

## BLATCHCOMBE WARD MANAGEMENT FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2003

Held at: Foxhole Office, Foxhole Road, Paignton – 3pm

Chairman: Tony JOHNSON

Secretary: Tony JOHNSON

Attended by: Vikki COOMBES, Wendy BURRIDGE, Helen BLOOM, George PORTER, Cyril PERRY, Tony JOHNSON

Apologies: Inspector BACKHOUSE, Eric ABERCROMBIE, Mike ELSTON, John NICHOLLS

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Item No	Discussion	For Action By
1.	<p><b><u>INTRODUCTIONS AND ROLES</u></b></p> <p>Roles were defined and the principles of ward Management were discussed. It is more than just consultation between police and others in the team. There will be actions for individuals and/or the whole team.</p>	
2.	<p><b><u>FUTURE MEETINGS AGENDA AND ACTIONS</u></b></p> <p>The agenda for future meetings was agreed – attendance/apologies, matters arising, crime issues, traffic issues, youth issues, any other business/concerns and date of next meeting. Actions from the previous meeting would be reported upon in matters arising. Meetings will be held quarterly.</p>	
3.	<p><b><u>CRIME ISSUES</u></b></p> <p>Statistics were split between FP2B (QED, Tweenaway, Collanton, Yalberton, Waterleat and Heritage Park) and FP2E (Foxhole). These statistics were collated over the period 1<sup>st</sup> May 2003 until 31<sup>st</sup> July 2003 and would be a baseline for future meetings. Overall there were 192 crimes recorded for the Blatchcombe ward.</p>	

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Item No	Discussion	For Action By
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FP2B		FP2E
3	Dwelling burglaries (9)	6
6	Other burglary (7)	1
18	Assaults (42)	24
27	Vehicle crimes (54)	27
5	Other damage (13)	8
2	Drugs (4)	2

These figures were discussed and the format was accepted. It was further discussed, in the light of diversity issues, that racially aggravated or motivated crimes should also form part of our statistics, even if there are none to report.

The specific issues with these figures were as much as violent crime, dwelling burglaries and vehicle crime made up over half the recorded crimes.

It was noted that whilst drug offences were low, this did not assist with the identification of drug related crimes.

Neighbourhood watch schemes were reported upon by Cyril PERRY. He ran a scheme in Pimm Road. Stan LEWIS is the only other coordinator in the foxhole area. There are other schemes at Collanton, Great Parks and Waterleat.

There is a scheme just being set up at the top of Fernicombe Road, but there are concerns that there are still very few schemes across the ward, and none on the new developments.

Neighbourhood watch is not an excuse to be a 'nosy neighbour' but more of the re-introduction of community spirit and support. It was decided that more schemes need to be initiated and to this end some pro-active work in the community is required.

**ACTION:** Cyril to canvas crime reduction, enlisting more support to provide new schemes.

**ACTION:** Helen to produce article for Riviera Housing Newsletter requesting volunteers.

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#### **TRAFFIC ISSUES**

Statistically between 1<sup>st</sup> May 2003 and 31<sup>st</sup> July 2003 there were 120 traffic related issues recorded on the OIS (police computer log system) 67 for FP2B and 53 for FP2E. These were largely relating to abandoned and untaxed vehicles, obstruction, poor parking and speeding. Collisions and breakdowns covered the remainder.

The main issue to be discussed was the speeding or rather the inappropriate use of speed throughout the residential areas. A traffic management scheme for the Foxhole area was suggested, considering the development of a 20 mph issue having recently discussed this with Torbay Road Safety. There is a current moratorium on new traffic orders with the local authority. Any scheme would have to be fully supported by the local authority and include suitable measures such as protected parking, chicanes, new priorities etc to make it "self policing". Traffic management in general was further discussed, looking at additional parking and possibly closing off certain through roads. It was decided that the whole team should identify areas of concern.

**ACTION: To identify specific areas of traffic concern for Prioritising to progress through Road Safety/Highways.**

5.

#### **YOUTH ISSUES**

It was noted between 1<sup>st</sup> May 2003 and 31<sup>st</sup> July 2003 there were 83 reported incidents of nuisance/disorder involving young persons on the Blatchcombe ward, 40 on FP2B and 43 on FP2E. Everyone agreed that a lot more incidents remained unreported and it was discussed that this was to a certain extent due to public perception that the police were not interested. Tony JOHNSON explained that often the telephone system put people off. When callers did get through and reported matters, all too often when the police attended, if at all, the

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problem had long since gone. The team were advised to encourage the public at all opportunities to report matters, especially occasions when individuals can be identified. It was explained that occasionally matters which are of great importance to the caller may be "low priority graded" by the police but the information itself is invaluable to provide supporting evidence for issues such as anti-social behaviour orders.

There was a general concern at the lack of youth provision. It was noted that various agencies are working across the areas, but whilst they may be linking with one or other agency, there seems to be no global link. This forum may be able to provide such a link.

The Children's Fund are working in the area, with a summer scheme up and running in Hoyles Road. They run a Locality sub-committee for the Blatchcombe ward and so it may be possible to link in with their information. Currently they are looking at compiling an exhaustive list of youth provisions in the Blatchcombe ward, with a view to resource any need. The team could assist by "brainstorming" and report back to the subcommittee with its findings.

**ACTION: To compile an exhaustive list of specific youth provisions in the Blatchcombe ward.**

**6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business save to clarify that individual issues will not be dealt with in this forum.

**7. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2003 at the same time and venue.