

Executive Group Meeting of 10th October 2018
held at Police Headquarters, Hinchingsbrooke.



1. Present

John Fuller (Chair)	JF
Morcom Lunt	ML
Dave Harrowing	DH
David Godsmark	DG
Vic Kerlin – Police Liaison SPOC	VK
Robin Sutton – Whittlesey	RS
Vic Nickson	VN
Geoff Varley	GV
Val Godby	VG
Toni Cray	TC
John Glanville	JG

Apologies for absence

Frederick Roy Gerstner (FRG), Kym Moussi (KM), Ray Bisby – Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner (RB), Mike Brooks (MB) – Watch Groups Coordinator, Cambs Police

2. Minutes of meeting held on 4th July 2018

The draft minutes issued for the meeting of 4th July were agreed as an accurate record.

The list of Open Action & Issues that was distributed around 18 July 2018 was also accepted as accurate.

3. Matters Arising - Updated Actions and Issues Document

The “Open Actions & Issues” document has been updated following 10th October meeting and should be reviewed in parallel to these minutes.

Note that all complete and most of the “background” entries have been moved to the “Completed and Closed” tab.

4 Treasurer’s Report.

The draft report for the first three months of the 2018-2019 Financial Year (to 30 September), as circulated, was accepted without discussion or objection.

ML reported that the acceptance of Roy Gerstner as a signatory for the Metro Bank account was on hold. This is because of a demand from a Metro Bank officer that all documentation relating to his appointment as a signatory should refer to him as Frederick Roy Gerstner, as shown on his passport.

The documentation, which has to be less than three months old, has to validate that

1. the Cambridgeshire Neighbourhood Watch has an approved Constitution, that defines the role of the Executive Group
2. There is an approved record of the Cambs NHW Annual General Meeting appointing Frederick Roy Gerstner to the Executive Group
3. There is an approved record of the Executive Group formally agreeing that Frederick Roy Gerstner be added to the list of signatories to the Metro Bank account.

The meeting agreed that Frederick Roy Gerstner should be added to the list of signatories to the Metro Bank account. Frederick Roy Gerstner will have a “two to sign” rule access only.

Action 25 – ML

ML emphasised that the **minutes would have to be approved by emails** from **each member present accepting** that these **draft minutes** were an accurate record of the meeting. If changes were appropriate, new text should be suggested in the email.

Action E.G. Members

5. Police Report

5.1 Engagement with NHW

VK reported that some of the Policing Review subgroups, formed to ensure delivery of the Neighbourhood Policing model, were winding down because several of the required outputs had been rolled out, for example, Community Resilience, and focusing on what is deliverable by area.

Engagement reporting is now by exception. The Joint Engagement Strategy is still work in progress.

Superintendent Laura Hunt is now responsible for Partnership and Operational Support and she is drafting a paper which looks at the future of the PCSOs and the delivery of their core functions.

Chief Superintendent Vicky Skeels has now retired and been awarded the Queens Policing Medal.

JF to review his involvement with the Neighbourhood Policing Steering Group meetings.

He felt that his input might be more valuable to the Engagement Work-stream led by Chief Inspector Marcia Pringle.

Action JF

Local Panels and Communications

VK confirmed that the operation of the Local Panels continues to be suspended.

The status of the proposed rollout of the community communications model as practised in South Cambridgeshire over the past few months is to be established. (Reference actions listed in minutes from 4th July.)

Action VK

JF pointed out that the areas with good community communications were also the areas expressing the highest levels of satisfaction with the Police service, and Superintendent James Sutherland always felt this was no coincidence. South Cambs area had historically recorded top public satisfaction levels in the Force and was one of the highest in the country.

The Force Communications team is researching what is regarded by the community as “good Police communications”. RS recommended that the “researchers” talk to residents rather than Councillors even though they are hard to contact.

Action VK

JF suggested that this could be a role for NHW Coordinators.

Action Exec Group

VK reported that Safeland, previously “Trygve”, is now regarded by the Police as being not relevant, there not being any significant degree of take up within the rural community. This is probably because of the widespread use of Facebook and Twitter.

VK also reported that all local officers were now in their teams and local contact points had now been finalised. Details to be circulated.

