

Nailsea Neighbourhood Watch

Minutes of Annual General Meeting At United Reformed Church Hall on 6th July 2011

1. Present.

Committee Members

Peter Smith (Chairman)	Mike West (Vice- Chairman)	Gill McConachie (Treasurer)		
Don Plevy	Ian Mottram	Matthew Mulvenna	Trevor Lyons	Cliff Mallinson

Watch Members

Elizabeth Sorrell	C Stuckey	Mr Stannard	Norman Powell	Ruth Davies
M Weaver	C Wain	Christine Mulvenna	Pauline Hill	Janet Turner
Roger Turner	Ailsa Ray	Sandra Newnham	Pauline Fitzjohn	Audrey Caradine
Margaret Brown	Margaret Armstrong	Audrey Scott	Gaynor Willerton	Peter Whitford
David Eggins	Harry Taverner	John Broughton	Cecil Keel	David Coxon
Plus two guests				

Signing-in Sheet attached.

2. Apologies.

Sue Whiteley	Terry Thompson	Nat Tucker		
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3. Minutes of last AGM.

Agreed as a correct record. Proposed by Mike West and seconded by Norman Powell

4. Matters Arising.

There were none.

5. Treasurer's Report.

The balance sheet for the year was presented. This showed that our expenditure is exceeding our income since the loss of the Town Council grant.

The acceptance of the report subject to audit was proposed by Ian Mottram and seconded by Colin Wain .

6. Matters Arising.

There were none.

7. Police Report

Adam was present to give the latest crime figures and answer questions.

2010	May and June	2011
30	Criminal Damage	5
27	Assault	10
28	Theft	19
2	Burglary - house	1
5	Burglary - Shed - Garage - Business	2
5	Theft - Cycle	1
0	Robbery	1
2	Theft of Vehicle	1
3	Theft from Vehicle	5
6	Possession of Drugs	1
	Other	
118	TOTALS	64

Adam told us that Peter Hughes at Weston-super-Mare was now looking after crime prevention and Neighbourhood Watch. The cut-backs mean several people have been moved around with Kay Wozniak moving to HQ. Julian Moss will

become District Commander for two districts.

The next PACT meeting is at the Fire Station at 7-30pm on Wednesday 13th July 2011.

A question was asked about the computer virus scam which is going round again. Adam said to pass details to Peter Hughes.

Another questioner asked about the danger of carrying ones driving license as it contains full details of home address should it be stolen. The questioner had referred the problem to Liam Fox who had passed it on to Department for Transport.

8. Chairman's Report.

We currently have 163 Watches covering over 3,700 households in our town, and we have introduced an information pack for new Contact Persons. I would like to thank all our existing Contact Persons, and those who have decided to retire during the year, for doing such a splendid job as without them, these schemes would not exist. I would also like to thank Terry Thompson and the Bobby Van man for continuing to provide and erect our street signs. I should add that our Public Liability Insurance was renewed in March. We do however need new Contact Persons for the following schemes: Chapel Close; The Bramleys; Valley Gardens; Wyatts Close; Silver Street; Oaksey Grove and Greenfield Crescent. If we are not successful in finding replacements then these schemes will have to be de-registered with the Police and all street signs removed.

We now we have an entry on the official Home Office 'Neighbourhood Watch' website ("www.ourwatch.org.uk"), and we now also appear on the [Nailsea People \("www.nailseapeople.co.uk"\)](http://www.nailseapeople.co.uk) and Nailsea Life ("www.nailsealife.co.uk") web sites. Our meetings have been advertised on the Nailsea People site and also in the Nailsea Paper, although unfortunately our entries have not been published in the last two issues.

We have continued to produce five colour newsletters during the year, and as always either myself or Mike West would like to hear of any suggestions you may have for content. The yellow Community Watch newsletter was discontinued in February due to Police cutbacks. Unfortunately, we received numerous complaints from Contact Persons about the number of newsletters they have received, since we changed to supplying only enough newsletters to cover those members who had paid their subscription. This has caused an enormous amount of extra work for some Committee members and I would like to especially thank Ian Mottram, Cliff Mallinson and Matthew Mulvenna for their efforts in supplying the needs of our Contact Persons. Thank you also to those Contact Persons for bearing with us during these difficulties. As a result, we will now revert to supplying the full quota of newsletters to each Contact Person starting in September.

