

SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD BOARD AGM & MEETING
Tuesday 25 July 2023 starting at 7pm
Salon Room, York House, Twickenham

MINUTES

SNB MEMBERS ATTENDING	REPRESENTING
PBS Peter Burrows-Smith	SNB Chair and Royal Parks Link
WKP Wendy Kyrle-Pope	MPS Link advisor & LCP2, IAG Richmond, IAG Frontline Policing, BTP link
JM John Murray	NHW Hamptons/Met Volunteer/PLG Chair
AC Avril Coelho	Business
AJ Anne Johnstone BEM	PLG Chair/Met Volunteer
PM Pam Mcmillen	SNB Minutes Secretary
MS Martin Sands	Hampton Wick / Teddington Community
SL Stephen Lloyd	Vice SNB Chair, PLG Chair St Margarets & N Twickenham
TL Anthony Lindsay	NHW Whitton
RA Ravi Arora	Multicultural Richmond
PF Pamela Fleming	Housing RHP
RE Richard Eason	LGBTQ+
SNB MEMBER APOLOGIES	
JM Janet Marriot	Older Adults
LP Cllr Lesley Pollesche	Community
BK Cllr Ben Khosa	Community St Margarets & North Twickenham
JG Jonathan Green	Richmond Youth Programme
CA Carole Atkinson MBE	Hampton Hill Association and S&S CMG
Jeff Picton	SNB Treasurer
Roger Metcalfe	
BP Beverley Picton	NHW South Richmond
POLICE ATTENDING	REPRESENTING
RA Roger Arditti	Richmond Superintendent SW BCU
RM Rumi Miah	Sergeant Richmond
COUNCIL ATTENDING	REPRESENTING
FS Cllr F Sacks	Barnes
AP Cllr A Patterson	Mortlake & Barnes Common
NC Cllr N Crookdake	Mortlake & Barnes Common
KM Cllr K Mansfield	St Margaret's & N Twickenham
Cllr K Sehra	Whitton
Cllr A McNulty-Howard	Mortlake & Barnes Common
LS Lee Spears	Community Safety Partnership, LBRUT
ORGANISATIONS / PUBLIC	REPRESENTING
Philip Moshi	Public
Eric Afiakwa Owusu	Public
Jacal Hadi	Cole Park Residents Association
Christina Gore	Public
JTE John T Evans	PLG Chair Whitton & Heathfield
Mark Oosterveen	Public
Wynne Richards	Public

Margaret Richards	Public
Venece Fleveld	Public
Tahsin Chuodury	Public

APOLOGIES	REPRESENTING
Robert Blakebrough	PLG Chair Teddington and Hampton Wick
John Dodds	PLG Chair North Richmond
JMc Jon Mcloughlin	Richmond Inspector, SW BCU

1. Welcome and Apologies.

Peter Burrows-Smith (PBS) welcomed everyone to the meeting and AGM. He introduced Richmond Superintendent Roger Arditti and PS Rumi Miah.

Apologies were noted. Members of the public will be able to ask questions on current policing/issues at item 6.

2. AGM 2022-23

Presented in reverse order to the agenda, as detailed below.

An initial question was however raised about whether the incident in Barnes will be covered, why was there such public interest? WKP - large attendance due to some ongoing serious incidents in the area. Adult and a young child mugging, plus shop burglaries caused upset in local area, so a combination of factors. Councillors, CSP and local community came together to address the problems.

Lessons learned – Mums against Mugging gave a presentation; creation of Safe Places in the local area. Wandsworth and Richmond are introducing Safe Havens, will train people to run these.

Aim is to build resilience in the local community, work took place together with Hammer-smith, also work with housing associations and BTP.

Question: is this information re arrests out in the public domain? WKP and Barnes Councillors were not aware of this.

2.2 Election of Board members

PM – all current members will continue to serve, plus one new member, Roger Metcalfe (who has given his apologies for tonight). We are still seeking to recruit members to fulfill the roles of Media officer and VAWG lead. I now ask the board to approve all the continuing members, and the new member. A list will be sent out with the minutes of this meeting. Appointments approved.

