

ESSEX COUNTY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION  
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TUESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2021

1. Introduction

The latest Government guidelines for Covid are helping to make our communities safer. So it may seem to have been an early decision a few months ago to cancel the AGM/Conference in July. But I don't think so, as Colin Freeman and I had a lot of thinking to do about the event and now it seems that we were right to make the decision earlier this year and to have a Zoom Annual General Meeting only.

If it was to be have been allowed in July I am sure there would have been a limit of the numbers and there would have been a lot of responsibilities on everyone involved on the day both attending and helping to organise matters ie to clean the venue after the event of all seats and items which may be touched by anyone ( eg: door handles, chairs and tables) also masks would probably have to be worn by all, the placing of many sanitizers in various areas of the hall, and also there would not have been the buffet or the ease of "face to face" conversations especially with the guest speakers which we all enjoy, and I can say from experience as a Presiding Officer for the local council and Police Fire & Crime Commissioner elections that there are many "regulations" to be to be aware of and managed for such a day.

Therefore together we can ( we hope) all look forward to a bumper event in 2022!!

So, the next County Zoom will be Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July as it will follow the Annual General Meeting which was booked on that date and should be in all your diaries.

The Agendas will be sent out nearer the time and the Annual General meeting will start at 09:30hrs .

Please can I ask each Executive to advise me if they are willing to stand again for 2021/2022 in their specific roles.

I am willing to stand again for both Chairman and Secretary and if anyone wants to volunteer themselves for any "jobs" please let me know before 30<sup>th</sup> June.

Details of Executives :-

(a) Chairman : Clive Stewart

(b) Vice Chairmen (2) : Roger Passfield and Peter Salmon

(c) Secretary : Clive Stewart

(d) Treasurer : Mike Hooper

(e) County Co-ordinator: Roger Passfield

(f) Event Co-ordinator: Colin Freeman

Please see the Responsibilities of each Executive attached.

2. The Office of Police & Fire Commissioner

Funding for 2021/2022

This is expected any week now and those who have funds "Ringfenced" ie Castlepoint and Maldon will be advised of their current funds available which are held on our account. Mike Hooper has confirmed to me that he has the names and addresses of each of the Districts' Treasurers to post the cheques.

3. Our List of ECNWA members and YOUR Deputies

I have heard from only two Districts as regards any updates on any changes in their Deputies. I am sure that there must be a few more?

4. Essex County Neighbourhood Watch Criteria to appoint a Co-ordinator.

No one has asked me to send them a copy of this information since our last meeting so I presume that you all know that it is?

5. National Neighbourhood Watch

Database:

Without repeating myself and copying the emails again (which I have bcc each of you) I have yet to receive an apology from Visav ( or even National Neighbourhood Watch) for re-instating a person as a member which I deleted ( and did again) in Braintree District recently.

I am sorry to say that I did not have one word of reply to me at all from either “party”.

Also I have NOT had an email reply in respect to my email explaining the complexities of two web sites re Alert & Members.

The only “explanation” I had was (whilst I was complaining about their email to us to send to all Essex Police Fire & Crime Commissioner election candidates to promote Neighbourhood Watch) that “once the new database has been provided this will be resolved”.

I said in reply “Well I hope that you ensure that those at “grass roots level” of Neighbourhood Watch will find it more useful” .

Finally I am pleased to note that Derek Giffin has “trained “ one of his area Co-ordinators very well as they are really on top of approving new members who have registered directly to their local Group (Scheme) via the “members” website. In fact I have since found out that two of my area Co-ordinators in Braintree District also have access to the “members “ website and can manage their Groups (Schemes) very well.

I believe that there are a few more Districts who have area Co-ordinators who do use the “members” website too.

MSA'S

I hope that those of you who are MSA's are finding your responsibilities not too difficult but if you need help please don't forget that Janine Dunn ( Harlow District Co-ordinator) is YOUR MSA Co-ordinator to help you with any queries.

Public Liability Insurance

As you know I enquired when the new policy/schedule would be available as the previous policy expired on 31<sup>st</sup> March and I was promised to receive the new schedule when it was available.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> April I asked them ( as the new policy was not on the website at that time) when they could advise me when it would be.

The answer I received was “in essence” “You just have to keep looking”.. NOT very helpful I thought!

Well the next day I looked and there it was and I did send the information out to you all that day-a few have acknowledged receiving the information.

I would like to thank my Executives Roger Passfield and Peter Salmon, Vice Chairmen, for those extra responsibilities they have , Mike Hooper as Treasurer, Colin Freeman, Event Co-ordinator for his vital Event Management activities , Peter Fisk for his management of our website , and also each and everyone of you and your Deputies and members too in the past most difficult year.

May I add at this time ( as I shall repeat it in the Chairman's report at the Annual General Meeting ) that we so much appreciate the support from Jane Gardner Deputy Police Fire & Crime Commissioner and of course Roger Hirst ( Police Fire & Crime Commissioner) . I also thank Darren Horsman who has been very helpful and supportive in the past year.

It really is great to have attending our Zoom meetings by Stuart Rawlins, Crimestoppers too and to have his updated reports .

Finally I very appreciate all the support from Essex Police and the help from Jenny Brouard and Jeff Appleby and all the Liaison Officers too.

Clive Stewart  
Chairman  
Essex County Neighbourhood Watch Association  
Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2021