible . It is a great way of showing how much Essex Police support us and appreciate all our efforts whether you are a District Co-ordinator, Deputy District Co-ordinator , Area Co-ordinator , Street Co-ordinator or just a member.

Every time I meet up with Jenny Brouard I always say how much we appreciate what Jenny and her teams do for Neighbourhood Watch and in fact now I am actually “seeing” Jenny on Zoom which is great.

Finally I was invited to join DCC Pippa Mills at another Essex Police Strategy meeting on Tuesday 15th December and I am impressed by the operations that achieve so much keeping crime under control and your local Policing teams will update you with their successes however I did have technical issues as they could not hear me which hopefully I can sort out in time for the next meeting..although I hardly have the opportunity to say very much due to so many from Essex police who report on their activities.. .

4. The Office of Police Fire & Crime Commissioner.

As recommended by Jane Gardner and Darren Horsmsn I am applying for 2020/2021 Funding this month as this way we are a few months early but with the Elections on 6th May it was best to start the formal documentation now.

ACTION: The application was sent with an invoice shortly after the meeting.

5. National Neighbourhood Watch

We still have a small issue with regard to their decision to delete the sentence in their welcoming email for those in Essex to contact us to have their registration approved (by each District Co-ordinator) .

The other “issue” (we discussed at the last meeting) seems to have been “placed on the back burner”.

I have left it with Epping Forest District to manage their own registrations via myself as their Acting MSA.

6. “Crime Crackdown”

I had an email from National Neighbourhood Watch which brought attention to this organisation..not that they said they were bogus of course as they are not but they had not heard of them.

Well I did receive an email direct from “CrimeCrackdown”as they wanted us to promote their services on our website . So I did reply to say that we do not promote any services or products other than from our partners Essex Police, The Office of Police Fire & Crime Commissioner, Essex Fire & Rescue Services, Victim Support , Community Agents Essex , and of course Crimestoppers. I did have a reply which I have ignored...

7. Essex County Neighbourhood Watch Website.

If you look at our website and the Districts one can still see many Districts information so out of date it is not really appropriate . I know that you all have busy lives and do other things but some reports are still not current. So please do contact Peter Fisk as he is doing a GREAT job managing the website and needs your input. So please keep updating him at least every two months?

8. Agenda for 12th January 2021.

This is attached and as you can see I have placed at the top of the Agenda Chief Inspector Leigh Norris and then followed by my going round the table for updated reports from each of you.

This time in reverse order of the list and I shall ask you to speak starting with Colin Freeman!

9. Nominations for Neighbourhood Watch Member or Team of the Year 2020-2021.

Although we will not meet again until March when the Nomination forms will be available please note that you will be need to send to Colin Freeman your District’s representative for these awards soon after May.

So PLEASE in the meantime can you really think of whom each of you would like to nominate in your Districts from early February- don’t leave it too late. Finally please note that the person who is nominating a person/team must not only live in your District and also be a registered member on your database.

ACTION: CBS sent the letters/form to Colin Freeman to approve with the deadline 10th May to send the nominations back to CBS

10. Geoff Ireland our President.

I have always kept Geoff Ireland up to date and in the early months of this year I sent him a 25th Anniversary badge and I know that he is unable to see it but I hoped that someone he knows will describe it and pin it on him. Well over the months I never had any call from him as he usually telephones me ..so I thought I would telephone him...

He was delighted to hear from me and said he is 94 and he was pleased with the badge..as you know it was Geoff who actually created The Essex County neighbourhood Watch Association and confirmed this year would be its 25th Anniversary.

We spoke for thirty minutes about all sorts of things and I updated him with each of you ..and he sends his best wishes. He is still as bright as ever and has carers who come in every day to give him breakfast, lunch and supper (as he said to me -well they are expensive but he likes their company!!).. He has the machine which reads out the letters and was pleased to hear that I have added him to the headed notepaper..(long over

due). So that was it I thought..well minutes later I had a phone call and it was Geoff again wanting to chat even more...no change there then I thought!!!

11. National Neighbourhood Watch Survey

It is hoped that as many of you as possible will send me as much information (or comments) as possible before the due date 25th January so I can reply by 31st January.

12. Essex Highways & Street Signs discussion: Clive Woodward

There was a long discussion on the proposed plans and regulations from Essex Highways which was in an email from Clive Woodward. It was agreed that the main concern was the reduction of the size of the Street signs as many Districts had already purchased a large quantity to cover demand over a few years.

Action: CBS proposed that Clive Woodward will respond by stating that we object to the proposals of the new regulations on the size . All agreed.

UPDATE : Within a few days Clive Woodward has received an email from Essex Highways in which they have agreed to leave the size and requested that any future purchases will be based on their proposals. Clive Woodward and John Scott also found more errors in the new proposals and CBS has thanked them and hops to see their comments actioned ..They will keep everyone updated....

Next meeting will be by Zoom again on Tuesday 9th March from 09:00hrs to 13:00hrs..

It was agreed by everyone that the format will now revert back to Essex Police, The Office of Police Fire & Crime Commissioners and Crimestoppers reports to be after the Chairman's report from item 3...

Meeting ended 12:45 hrs