

**ESSEX COUNTY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2022**

**Attendees:**

Clive Stewart ( Chairman & Secretary ECNWA & Braintree District Co-ordinator and Castle Point District Co-ordinator ) Colin Freeman ( Event Organiser & Executive ECNWA ) , Sheila Freeman , Peter Salmon (Vice Chair ECNWA & Brentwood District Co-ordinator) , Norma Salmon, Roger Passfield ( Vice Chairman ECNWA ) Jane Gardner ( Deputy Police Fire & Crime Commissioner) Darren Horsman (OPFCC) Jennifer Briscoe (ESAB), Stuart Rawlins ( Crimestoppers) Derrick Giffen ( Uttlesford) Shereena Kamalarajan ( Colchester) James O'Connell (Colchester) Grahame Stehle ( Colchester District Co-ordinator) Sarah Wright (Essex Police) Chief Superintendent Leighton Hammett (Essex Police) Susan Mansfield ( Castle Point ) Charlie Mansfield (Castle Point ) Two more from Castle Point ( did not sign in ) Jeff Appleby (Essex Police), Elaine Wakeling (Essex Police), Deborah Holden (ECL) Carry Waters (ECL) ,Lucy Shelbourne ECL Interpreter) ,Amy Sharples ( ECL) ,Ian Connelly (BSL Interpreter) Dave Sexton ( Tendring District Co-ordinator) , John Wright ( Tendring ) , Alan Marshall ( Tendring) Mandy Chapman ( Great & Little Braxted ) , Paul Harris ( EWLO), Terry Fowles (EWLO) Olive Porter (ECC Highways) ,Frank Ferguson ( Basildon) , Clive Woodward ( Basildon District NW Co-ordinator) Peter Rudlin ( Mersea island ) ,Dave Watts ( Canvey Island) ,Colin Ede (Basildon) Gill Bacon (Basildon) Mike Compton (Epping Forest District) ,Richard Hyland (Chelmsford) Alan Norman (Southend District Co-ordinator ) ,Tony David ( Photographer ) ,Photographer 's Assistant, Sarah Carless ( Harlow ) ,Alan Leverett ( Harlow ) ,Julie Binstead ( Victim Support ) , Victim support colleague and Refreshments Team

**Apologies:**

Mike Hooper, Sue Taylor, Steve Leverett, Mike Ruocco , Celia Shute , Kevin Blake Valerie Trundle and Peter Fisk

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

As I said last year a Chairman's report at Annual General Meetings is always on looking back at the past year and planning something new for the next year and thanking many for their help and support!.

This will not be any different...

The past year was still difficult to have regular face to face meetings but slowly we are managing to see everyone again.

So after three years I am delighted to welcome you to this Annual General Meeting and Conference in 2022.

Please let your members know that Essex County NW Association , and their partners, Essex Police , The Office of Police Fire & Crime Commissioners, Victim Support, Community Agents Essex , Essex Fire & Rescue Service and Crimestoppers very much appreciate their actions in the past year of raising the profile of Neighbourhood Watch in Essex.

Together we have helped to reduce the opportunity of crime and keeping our communities safe.

You may have noticed that we have a few more guest speakers this year and the reason is that our plans for an extended AGM & Conference was delayed for two years but we felt that it was best to actually carry out our plans to celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

So I was delighted to invite as guest speakers Julie Binstead ( Victim Support ) and Stuart Rawlins ( Crimestoppers ) . This is long over due as they have for many years managed a table as exhibitors at this event!!!

As usual we have been very well supported by our partners in the past year and therefore I must thank the following:-

The Office of Police Fire & Crime Commissioner.

Thank you to Roger Hirst Police Fire & Crime Commissioner and Jane Gardner Deputy Police Fire & Crime Commissioner .

Welcome , Jane, to our Conference and AGM once again.

You all may like to know that I have always been delighted to meet up with Jane to advise how we use their funding that we receive each year.

In fact another £15,000 from The OPFCC has been shared amongst each NW District a few weeks ago.

As you know this funding is the main source of income for many of the fourteen Districts and this is very much appreciated.

We also would like to thank Darren Horsman for his regular reports at our County meetings by keeping us in touch with what the OPFCC do day to day also and with their newsletters too.

