

ESSEX COUNTY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION  
COUNTY MEETING  
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TUESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> JULY 2021

1. Introduction :

The latest Government guidelines for Covid are saying that the regulations are to be eased and I shall know more just before the meeting. We all want to meet face to face in a normal meeting of course but until that is allowed for the numbers we have we must continue to keep safe and well in these circumstances.

It is hoped that at the Annual General Meeting these Executives will have been re-elected for another year:--

- (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

2. The Office of Police & Fire Commissioner

Funding for 2021/2022 :

It was very much appreciated that we received in our Bank account £15,000 on 2<sup>nd</sup> June and that within a few days all Districts did receive a cheque for £1,000 as their share of the funds. I have thanked Roger Hirst and Jane Gardner for the funding. Please make a note that later this year I shall be in touch with each of you and ask you for a summary of how you have used the funding over the past twelve months.

Demographics report :

In recent weeks I have had many communications with Darren Horsman with respect to the Equalities Act 2010 as he wanted me to report on specific information which we do not have.

Well I thought that this may "affect" our application for funding in April 2022/23 as I replied by saying that we are unable to give them the information based on the Code of Ethics as we do NOT ask such questions in respect to people's personal information. As all Neighbourhood Watch members are equal!

HOWEVER I raised this matter with National Neighbourhood Watch and they said that they could give the demographics information required as it is on their Alert database provided , of course, that those who have registered complete all their personal details.

So I updated my personal details and then looked up a report for Essex.

MSA's can do this by going to the Neighbourhood Alert Administration Area and on the left column is "Reports" click on this and see NPT reports then click on the small box with a tick over a clip chart image and then select User Profile report.

Then you can see graphs only covering Age and Ethnicity ( as well as "Alternative Watches" and "How did you hear about us" ) but that's it so no graphs on Education, Working "status", Disability, Nationality and Gender Identity, Religion which are asked for each registered member to complete ( it is NOT mandatory).

I sent the graphs report to Darren who confirmed that these details met their needs - that was good to hear!

Any MSA's can see their members personal information go to "Search for individuals" then on that person "View" then you see "Summary details" and then click on "Full user editor" ( ignore message at the top) and then scroll down and under "Groups/demographics" it covers age, ethnicity, religion, working as ( status) , Disability, Nationality, Gender Identity and other matters which are not too personal at all. I looked at a number of Braintree District NW members who were registered and have noticed that some have not completed the Groups/Demographics (personal information) as I have said it is not mandatory so in my view is that we should not "chase" up anyone to complete their "extra" personal details .

3. Twitter .

I have often said to everyone that I find being on Twitter has helped me see what Essex Police action and achieve successes in their day to day patrols and operations. I know there are a few District Co-ordinators who are also on Twitter. There is one person "Chief Inspector Jay" who is in fact a boy who lives in Leicestershire and collects Police badges from all over the world.

So I offered to send him one of our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary badges which I did say was not a "Police badge".

This was very much welcomed and I posted one to him with one of our Essex County Members Guides too! Please see attached photograph which was posted on Twitter with over fifty likes.

4. Essex Police District Commanders 2021/2022

There have been changes in the District Commanders in recent months eg Thurrock but we shall not have a full update on the list we normally receive from Jeff Appleby until early August.

5. National Neighbourhood Watch :

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

By the way you know that you can see ALL your registered schemes , the Co-ordinators and members in your District under Scheme Management on the Alert database?

Cyberhood Watch Ambassadors: I sent an email to you all on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June and have received two responses out of fourteen so obviously it was not that important to some of you. Well I have not heard at all from the two "Ambassadors" and I have mentioned it to National Neighbourhood Watch.

Database: As advised I decided not to send an email to comment on the two websites which allows access to MSA's and Group ( Scheme )'s Co-ordinators as I was waiting to see what the new database will offer us all.

UPDATE: All our MSA's have been invited to a meeting to see the new features of the next version of the database on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July so we will update you at the meeting.

*In the meantime* one "small matter" occurred and I know you will remember that I mentioned that we have had a couple of new registrations appearing in "Essex" but the persons live OUTSIDE Essex and all I received from National Neighbourhood Watch was ( as I queried it as a database blip) "This gives some information on new registrations" and when I questioned it again I was told not to delete them ( I would not of course) but no response to my "database blip" question.

Well another "blip" appeared and this was quite different in fact and I am very grateful to John Scott (Castlepoint) for bringing it to my attention. A person living in Caerphilly ( yes Wales) registered on Castlepoint District as a member and John sent a very nice polite email saying to the person that she must have typed in error (and cc me which was wise) ! Well the reply we received was very strange as the person told us that she was advised by her local Police they would not acknowledge Neighbourhood Watch despite her setting up a number of groups and also she is part of the local Crime Prevention Panel which was "closing down". She wanted to register her groups to allow them to have access to "the Public Liability National NW Insurance.". Well I took over the communications and I will not say what I said ( in a very polite manner) but also I did offer to help and did so by mentioning her local Police Crime Commissioner ( who had been re-elected and she knew by name). She said "Thank you I shall contact him with regard to why local police have decided not to acknowledge her Neighbourhood Watch activities".