2.3 Election of Officers

PM - we have had proposed and seconded nominations for officers and these are:

Chair: Peter Burrows-Smith

Vice Chair: Stephen Lloyd

Treasurer: Jeffrey Picton

I now ask the board to approve these appointments. Appointments approved.

PM - I now will hand back to the Chair, Peter Burrows Smith, to give the Annual Report, which has been circulated prior to this meeting.

2.1 Annual Report

PBS briefly overviewed the Report on the past year's work, explaining that the main focus of the SNB's current work was reviewing the Community Engagement work, following the various ongoing MPS reviews.

3. BOARD MEETING

3.1. Minutes of the last meeting (18.4.23)

These were approved as being a true record and will be placed on the council website.

Matters arising from the last meeting – none raised.

3.2 Presentation by MPS (previously circulated)

Crime Data (key points)

Decrease in theft of motor vehicles, which is one of the police key priorities.

Decrease in violence by 5%, proactive work by police response teams and SNTs

Burglary has increased by 35% - especially commercial properties. Usually a small number of offenders, cause a lot of crimes, so arrests, reduces figures.

Robbery – main figure from Barnes, where work is now being done.

Public order offences figure has gone up, as we are in the summer months, risk is low, volume is high.

ASB figures are up, a lot happens around school closing time, and between midnight and 1pm. Police work in partnership with council, CSP.

Public confidence and satisfaction still key

“Confidence figure” – a couple of results are down, although this Borough has the least number of crimes. RA is struggling with this - why is this happening faster than elsewhere in Met? Police are working with the people who compile the data. Police are working hard to engage, have more officers, using social media. Seven questions get asked to determine satisfaction.

Still a low figure in ‘knows how to contact ward officer’ and want to get this figure up, through engagement. Communications and officers on the street will dominate this year for police and PLGs. Still need to do a lot of work on this.

MS: had to report a potential crime, rang 101, got through quickly, police came round quickly and followed up. RA – thank you for this. One of the biggest complaints is re phone responses.

RA; re confidence and reporting, is confidence affected by level of reporting? RA certain communities will have confidence issues.

RE: contact churn affects this, specific groups have challenges. Why confidence in Richmond is lower, could be more awareness of negative media stories. Re contacting local ward officer, put contact details onto the local ward newsletter, together with good news stories.

PBS – communications was main issue at the community police meeting last night. Need to get info out simply to all residents.

PF – Richmond Society held a meeting, confidence in police was low, due to difficulty reporting, then when do report, no follow up. Also lack of visibility of police. Monthly bulletin does list SNT contact details, but people still do not see it.

Cllr – why has perception gone down? There is a time lag, high profile problems in certain wards, lag in response time. Once issue has been addressed, perception should improve. Declines could be temporary.

MS – we don't see success or failure rate of police clear up rate. There is no indication of how successful police are. RA – convictions are now called positive outcomes.

WKP – can we have access to those figures? RA – you can have them. **ACTION RA**

RE – re school gate engagement with parents, residents, very important area where police could engage. RA – has responsibility for schools' officers across Borough, review across 4 Boroughs, has come back with an action plan. Will update at next meeting. **ACTION RA**
As an example, in Wandsworth, police have a project to work with SEND children to be police cadets, very positive response and project.

Question: asked have police tried to survey what public want re confidence? RA – police event last night, was part of the process.

MS: constant changeover of senior officers affects confidence, would be nice to have more constancy, less churn. RA – top officers will now be kept in post for 3 years, real challenge is with PCs, and burnout.

Stop & Search

S&S – 515 searches in past quarter. 31% positive outcomes. Top search is for drugs, then weapons. Mainly adults, 18-24, white, males.

WKP – S&S scrutiny panel meets regularly, so clear information can be seen, WKP & CA can view in more depth.

Stop and Search Dashboard which can be found at <https://www.met.police.uk/sd/stats-and-data/met/stop-and-search-dashboard>.

The meeting order was then revised with "PUBLIC Q&A" bought forward.