Action JF - to forward to Exec. Members for onward circulation

Chief Constable

The new Chief Constable, Nick Dean took up his post on 1st October. He is very supportive of community action and volunteering.

Short durations of appointments

Regarding the concern regularly expressed in the past about the short periods for which Senior and Supervisory officers were in specific posts, VK advised that longer terms in office were being sought, and as stated by Dan Vajzovic at the AGM, it is now the policy.

Neighbourhood policing now falls within the remit of ACC Vajzovic, the two Area Commanders and their two Neighbourhood Chief Inspectors.

Note

5.2 Herbert Protocol

A “soft” version of the Herbert Protocol leaflet is to be circulated to the members of the Executive Group for further issue as appropriate.

Action 31 - VK

5.3 Police Scam Work Group (CASASP)

VN had been unable to attend the Workshop held 19th July at Hinchbrook but GV had attended. He had been impressed by the capability of many of the attenders, and the good Police attendance.

The Group has compiled a very comprehensive "Action Plan & Proposed Charter" which was passed to John Fuller and is to be forwarded to the Executive Group.

Action JF

GV had missed the 12th October meeting but aims to attend the future meetings.

Action GV

6 Police and Crime Commissioner Report

In the absence of the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, there was no report.

7. NHW Development

7.1 Support to Burglary Victims

JF noted that while 30 victims of burglary being supported was good, it was not a significant contribution to the problem.

As advised at the last Executive Group meeting, "As soon as NHW assembled a suitable cohort of new volunteers, the Police would arrange the required training - at any time, at any place."

Currently the NHW cover is very weak in some areas of the county particularly Fenland and Cambridge. DG reported that there was a nucleus of a group in East Cambs.

The meeting noted that for some instances, the support can be given effectively by phone. Also, when visits were not involved, the Cambs Police "Contact us" facility on the website had been used to "open" and subsequently "close" cases.

An additional ALERT to be issued reporting on the need, opportunities, and timescale for responses, to encourage additional volunteers.

Action JF

7.2 Appointment of Executive Group Officers

After discussion regarding the need for additional members of the Executive Group, the meeting agreed, nem con, the following Officer appointments.

		Proposer	Seconder
Chairman	Robin Sutton	John Fuller	Dave Harrowing
Treasurer	Morcom Lunt	Geoff Varley	Vic Nickson
Secretary	post left open	ML agreed to prepare minutes for key meetings	

After discussion the following offers were accepted nem con.

Alert County Administrator John Fuller agreed to continue in the County role until Jess Sadek returns or an alternative post holder is found, and to support South Cambridgeshire activities.

Webmaster Vic Nickson agreed to continue in the role.

Facebook & Communications Post left open

Quartermaster for Southern Command Post left open

All members agreed (nem con) to seek possible appointees, noting that prospective role holders who are not on the Executive Committee can always be co-opted.

ALL

7.3 NHW CIO Annual General Meeting

Robin Sutton reported on the Annual General Meeting of the Neighbourhood Watch 'Charitable Incorporated Organisation' held on 4th September 2018.

It was recognised that the organisation was in a vulnerable position having transferred to CIO status, and that the Home Office had provided necessary funds to support development and deliver a number of focused projects.

The primary sponsors ERA Home Security and Co-op and a number of associations around the country have been visited by John Hayward-Cripps, the new CEO, to better understand membership needs and priorities going forward. A number of workshop and consultation events had been held throughout the year, including recent regional seminars. These have provided feedback which has been included in the development of the three-year strategy.

The importance of local activities carried out by members was recognised and it was acknowledged that NWN should enhance this work by providing necessary tools for delivery which has already begun with the introduction of the toolkits.

Whilst technology was seen as having a key role in bringing communities together, much of the ethos of NW is about getting to know your neighbour, something that would feature more prominently in the future.

Note

7.4 Cambridgeshire Force Association – AGM – 22nd September 2018

Constitution

The meeting noted the approval by the 2018 Annual General Meeting of the draft Constitution that the Executive Group had, on 4th July, approved for submission to the AGM.

