



## Basildon Borough Neighbourhood Watch

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1. Until recently we have resourced the covering of police and council run events entirely from our Steering Committee of half a dozen active members which means we often struggle to provide adequate cover with so many conflicting priorities. At our last SC meeting it was agreed that we should extend the "offer" to help to all our Co-ordinators and members who may want to do more for NhW than just circulate crime reports. Early days yet but so far 4 people have stepped forward with the offer of help.

2. Applications to Highways for street signs seem to be working OK despite a minor hiccup when they sent an approval meant for Castle Point to Rochford. Otherwise applications are normally approved within 3 weeks.

3. The new V4 Alert database is still displaying errors which I hope is only a short term thing.

4. All district Co-ordinators are now advised of any new registration on the national database. These are those that have not expressed a wish to join a local scheme. Each of these new registrations within Basildon District are contacted offering the full benefits of being part of their own NhW. Sadly very few of those contacted take it any further and out of 17 only 3 have bothered to reply. This apathy seems to be something that affects us all and rather soul destroying when most of the time people approach us saying they want NhW and then just go cold. None so queer as folk.

5. Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on 29th September 2021 and all current officers were re-elected. The position of Vice-Chair remains vacant.

6. We have assisted our Community Policing Team and local Council on a number of community based initiatives.

7. A Basildon Co-ordinator was awarded Silver in the 2021 Essex County Member of The Year Awards 2021. Ellen Szymanski was presented with her certificates in October. Normally the presentation is made by an Assistant Chief Constable of Essex Police at the county AGM but Covid-19 restrictions put paid to a live AGM which was conducted online.

Clive Woodward

Chair, Basildon Borough Neighbourhood Watch