

**Nailsea Neighbourhood Watch AGM  
United Reformed Church Hall, Nailsea  
19:30 Wednesday 02<sup>nd</sup> March 2022**

**Minutes**

**Attendees**

Jeremy Blatchford, Colin Oliver, Gill McConachie, Ken Hallett, Malcolm Pattrick, Sheila Pattrick, Mike Chapman, Angela Oliver, Audrey Scott, David Kay, Derek Smith, Eileen Lewis, Jo Hearne, Sandra Hearne, Sarah Hearne, Jane Starkey, Peter Sims,

**Guest Speakers**

Paul Lewis, & Lee Kerslake –Local Sergeant,  
Jordan Coates – Fraud Co-ordinator.

**1. Apologies**

Ian Hamblett  
Rich West

**2. Minutes of previous AGM**

- Copies of the last AGM were circulated before the meeting by means of a link via the Community Alert system.

**3. Matters arising from the Minutes**

- No issues raised.

**4. Election of Committee**

- This was completed over 2 meetings, one via Zoom, and one in person.
- Note Proposer/Seconder details below.
- Voters in Zoom meeting (Z), Voters in Person Meeting (I).

Proposals and Seconders required for the following Committee roles -

Chairman – Jeremy Blatchford

**Proposed - Sandra Hearne (I)**

**Seconded - Sarah Hallett (Z)**

Treasurer – Jane Starkey

**Proposer – Colin Oliver (I)**

**Seconder - Jo Hearne (I)**

Meetings Secretary – Ken Hallett

**Proposer - Peter Sims (I)**

**Seconder - Gill McConachie (Z)**

Other Committee members –

Rich West

**Proposer - Ken Hallett (Z)**

**Seconder - Jeremy Blatchford (Z)**

Gill McConachie

**Proposer - Ken Hallett (Z)**

**Seconder - Sarah Hallett (Z)**

Sandra Hearne

**Proposer - Andrew McConachie (Z)**

**Seconder – Jeremy Blatchford (Z)**

The allocation of Committee roles were unanimously agreed by all in the meeting – see attendance list above.

## **5. Chairman's Report**

See separate report.

Question – Do we have any initiatives to draw new neighbourhoods into schemes?

Jeremy confirmed we have requested Council to add a levy of £10 per house, but this has been declined as not Council policy.

Suggestion was to include details of NHW in the Welcome Pack of all new developments.

Netherton Grange is an example. This was agreed as a good idea, and we need to try to find out how we can be included in pack. Jeremy to take it up with Council and Developers and get back to Committee.

## **6. Treasurer's Report**

Sandra Hearne as outgoing Treasurer confirmed that nothing has changed since the last meeting.

## **7. Changes to the Constitution and GDPR**

### Constitution

Colin Oliver went through the changes applied to the Constitution –

- a. Removed reference to talking about collecting subs,
- b. Email agreed as a means of communication in respect of terminating membership in writing,
- c. Changed the quorum numbers from 30 to 15 if we wish to dissolve the Committee and/or the Association.

**Proposed – Sandra Hearne (I)**

**Seconded – Gill McConachie (I)**

### GDPR

Colin Oliver went through changes applied to the GDPR document.

- a. Colin confirmed Paul Johnson (Area Police Co-Ordinator) has agreed the original GDPR wording.
- b. Co-Ordinators were audited by Colin and Paul in August 2021. The list of the scheme members held by the Co-Ordinator should be audited on a regular basis.
- c. Made clearer what we hold in database – no scheme members details – that is with co-ordinators.
- d. Confirms how data should be kept and when a person leaves their name is taken off/permanently erased.
- e. All digital documents will be password protected.
- f. A lot of principles are the same.

**Proposer – Ken Hallett (I)**

**Seconder – Jeremy Blatchford (I)**

### **8. AOB**

- a. Meeting frequency was queried?
  - We used to have 4 meetings every 3 months.
  - Agreed in future to have Public meetings every March, May, July (AGM), and October.
- b. Jeremy requested ideas for speakers for future meetings.
  - Sue Lomax (Ex chair) had a list we believe, so we will look to find this and use as basis of updated list of speakers.

# **Acting Chairman Report for AGM 2022**

## **Jeremy Blatchford**

We are cursed with living in interesting times. We have struggled through COVID and now we face developing war crisis. What matters more than ever is a strong, safe community.

Nailsea's Neighbourhood Watch has survived the COVID crisis, but only just and thanks to the commitment of a dedicated few.

Our community has changed, and it is growing. The house building could swell our population by 30 to 50%. We also face a time of rising interest rates and inflation. We need to work together. Knowing your neighbours and supporting each other is increasingly important. A smile, a hello makes all the difference. The ability to find support can make a huge difference.

We have always had some crime. Some youth issues, some drugs, some burglary for starters. Side by side we have the issues of many being alone, rebuilding friendships or just being new in the community.

Neighbourhood Watch is much more than keeping eyes on homes. It is about small communities living together, caring and protecting each other - Building a new community. A community that is safe for all.

Part of our security must be to ensure our town is a hard target for the rogues from outside. They must feel a very high probability of being caught.