*Now my communications with her started at 21:15 hrs and ended 22:45 hrs on a SUNDAY night !!!*

Since that time I had a short email in which she said she would also speak to her "Chair" of Crime Prevention Group. So I decided to send a long email to National NW about that matter and all I received back was a reply saying "Thank you for helping her" no mention of the fact how a person OUTSIDE Essex can register with a District NW in Essex just to receive the cover under the Public Liability Insurance. Surely this proves once again the lack of validation on the National NW database which we have to sort out and not National Neighbourhood Watch. In recent weeks I discovered that this person from North Wales has been deleted from "Essex" not by John Scott or myself so I wonder who did it???

Issues of Co-ordinators registering on National Neighbourhood Watch Database without approval.

Once again a situation has occurred and this is in Epping Forest District in which a person has registered directly with National NW as a Co-ordinator. This was seen as the person actually published the "fact" on a local Facebook group. Well Epping Forest District's local NW Co-ordinator made contact with the person and has told him that the area was already covered by a Co-ordinator but this did not action a response.

Mike Compton and his Committee are trying to sort this issue out BUT this is solely due to National NW declining to inform anyone who registers directly that they MUST contact ourselves to have their registration approved. I have written to Ian Bretman Chairman National NW and I am hoping that he will support us and ensure in future that any new registrations are informed that in ESSEX this is how we work and create a good working relationship with any genuine people who want to be involved in Neighbourhood Watch . I did have a reply and we are expected to have a Zoom/Microsoft Teams meeting after 12<sup>th</sup> July so too late for this meeting. I have updated our Executives by the way I hope to update you at the meeting!

UPDATE: On 30<sup>th</sup> June :

I have seen yet another person who has registered in Essex but this time the person lives in London and gave her full address! So I deleted the person with a reason that "The address is not in Essex and could ( naming the person) contact National NW who will direct her to a London NW Association" I wonder what will happen next??

Public Liability Insurance : On 10<sup>th</sup> June I have sent the schedule and certificate which relates to Essex.  
National Neighbourhood Watch ( Continued)

Window stickers: I have requested more but I have been promised 10,000 and it is hoped that by this meeting I will have received them . I can then parcel them up to deliver them to those who need them .

Deliveroo Partnership Agreement : I sent out the details of this partnership and received only five responses so obviously many of you do not have any concerns or comments to make.

6. Essex Safeguarding Adults Board :

I have been contacted by Chelsey Jay , Senior Communications Officer, Essex County Council, and was invited to a Microsoft Teams meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> June . Well I attended the meeting which after an hour Microsoft Teams cut me off from communicating so decided to have further talks one to one on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June . This Board will be involving with those who may feel vulnerable caused by many issues eg Modern Slavery & Cuckooing . As soon as I have more information I will update you all.

7. David Anthony Cyber Crime & Protect Officer, Essex Police Action Fraud :

David has advised me that he is leaving in August /September and I have wished him well. David will let me know who will take his place as soon as he can. He did confirm that The Little Book of BIG Scams Version 5 is the most up to date and can be distributed. Well as you know I have already sent it out to you.

8. Our List of ECNWA members and YOUR Deputies :

I have heard from all Districts now and have updated the ECNWA list thank you all so much!! My only comment is that each District Co-ordinator should at least “update” their Committee on what they do (if they do not have any Deputies ) so that at any time someone could “volunteer” to cover any District Co-ordinator should they be unable to carry on for any reason. It is very important that each District has someone covering for the actions of the District Co-ordinator as sadly in the past we have had experiences of Districts whose

Co-ordinators have left or sadly passed away and it has caused a lot of work to find out what has been actioned and we do not want to let down all those local Co-ordinators and their members do we?

9. Great Hits Radio interview :

On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June I was interviewed by this Radio Station on Zoom as they wanted to know all about our working relationship with Essex Police and how we are successful in National Neighbourhood Watch week. It was thirty minutes and they said that will be using snippets of the interview over the following day or two.

I never received any of the edited highlights! I did wonder why they contacted us as they are based in Manchester and was told they read the press release from The OPFCC!

10. Final thanks

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 and also thank Darren Horsman who has been very helpful and supportive in the past year.

Also it really is great to have Stuart Rawlins ,Crimestoppers, attending our Zoom meetings and to have his updated reports .

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

Finally you probably all have read that DCC Pippa Mills has been chosen as Chief Constable of West Mersea Police. The formal statement will be sent out soon when I will then send her our best regards and congratulations.

Clive Stewart Chairman,  
Essex County Neighbourhood Watch Association  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021