We have maintained contact with Sturt Watch in Adelaide, Australia and continue to receive copies of their newsletter.

Our guest speakers during the year have been Mike Evans (Magistrate), Mike Cooper (Nailsea Fire & Rescue Centre), Sue Hago (Royal Aux Air Force Nurse, Afghanistan) and Dave Francis (Nailsea Tithe Barn). Please let us know if there is a particular subject or guest speaker you would like at one of our meetings. We had another successful Christmas Social in December, when we had Nailsea Scouts, Clevedon Windows, Country Markets and the Police attending. I do hope that all members who came enjoyed themselves and are looking forward to our next Social on Wednesday December 7th.

Your Committee has made some changes to reduce costs, specifically holding our Committee meetings at Nailsea Fire Station and changing our Printers. However, we need to make further changes to ensure that we do not operate at a loss. Members are therefore being asked to vote at today's AGM for one of two recommendations put forward by your Committee.

Steve Date has returned to Nailsea Police Station as our local Inspector and Peter Hughes is now the Crime Prevention Design Officer for North Somerset. We have also been represented at all three local PACT meetings this year. As you will all be aware by now, Avon and Somerset Constabulary decided to make Richard Stamp's role redundant on June 8th. I am sure you will all agree that Richard has served us extremely well in the eight years he has been here, particularly in setting up new schemes. At this time I believe there is no planned replacement for Richard, so we will have to wait and see what Avon and Somerset Constabulary plan to do. In the meantime, please contact the Chairman or any member of the Committee about new schemes or other Neighbourhood Watch business, and don't forget you can also contact us by email (nailseanhw@gmail.com).

Finally I would like to say a sincere thank you to all of my Committee for their work this past year and to all of you, the membership, for helping to maintain a strong Neighbourhood Watch in our town.

Peter Smith

9. Matters Arising.

There were none.

10. Election of Officers and Committee.

Mike West temporarily took the chair to elect the Chairman for the coming year, Peter was the only candidate and unanimously elected. Peter then retook the chair for the unanimous election of Gill McConachie as Treasurer and Sue Whiteley as Minutes Secretary with responsibility for the Database passing to Matthew Mulvenna. The rest of the committee were also re-elected unanimously.

11. Any Other Business.

Peter announced the result of the vote on changes to subs or meetings. It was overwhelming in favour of raising subscriptions (135 for; 45 against; total of postal and meeting votes cast)

Pensioners voice had sent a petition for us to sign regarding the provision disabled access at Nailsea and Backwell station.

A collection box was placed to allow donations to Tyntesfield

The meeting then broke for refreshments at 1956hrs.

12. Guest speaker.

Terry Stephen's of the National Trust gave a talk on the Tyntesfield Estate.

Notes taken

Originally there were 30 guides, now there are over 300. The history of the estate dates back to 1327. In the mid 18th century there was only a farmhouse. Then in 1813, John Seymour bought the property and land and demolished the farmhouse and the other farm buildings to construct a country mansion. In Ownership changed in 1844 when William Gibbs bought the property. He engaged Bristol architect John Norton to make alterations to the house, including new extensions and an additional upper floor between 1863 and 1865. The original grand tower over the entrance was modelled on Prague Town Hall and featured a clock which was lit by gas. In 1875 the chapel was built. The total cost of all these alterations was £70,000 – less than one year's income for the family, which was increasing by around £80,000 year on year. The house contains an outstanding Victorian library with the original Wilton carpet from 1865.

In the 1930's the house was suffering from wet and dry rot. Lady Blanch Gibbs demolished the entrance tower in 1940. She was also responsible for building the Battle Axes Inn in Wraxall for the estate workers to take refreshment. The Gibbs family motto stands above the house entrance and is written in Spanish rather than the usual Latin.

Recently the roof has been completely restored by the Trust as it was leaking badly. The scaffolding used to complete this work was the largest free standing scaffold in western Europe, with no part resting on the house. It weighed 363 tonnes and used 28 miles of steel piping and 11 miles of boarding.

Tyntesfield was originally powered by gas which was made on site before it was converted to electricity. This was also generated on site initially by steam engines, then by diesel engines before the house was connected to the mains electricity in the mid 20th century..

Terry's presentation was very informative and was illustrated with some superb colour slide on the house interior.

Meeting closed at 21:15