We must reach out to our members, establish proper, modern communications of a style they choose to use. Our membership needs to extend to all areas and all ages.

Our members need to understand what is needed to protect our town and be willing to communicate what they see and the police to process it quickly.

We need to reinforce our community by knowing our neighbours and working together.

We look for your thoughts and ideas to build our community making it safer and stronger through Neighbourhood Watch.

Jeremy Blatchford

Acting Chairman.

28<sup>th</sup> February 2022

# **Fraud Prevention talk**

## **Guest Speaker - Jordan Coates**

- Jordan Coates introduced herself as a Fraud Protection Officer in Avon & Somerset Police.
- Fraud is the UK's No1 crime type.
- Only 20% of fraud is recorded. So 80% is not!
- Total financial loss is an unknown.
- In our area – 2020/21 there were 5015 reports of fraud. So if this is 20% then actual total is nearer 25000 incidents!
- This costs the UK 190 billion per year. To put in perspective the NHS budget is 130 billion, and you could buy Balmoral Castle 137 times over!
- Please don't be overwhelmed
- Fraudsters can call from overseas which can be very frustrating and difficult to stop.
- What can we do?
- Mainly need to educate people about fraud.
- Priorities of fraud team are -

a. Exceptional service

b. Educate re types of scams

- What techniques can you apply? What to do when faced with a scam?
- Jordan handed out some "party bags" with info in for attendees.
- Book of big scams was passed out to people – Jordan encouraged people to pass on to neighbours. Highlights biggest scams and techniques. If know what you are up against you can prevent it. There is an audio version as well.
- Keep pen by landline to act as a prompt.
- Take 5 – step back and think what is being asked of you. Is my gut feeling damaged?
- Do person on phone need my pin number?
- Tell 2 people about it. Takes pressure off you. Share your knowledge.

Top 3 scams are :

a. Phishing – eg from Amazon HMRC, - pretending to be part of these Company's.

b. Phone calls - No one there on phone – press 1 – connects to fraudster. Don't do it.

c. Emails - Do not open a link – if unsure call organisation. Not the number which is on email.

- Romance and companion fraud is very common – “The Tinder Swindler” TV programme has increased awareness massively! Introduce bank transfer and crypto currency. “let’s keep this between us” – No! Don’t ever send money to anyone.
- d. WhatsApp scam – receive a message from an unrecognised number – “Hi Mum – emergency – need help!” Such an urgency. It’s a scam!
- £60K was lost locally in Feb this year alone.
  - Holding the line open – “How do I know it’s you” – they give you a number to ring and hang up to call your bank – “yes it was us”. However, the fraudster has never hung up, and it is them you are talking to! If called on landline – call back on mobile.
  - BT Guardian or Truecall will block calls.

Jeremy thanked Jordan for an excellent and informative talk.

## **Local Police Report**

### **Guest Speakers – Lee Kerslake & Paul Lewis**

- Lee has joined from WSM where he was sergeant of the Town Centre team and was introduced by Jeremy as a real asset to Nailsea.
- He used to be the National contact for NHW and he knew of Nailsea NHW as one of most active in the force.
- Since taking up his role, Lee has taken time to observe what is going on and where priorities need to lie.
- Nailsea is a safe place, but there is always stuff going on.
- For instance, the issue re anti social behaviour with kids in Somerset Square is known and visits to the Square have been made to identify the few who cause issues.
- The concept of NHW has dwindled recently –and he understands that the police need to add more value to the partnership.
- There is a monthly Newsletter being made available to all.
- The reduced funding of the Police can be used an excuse for a poor service, but this is not an excuse he will accept.
- It won’t be immediate, but we will get there.
- Special constabulary are looking to help with road speeding offenders.
- The team consists of 4 PCs, 8 PCSO
- As we can see from the Newsletter, Lee’s team covers a large area including Long Ashton, Pill, Blagdon, Hewish etc.
- The intention is to do everything they can to be really active, and useful and be a partner to NHW.

- Examples are
- ✓ Potentially using Cadets to assist with post delivery to highlight issues where needed.
- ✓ There will be events – citizens academies, drugs masterclasses, NHW Co-Ordinatos masterclasses, interesting stuff! Watch this space! Looking for a venue ideally in Nailsea but otherwise a local venue such as the “Hand” Stadium in Clevedon.

### Questions

1. Do you go on the beat?

Yes but if you need specific presence somewhere you can ask. See Newsletter.

2. Where are we with the Graffiti issue?

Lee confirmed they had identified someone in this respect via CCTV footage so will hopefully have a resolution soon.

3. ASB in Somerset Square – who are they?

Lees team know a couple of people involved, but they need to know all, and then talk to parents. Remember, this is a community issue as well as a Police one.

4. Any progress on shed break in's and bike thefts? This seems to have dropped off a bit recently after the arrest of a person from Bristol, who had been stopped in Nailsea.

Jeremy thanked both Lee and Paul for an excellent review of where we are with local policing and the vision for the future.

Meeting ended at 21:30

Ken Hallett Minutes Secretary