4. PUBLIC Q&A

Cllr KM and residents from Cole Park:

At recent PLG, drugs issue came up in Moormead Park area, drug dealing in a local road, secondary issue, more low level issues from drug taking. Local group felt intimidated by drug dealers, plus there is a playground, with 4 escape routes for drug dealers to 'escape down'. Local SNT have been doing more patrols but abstraction is affecting this.

Q: how high a priority is this for police and what can and is being done? Residents are extremely concerned about this and some have been threatened.

RA – needs to look into this more outside of the meeting, see how the designing out of crime could look at this, what work council is doing.

RM – this is a number one priority locally. Cllr, CSP and RM – to talk after meeting.

Resident has been physically assaulted, evidence of the offender and their address is known, but feels nothing has been done.

AC – had a similar drugs problem in an area in Hampton North, arranged for shrubbery to be cut back by council, also had a system of 3 ASB offences, which triggered a warrant to arrest.

Drugs issues in Mortlake and Barnes, residents have fear of reprisals if they report. Need to reassure people how to report anonymously eg Crimestoppers.

Cllr TP – can police confirm police resources, eg 2 inspectors, more constables etc? Can police make this clear. Also Commissioner’s view about officers having an ‘office’ on the ward within 20 mins walk. Will more specials be recruited?

RA – MOPAC own the police buildings, many police stations have been sold. Police looking at co-locating, not an easy fix.

RA – re officer numbers, each Borough will have own dedicated senior officer and another Inspector. Hope to have 1700 PCSOs across London over next few years. BCU want to stabilise Response teams. Police struggling to recruit PCSOs. Would like to have more specials, but there are practical issues around this.

Cllr from Barnes – talked about working with Hammersmith, perception is a lot of crime comes from Hammersmith. Would like a Hammersmith contact to come to the next PLG meeting, can police make this happen? **ACTION RA**

Drugs are common across a lot of Boroughs, middle class problem, work needs to be done with the public and private schools and parents. RA – Drugs Reduction Partnership is an initiative with council public health and police.

Cllr – unaware of this drugs initiative. Note, drug use in this Borough is very high, doesn’t feel this is communicated enough to public.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

PBS introduced the SNB’s developing Community Engagement plan, which had previously been circulated.

a. SNB Organisation

- New formal structure organised around PLG operations
- To spread the workload, each SNB member to take responsibility for a specific issue, and not just turn up at quarterly meetings
- PLG – to be reorganised into 3 geographic clusters. SL working on with PBS

b. Communications

- Robust, workable communication plans needed covering both macro and micro issues
- Communication channels review
- Keep text simple

JM – already preparing more regular, shorter, combined bulletins
PBS – police are exploring new avenues on social media.

c. Priority first actions

- How to contact police
- Outreach development – how to reach specific groups
- PLG review
- Public education/awareness – keep it simple

d. In practice

- Fundamental we all work together (with MPS & Council)
- Internal SNB steering group set up to implement and monitor plan
- Recruitment still a problem

TL – this is ambitious, do you have a timeframe? PBS – completed by year end, with main items within 6 months.

JM – people who attend these SNB meeting's only every 3 months, are unaware of the amount of work that is going on to run PLGs and the SNB. We need people to help and take responsibilities.

6. Priority Setting for Borough

Drugs (especially connected to Violent Crime and ASB)
VAWG (Violence against Women and Girls)
Vehicle crime
Burglary

Discussion re how important drugs issues are to wards and residents. Members at the meeting discussed how drugs are classified, ASB or violent crime? WKP - could have 2 categories ASB plus drugs, and violent crime plus drugs.

MS – question asked re theft of high end cars. RA - theft of Range Rovers and Toyota Prius seem to be happening at moment.

7. AOB

PBS - MOPAC funding has not come through yet – investment criteria will continue as community engagement, crime prevention and crime reduction.
As always, there is uncertainty re how funding support will develop over next few years.

AC - High Tide Festival this weekend, if anyone can help at the SNB stall, please contact AC.

JTE – need paper copies of police documents for this meeting, looking at the screen is a waste of time. Also need a microphone so we can hear. **ACTION PBS**

8. Date of Next Meetings – October 31 2023

Thanks to everyone for attending.

Meeting closed at 9pm