

AVCF Minutes – Open meeting, held on 19/09/18 at Aveley Christian Centre.

Meeting Opened: 19.45

Meeting Closed: 20.55

Attendees (Initials were used to signify who spoke).

PC 71 Neil Brand	NB	Mary Feltham	MF	Brenda Marrow	BM
Bob Croucher	BC	Alan Field	AF	Karen Witton	KW
Chris Croucher	CC	Noel Grenfell	NG	Teresa Webster	TW
Beryl Davies	BD	David Hannah	DAH	Jacqui Payne	JP
Alex Day	AD	Deborah Hannah	DEH		

The meeting opened at 19.45 with a welcome from Jacqui Payne (JP) [CVS] who was chairing.

The minutes of the previous meeting were distributed to all who wanted a copy, with time given to read them and prepare any matters arising.

MF and AD proposed and seconded that the minutes were a true record. All were in favour.

Matters arising: TW raised the issue of the car park in the recreation grounds and it was agreed that the issue would be discussed later, or in AOB.

PC 71 Neil Brand (NB) gave an address on the current crime situation in Aveley, the changes and some history on the policing in Thurrock. General crime was down, but anti-social behaviour, especially nuisance bikers and HGVs were a concern for residents. The superintendent had made a point of targeting Kenningtons and was aware people felt there was a lack of 'visible' policing. NB announced that 12 extra police officers were being added to the Thurrock Force.

NG said he and others had seen HGVs coming up Ship Lane on many occasions.

NB said there are moves to try and reduce the HGV activity in Aveley, particularly by using CCTV.

TW Raised the issue of HGVs as well, saying a lot are coming through Aveley of which she and a number of other residents have photos of the offending vehicles. On a number of occasions when TW and others have challenged the drivers, it appears they are using commercial Sat-Navs that do not warn HGVs of restrictions. TW asked NB if a further request to Thurrock Council (via the Police) could be made to get a round-about put in Ship Lane near to the A13? TW also said that Kevin Field of the Ship PH had suffered extensive costs (approx. £2,000) when an HGV broke his cellar entrance. TW said there was a petition to move the pedestrian crossing further down Ship Lane.

BC asked NB are there any police regularly in Aveley. NB said he was the only 'official' PC in the area. However, the 'Team' based in Grays are directed to the areas of greatest need, or 'Hot Spots'. NB also said that Aveley is often a low priority as the relative crime rate is much lower than elsewhere.

DEH asked how the crime figures are worked out?

NB said it's a percentage, so it may appear worse.

TW was concerned at the number of burglaries. The numbers on the Police website, showing 'Hot Spots' didn't seem to add up.

NB said there had been some notable successes, citing Kenningtons as an example.

BC asked about patrol cars in Aveley, as he didn't see many.

NB said it's hard to say how many, but there's not much patrolling by other PCs, other than the community team. Mostly it's PC NB only in Aveley.

NG said he had attended the PCC meeting (Mr Hurst and his group gave an address and crime figures). However, the numbers were challenged by many members of the public.

NB said he can only go by the information he is given.

TW said NB had visited her property and given crime reduction advice, showing her a number of areas that needed better protection. So if the public need a visit, please ask NB.

NB was asked about Traveller encampments and who is making the decision on Section 61 orders. NB said Chelmsford and the local Superintendent choose which evictions to enforce. The ones who cause more trouble or damage are usually forced to move on the quickest.

JP said NB publishes a lot of information and updates every 3 months on his Police Facebook pages.

AD gave an update on the HUB. It went out to tender and 8 replies were received from builders and contractors. The responses are under review and hopefully a final decision will be made in the next few weeks. It is hoped that the 'Shovel to Soil' event will occur on the 22/10/18 if awarded on time.

TW raised the issue of the loss of the car park in the Rec and whether alternatives had been sought.

AD said the News Agents had been asked and agreed in principle to allow the use of their car park.

TW asked if longer opening than just the shop hours could be arranged and AD said he'd check.

DEH asked who's responsible for the barrier when the site opens. AD said the appointed contractor.

DAH asked if the CCTV will still operate when the construction starts. AD will ask Thurrock Council.

TW asked if access to the HUB will only be via the main entrance? AD said yes, apart from the Nursery, which has its own (dedicated and restricted) entrance.

JP reminded everyone that the next meeting will cover AVCF options and encouraged as many people to advertise it and encourage residents to come and find out about it.

AD gave a presentation on the 3 Options (A, B & C), describing the Benefits and Draw Backs of each.

JP and TW said Social Media is a powerful way of informing people and spreading a message.

DAH congratulated AD on a very good and fair presentation.

JP encouraged everyone to be involved and to ask as many others to join as possible.

AD said a leaflet had been prepared to advertise the meeting on the 17/10/18 and asked all who could to help distribute them around Aveley. The flyer has the 3 options printed on the back. AD said he would get the website updated a.s.a.p. and ensure the options and meeting are added.

JP said many of the early Forums had sub-groups to cover events and key activities, so let's see what can be done in Aveley. St Georges Day and the Christmas Market are organised that way.

JP asked if there was any other business (AOB), but nobody raised anything.

AF thanked JP for chairing the proceedings.

The next meeting is at 19.30 on the 17/10/2018.