



**Northamptonshire
Neighbourhood Watch Association**

**20th Annual General Meeting
at Wootton Hall, Gymnasium
Northampton
25th September 2017 at 7pm**



County Exec Officers

Nick King - Chairman
Mary Prickett - Treasurer
Lisa Watts - Secretary

Police & Fire

FRS Mark Ainge
CI Lara Alexander-Lloyd
PCC Stephen Mold
Laura Jones – Liaison/Crime Prevention

1. Opening Address by the Chairman

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:15pm and welcomed everyone. He extended a welcome and thank-you for coming Chief Inspector Lara Alexander-Lloyd, Mark Ainge, Stephen Mold, Laura Jones and all the members attending.

2. Apologies

57 attendees and 15 apologies.

3. Presentation: Fire & Rescue Service (Prevention and Community Protection) by Mark Ainge

Mark opened his presentation by introducing himself: Mark replaced Tina Collett, unable to attend. Mark is Head of Service & Delivery. He described the connection between NHW and the fire service: "our job to protect people from harm", with a focus on "safe and well".

Mark talked to us about vulnerability and told us there is usually a pattern. "It tends to be same people with the same issues". Mark's presentation included some images and information on Fire safety at home, the risks from fire, and the top causes of fire.

Mark informed that the Fire Service can provide Home & Fire Safety checks which offers help from a variety of directions: i.e. testing smoke alarms; assessing escape routes; checking security, etc. and advice such as not to overload plugs and reduce clutter. Looking at some top recent causes of fires: e-cigarettes. Mark talked us through images of risks in people's homes and the dangers.

Since 2004 there have been over 50,000 Fire Safety checks providing safety and including crime prevention targets. The elderly aged over 80 and the disadvantaged are targeted due to vulnerability and are usually the highest number of deaths. This is a growing concern as we know the elderly population is increasing significantly with expectations of 20 million by 2050.

Fire & Safety – link with health and social. Self-referral & via agencies are available for extra support (i.e. Age UK, Housing Associations, mental health teams).

**4. Update from the Police on crime issues and strategies by CI Lara Alexander-Lloyd,
Neighbourhood Policing and Partnerships**

Chief inspector Lara Alexander-Lloyd gave us an overview of her role and Neighbourhood Policing. Lara talked with us regarding the recent service delivery model, the shifting priorities, 101 and *Neighbourhood Alert* (formerly called community connect). The Police need to use their resources as best they can, looking at the threats 15 years ago was a lot different to now as there are more cyber threats. The service delivery model looks at the numbers of neighbourhood Police and identifies area of threat, harm and risk. This is logged on colour-coded maps: red areas will be higher risk, whilst white will be the least. Resources are allocated accordingly.

Lara gave us some figures of how many calls the police receive to the 999 and 101 numbers. The control room receives average 300 999 calls a day: these are speedily assessed for high risk (i.e. missing persons). The vast majority are answered within 10 seconds. There are 750-1000 101 calls a day: 80% are answered within 30 seconds. The initial stage is to carry out a risk assessment and then calls are prioritised and graded accordingly. A new element to call handling is a call-back service, currently only available if you phone the control room on a mobile.

The use of *Neighbourhood Alert* is secure for 3 years. We are always making improvements including a system to reply to. The system is now linked to sending the messages via social media.

As traditional, Lara also took the opportunity and give out Recognition Awards from the Police to NHW leaders to recognise their good voluntary service:

William Bill Garvin: *Certificate of Appreciation for his contribution to NHW in Crick.*

John Adams of Kettering: *exempt contribution For admin of Facebook and rapport committed.*

Julie Jarrett of Braunston: *NHW co-ordinator looking after elderly: committed & caring.*

5. Update from Police & Crime Commissioner Stephen Mold

Emphasised the new commitment to Neighbourhood Alert as the important link with communities and residents.

A consultation was issued for feedback on the proposed business case of the PCC taking over governance of the Fire and Safety Service. There was a high proportion in favour (especially amongst service staff) and the proposal has now gone to the Home Secretary.