2018 AGM draft minutes

The meeting agreed that the circulated draft minutes for the AGM were an accurate record of the meeting and that they should be submitted to the next AGM for approval by the County membership.

2018 Conference Notes

The meeting agreed nem con that the issued notes of the Conference (Version 0.2) were an adequate record. *Subsequent to the meeting two small corrections requested by VK were included in Version 1.0*

Speakers

JF reported that he had written to Jason Ablewhite, the P&CC thanking him for his participation in the AGM and his comprehensive report.

JF had also sent our thanks to Dan Vajzovic who had sent a lengthy reply. JF will circulate the reply to the Executive Group.

Action JF

7.5 Boundaries

Geoff Varley reported that he had two areas of concern – Cherry Hinton and the private housing areas at the University's Eddington development.

The July meeting had noted the significance of the challenge with the enclave of Newmarket with East Cambs., and the Trumpington Meadows development straddling the boundary between Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire.

Subsequent to the meeting, in discussions with VISAV, ML was advised that the Trumpington Meadows registration problems will remain unless the Police revise the boundaries of their commands.

Until that is done, Joseph Holmes (VISAV Support Desk) has undertaken to assist with the registration of those living just over the border of the zone "belonging" to ML.

ML suggests that those affected send ML specific details of the problems being experienced to facilitate the ongoing dialog with VISAV. The better the definition, the better the resolution

7.6 Local Issues – District updates

Geoff Varley – Sawston & Linton

Virtually all of the Coordinators across the Linton/Sawston Policing area have returned fully completed and signed GDPR forms.

Police clearance for new volunteer coordinators is taking longer than previously.

Action VK

Toni Cray – Peterborough NHW Association

PNHWA now has a new website (<https://www.nwpeterborough.co.uk/>). It was funded largely from sales of security items at street stalls.

There are now three “Community groups”, which are groups responding to local crime by using Facebook.

TC instanced an example of the power of Facebook. An elderly man was a victim of a distraction burglary that was thought to have been triggered by the neglected state of the front garden at his house. A request for volunteers to help clear the garden was posted on Facebook. A local landscaping company cleared the garden and planted a box of garden plants that the local Morrison’s donated.

John Fuller – Bar Hill & and Histon Area, South Cambs

Working to re-energise NHW in Longstanton, Over, and Willingham. Some progress being made in the Northstowe development with Waterbeach in the offing.

David Godsmark – East Cambs

East Cambs is experiencing a growth in the number of schemes (such as Soham with 3 or 4 potential coordinators), but a decrease in the number of volunteers for the East Cambs Committee.

Successful fundraising continues, with the Council recently providing £250. Also, several Parish Councils have agreed to fund the purchase of street signs.

Agreement has been reached with the Council, for the holding of local meetings in the Council Chamber, free of charge. A meeting with Jason Ablewhite is planned.

Robin Sutton – Whittlesey

Efforts are being made to get residents to understand that they cannot rely solely on others taking action. They are using the “Green Dog Walkers” to set an example.

7.7 NWN Insurance

JF reported that there is no age limit to third party insurance claims. However, members of NHW cannot claim for injuries received while on NHW business if over 80 years of age.

Note

8. Website report

VN reported, contrary to his report in July, the number of visitors to the website remains steady.

Note

Further, that an all-time record had been set with 50 “Contact Us” volunteer requests were received in the three month period, 43 of which were for the Trumpington area.

VN also described a very warming report of a Coordinator foiling an HMRC phone scam and speedy accurate reporting into Action Fraud.

9. A.O.B.***Executive Group Contact list***

The Contact list giving contact details for members of the Executive Group is in need of updating.

The latest list is to be circulated to members for their review and updating as appropriate and return to ML.

Action All***National supplies of material***

JF reported that he had collated a list of items suitable for, and needed from the National organisation, and sent it to headquarters.

Note**10. Date of next meeting**

23rd January 2019 was agreed – subject to the availability of the meeting facilities.

Action VK**Approved by emails:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Date</u>
Robin Sutton	Chairman		
Morcom Lunt	Treasurer		

Note: Version 1.1 change since “Frederick Roy Gerstner will have a “two to sign” rule access only.” added to Section 4 at the foot of Page 1.