

Chiltern Community Forum – 4th September 2018 – Chiltern District Council

Chair: Andy Garnett

Attendees:

- Cllr Emily Culverhouse
- Jane Fallon – Little Missenden Parish Councillor & Holmer Green Village Society
- Colin Thirsk – Little Missenden Parish Cllr and NHW Co-ordinator
- Inspector Richard Vine
- Kevin Patrick –Principal – Chiltern Hills Academy
- Sergeant Roy Evans
- Chris Brown – Cholesbury Parish Councillor and runs Good Neighbours Scheme in rurals around Chesham
- Robert Gibson – web designer – Dovedale Designs.
- Lynne Gibson – Dovedale Designs – member of the community
- Katie Galvin – Community Safety Manager

Welcome and introductions made. It was highlighted that the neighbourhood survey results have some confidential information within the free text. Please only share the bar graph with others and not the free text. All agreed.

TVP Chiltern Area Policing Priorities:

- A reduction in residential burglary
- A reduction in serious violence
- An improvement in victim satisfaction
- Continued improvement in our response to domestic abuse victimisation
- An increase in confidence of victims of hidden harm to report incidents and crimes
- A continued improvement in the identification and safeguarding of children and adults vulnerable to exploitation.
- A continued increase in the confidence of rural communities to report crime
- A continued improvement in our response to fraud (including cyber fraud)

A discussion was had to show that the above priorities set by the Police and Crime Commissioner is often different to the priorities that the neighbourhood wish to see being addressed.

#cleanChesham is taking place this Saturday. This is a great example of the community (led by EC) addressing a local issue (littering) rather than expecting the police to tackle it.

Update from past three months priorities:

1. Drug dealing and usage

Proactive stop checks have been conducted on numerous vehicles and persons where drug offences have been suspected. Offenders have been arrested with positive disposals.

Each month, areas of concern are identified using statistic and volume of calls. Officers are aware of the most demanding areas for drugs and anti-social behaviour and patrols these areas in order to

deter and detect. Car parks and recreational areas are common areas where drug usage has been taking place. If an officer believes that someone is in possession of drugs they can conduct a search under the 1971 Misuse of Drugs Act. A copy of the search record will be made and recorded.

We work closely with our intelligence department, sources and other police areas in order to build a bigger picture. Intelligence is a vital part of police work and recently acting on intelligence, a drugs warrant was executed in Chesham. During that search, drugs were found. A charge is likely.

We have also been conducting proactive work surrounding addresses identified. In particular there are areas in Chesham where there is suspicion that "Outside" offenders are attending. We have conducted high visibility patrols, door to door knocks, safeguarding and plain clothed work.

In Chiltern there has so far been 12 positive disposals since the last forum. Some drug offences recorded are still under investigation including Possession with intent to supply.

4 Charges

2 cautions

3 Fixed Penalty Notices

2 Youth restorative disposals

1 Street warning

2. Speed Enforcement

Enforcement has been taking place in Chiltern and will continue throughout the year. Whilst drivers have been stopped for speeding, some stop checks have revealed that some drivers have had no insurance or road tax. Police have had positive results with vehicle seizures.

Officers have also been made aware of mopeds being ridden recklessly. Whilst the initial reports suggest speed was an issue, proactive stop checks have led to the recovery of stolen bikes.

Although speed is a concern, speed can also be an illusion. An example is that officers deployed to Chartridge Lane, Chesham due to numerous reports of speeding vehicles. Over 80 vehicles were checked but out of that only three were driving between 30 - 35mph. These drivers were given words of advice.

Community Speed Watch. There has been proactive deployment of the devices and there has been successful results. Speed has been recorded on every occasion and those caught have been sent warning letters. When drivers have exceeded the limit excessively, they have had a visit from the police regarding their actions. Recently Pc Kevin Flint received praise for supporting the speed watch volunteers by attending the driver's home address to give education and advice.

3. Burglary Prevention

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All residential burglary offences have had officers attend and give crime prevention advice which includes the application of Selecta DNA. All neighbouring properties are also visited by the Neighbourhood team who provide crime prevention advice.

We have conducted ANPR operations within the Chilterns in order to identify and deprive criminals using vehicles to enter our town. ANPR is also used to identify motoring offences too. We have continued to support Operation Glove which is a joint operation in Chiltern.

We have also attended numerous community events such as fetes over the summer to give burglary and other crime prevention advice with our partners such as the Community Safety Team, Voices for Choices and Trading Standards. Although residential burglary may be identified as a person breaking into a home, it is important to target our vulnerable community in relation to "Distraction" burglaries so the NHPT have also targeted these persons. During the period, we supported our partners with elder abuse highlighting distraction burglary and scams.

We were made aware of a few burglaries that happened in places of worship. The NHPT provided burglary prevention and reassurance after positively identifying a suspect who was later arrested for the offences and recalled to prison.

In Chiltern we have seen no difference in burglary offence reports from last year during the same three month period but between 1st June and 3rd September, we have had a 57% increase in detections.

An outstanding investigation by the CID team at Amersham has recently linked two offenders to burglaries that have taken place in Chiltern and cross border into other police forces. The two were arrested and charged with conspiracy to commit burglary and due in court October 18.

11 Positive outcomes

4 Charges in Amersham - Mostly cross border offenders charged with numerous other TVP burglary offences

6 Charges in Chesham - Mostly cross border offenders charged with numerous other TVP burglary offences. Includes CID charges above. One charge in relation to a witness seeing a known person. Enquires revealed a local resident responsible.

1 Charge in Chalfont – Same offenders as above (cross border)

Agreed the new priorities for the next three months:

- Burglary
- Drug dealing and drug misuse
- Anti-social behaviour

Chiltern Community Forum website:

www.chilterncommunityforum.org

Feedback, ideas, contributions, involvement welcome. Please send all comments to Robert Gibson – contact@chilterncommunityforum.org

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We all need to start to publicise this website – please share the link far and wide.

Thank you to Robert for putting this website together.

AG has identified some organisations that would like to offer funding to this forum. We need to consider whether to become a community interest group because we are unable to accept financial contributions currently.

AG and KG to meet up and agree the constitution for this forum.

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