6. Questions & Answers Open Forum with the PCC and Police.

- (a) John Gardner - surely most important thing here is spending money on prevention.
This was agreed but it is down to the allocation of resources and money.
- (b) Christine Mackenzie - there is an event that keeps on occurring in our area that has been reported several times of motorbikes along fields. When are not so important/low scale issues like this going to be sorted.
Lara – sees this as a key role for NHW to raise and flag as “a local priority”. The Police have good powers RE motorcycle nuisance: signage and education might be part of the answer. She will discuss with the local Inspector.
- (c) Peter Holden – his experience of elderly people concerned about safety and security, and the link with the slack of PCSOs.
Lara - The PCSO numbers have not reduced as a result of the service delivery model, in fact they are now more ring-fenced to their tasks and not called-off on to other duties. How to get hold of/where to find your PCSO may be an issue for the Police to work on.
- (d) Richard Gent – commented on new legislation on complaints to the Police.
Stephen Mold – agreed new regulations, covering Police, and Fire & Safety. Info to follow.
- (e) **David Smith – information relevant to access to a caravan park in his village and damage to property.**
Lara offered to explore this further with her local officers.

- (f) Dee White –runs a new NHW scheme. Keen to know more about successes.
Lara agreed.
- (g) Stuart Parker – reported crime in progress (shed, Northampton)
Stephen: Their response rate is relevant to demand so not easy to judge/reply.
- (h) NHW member: call to support schools and educate parents.
Mark - prioritizing visiting groups and schools.
- (i) Richard Houghton- what happened to dedicated officers/PCSOs per patch?
Lara: difficult now to have dedicated localised staff per patch as more reliant on team involvement and coverage. Each NHW group should know who to contact best for them and she will look into this.
- (j) Mark – emphasis on school, the young and education.
Lara: agrees focus on early intervention.
Mark: County Schools Challenge is a successful education initiative.
The county's Emergency Cadets programme is proving successful .

7. Neighbourhood Watch - an update of the new registration process on www.northamptonshireneighbourhoodwatch.co.uk by Mike Hulands

Mike - Coordinator of a Rushden street NHW group (80 members).
Mike talked through the new, simpler, shorter process for people to sign-up to their local a NHW scheme online. (The old registration process intrusive and over complicated!). Mike outlined that the process is now much better.

[Mike's presentation will be emailed to all county NHW Coordinators in due course.]

(8) Annual General Meeting

(i) Minutes of the 2016 AGM

The 2016 minutes had been emailed to all the co-ordinators in preparation to this evenings meeting. No errors or comments were raised. With a good show of hands the 2016 minutes were accepted, proposed and seconded.

(ii) Chairs Report

Again issued with the agenda. Nick added a few comments but generally self-explanatory.

(iii) Treasurer's report

Mary reported the accounts for the year finished with a bank balance of £7,759, independently audited. No issues were raised.

(iv) Election of officers: Chair, Vice-chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and East Midlands Forum Representatives. Each officer retired from their role. The new elections as follows:

Chair: Nick King, proposed Mike Hulands and seconded Ian Fearnley.

Vice-chair: Andy Crisp, proposed John Gardner, seconded Jane Calcott.

Secretary : Lisa Watts, proposed Terry Savill and seconded Nick King.

Treasurer: Mary Prickett, proposed Christine Mackenzie and seconded Terry Savill.

East Midlands Forum Representatives: Nick explained that the Forum was now seemingly defunct and therefore no reps were being sought.

9. AOB.

- (a) Nick highlighted that NHW groups can visit the Force Control Room if they are interested. The fascinating tour lasts about an hour and must be pre-booked.

- (b) Nick has had feedback from the Chief Inspector of the Force Control Room (CI Ashley Tuckley) the use of the dedicated NHW phone number (01604 888964) may not be compromised and it is likely it will be abandoned. Nick is investigating.
- (c) Nick underlined that there is significant work to do within NHW. He welcomes NHW members who have skills/knowledge in areas such as IT, Membership, Marketing or Funding to make themselves known to him so we can create a few small sub-committees to focus on these important areas. We need your help to progress, so do please email Nick direct at nickking567@btinternet.com

Nick gave his thanks to our District chairs Ian Fearnley (Wellingborough), Jane Calcott (Kettering and temporarily Corby), Alan Earle (Northampton), Andrew Crisp (Daventry District) and Terry Savill (Rushden).

Thanks are also given to Lisa Watts (Secretary) and Mary Prickett (Treasurer) for their support and help.

Jane Calcott - would also like to thank Nick for his commitment.

The meeting came to a close at 9:15pm. The chairman thanked Steve Mold, Lara Alexander-Lloyd and Mark Ainge for their presentations. He also thanked Laura Jones for her support, and wished her well for the future, and the team at Wootton Hall for the refreshments and hospitality. He apologised for the technical problems we suffered which affected a few of the presentations.