Essex Police

Special thanks Essex Chief Constable Mr. B.J. Harrington . It is great to know that he is very keen to see more NW Street signs as he believes this helps to keep crime down.

May I welcome Chief Superintendent Leighton Hammett to our Annual General Meeting and Conference for the first time and as a guest speaker too !

It is hoped that he will be pleased to hear the successes we have made over the past twelve months

Jenny Brouard: What can I say about Jenny who is our main contact with Essex Police .

I would not know what to do without Jenny! We are in regular contact and we do have "face to face" meetings over the internet to chat about any issues which can I say are never serious I can assure you.

However on occasions there are matters that I need answers from Essex Police and as I said last year I very much appreciate the way that we work so well together to resolve or discuss matters.

I do feel also that it is important that the Essex Watch Liaison Officers know how much their involvement with us is really welcome. Thank you Paul Harris, Kevin Blake and Terry Fowles

Can I say that we are always impressed by the increase of Police Cadets and Special Constables.

Each District receives a crime report each week from Essex Police which is distributed in various formats to our members whether we as District Co-ordinators action this or the local Essex Watch Liaison Officers assist us.

These weekly reports are vital in keeping our members and others in the community up to date on any crime incidents . They are very important to us as it also shows that Essex Police support Neighbourhood Watch!

Crimestoppers: We are very pleased that Stuart Rawlins has been able to attend our meetings and give regular reports and we are keen to continue to be working with them at all times.

Victim Support: As you know I do receive every so often information from them to distribute which I am always pleased to action.

ECNWA Executives

As Chairman I always keep my Executives updated on whatever matters I am involved with on behalf of ECNWA and there have been quite a few in the past year.

I thank them for their continued support and comments during that time when I have asked them for any assistance.

So I thank

Peter Salmon ( who has many responsibilities of representing ECNWA eg Community Agents Essex, and Crimestoppers.

Roger Passfield not just as County Co-ordinator but helping me with many NW items as and when..

Colin Freeman : He is our Event Organiser today . As you know his Blog every week keeps us aware of many issues in our lives ..we cannot do without your Blog Colin

Mike Hooper: Our Treasurer is excellent and in fact has had quite a busy year working with me keeping all the transactions up to date for purchasing Neighbourhood Watch items and managing the funds for each of the Districts too . I so much appreciate the time he has given over many years! The Executives also take on various extra responsibilities

Peter Fisk (Website Manager): Special thanks to Peter. Our website was simplified earlier this year and this saved us spending funds to have a new website . It is now much easier for anyone to look at their Districts and the reports that each District NW Co-ordinator produces plus the contact details are regularly updated too. Thank you Peter for managing this website .

John Metcalfe We very much appreciate John who audits the Annual Accounts. It is important for everyone to know that they have to be audited as we are a registered Charity .

#### District Co-ordinators

Over the past many months we have seen our District Co-ordinators regularly attend our ECNWA meetings and this is the right time to thank them.

Clive Woodward (Basildon) who is also our National NW MSA Co-ordinator and is always there to help in any applications for street signs using his vast knowledge and experience.

Steve Leverett ( Chelmsford ) He holds together both Maldon and Chelmsford Districts very well.

Grahame Stehle (Colchester) who has been very successful in building up Colchester over the past many years.

Mike Compton (Chairman of Epping Forest) He has been extremely helpful in keeping that District up and running, and Mike, you and I have had a few extras “issues” which we have resolved together over the past years!

Sarah Carless ( Treasurer and Secretary of Harlow ) I am delighted to say Sarah is making a success of establishing Neighbourhood Watch in Harlow...

Alan Norman (Southend) What a great man to have in our Team .

He has worked tirelessly over many years and I hope that we can find him a Deputy soon to help him.

Dave Sexton (Chairman) (Tendring) We have known you over many years and we wish you all the best in managing NW in Tendring.

Derrick Giffin - Uttlesford..He is very busy with so much in his life but we can depend on him to manage his District so well in the years to come..

We must not forget that many of your Districts have Deputy District Co-ordinators and that is the way forward and we thank them..

If you want to have a list of their FULL responsibilities of each member of the ECNWA I can email it to you.

Sadly in the past years we no longer have those who have been involved with Neighbourhood Watch..

Recently Colin Pendall Vice Chair of Tendring passed away, many of us knew him and he did attend many of our ECNWA meetings..what a gentleman.

Sadly Brenda Cross is no longer with us too. Many of us had the delight of working with Brenda over many years and we were very lucky to have known her ..a wonderful person ..

By the way you may not know that it was Brenda’s idea to change the Neighbourhood Watch Awards from Co-ordinator of the Year to MEMBER of the year..

#### The Awards today

I am not going to give you any information on the awards later today ..as that is Colin Freeman’s special moment ..But I would like to say that these ARE Essex County NW Association’s Neighbourhood Watch Awards. We are recognising those who have been very pro-active in their support for Neighbourhood Watch over the last year and even more..

BUT

What pleases me so much ..and I know it will be for each award winner is that these Awards will be presented to them by both Chief Superintendent Leighton Hammett Essex Police and Jane Gardner Deputy Police Fire & Crime Commissioner..This to me is perfect example of their support for Neighbourhood Watch and acknowledgement of the award winners actions which are so much appreciated..

#### National Neighbourhood Watch

I would like to thank them for the 10,000 window stickers and the cover under the Public Liability Insurance which is very important when we are active on any Neighbourhood Watch events.

### So where do we go from here from July 2022?

We have as always a challenging year ahead of us and in the months ahead we shall be able to have more face to face meetings again with our members and also anyone who is new and wants to meet us to discuss their involvement.

You will all remember that at an ECNWA meeting you agreed with my proposal that we should reach out to more in the community who want to be part of Neighbourhood Watch as much as we can and this may include those who may be hard of hearing, visually impaired or deaf blind and even those who may find communicating difficult but they would like to join Neighbourhood Watch .

So we need to ask them what way we can distribute the Neighbourhood Watch information.

I very much welcome Deborah Holden Sensory Action Alliance..and her team..see their table ...

Please have a chat ! I shall have some exciting information to advise everyone in the weeks ahead.....

Finally one small favour to ask each of you :-

This may seem a little strange..

Whenever you have any enquiries from anyone for Neighbourhood Watch apart from advising them how we operate and the structure of our managing Neighbourhood Watch in your area..

TELL them what YOU do..

I feel it is important that they clearly understand that Neighbourhood Watch is managed by members of the community...no one else..

Your actions are an important part of Neighbourhood Watch whatever hours you spend it is YOU that keeps in touch with them on a regular basis being in support and that should be known by everyone.

Whatever time you give to Neighbourhood Watch helps to reduce the opportunity of crime and you are supported by Essex Police too .Yes talk about yourself..

It may be difficult for some of you to do this but please ensure that everyone is aware you are there for them...As together we can reduce the opportunity of crime and keep Essex safe

### Treasurer's Report

As you can see from the accounts distributed today we have rather a good balance in our account but it is important to note that this is the bank balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> March .

In the account we hold Castle Point District funds which we have ring fenced and is at the time a little over £2,800 that District have after the expenditure of any items . The District has not a committee or even a Treasurer.

Also many cheques had yet to be debited to the account....

However we do have good funds for the coming year..Please note that now we pay Bank charges of £5 a month plus 41p per cheque..which over the year will be in the region of £100.

We shall be renewing the Zoom account appx £115 a year as it has been most helpful having "face to face " meetings with many rather than long emails and even longer telephone conversations..

As most of you know we have ECNWA Zoom meetings in November and January to avoid any travelling is possible poor weather. For your interest Patlock Company give Neighbourhood Watch commission on every sale and once I know which District had the sales ( I am sent a list) we then give those funds to them

Auditor for 2022/2023 : John Metcalfe was approved

### Election of Officers/Executives were re-elected for 2022/2023

Clive Stewart as Chairman and Secretary, Peter Salmon and Roger Passfield as Vice Chairmen

Mike Hooper as Treasurer, Roger Passfield as County Co-ordinator ,and Colin Freeman as Event Organiser

Website Manager was approved as Peter Fisk

All District Co-ordinators were invited to sign the updated Constitution