

**Notes of Bassingbourn and Melbourn Neighbourhood Panel
held at Bassingbourn Village College
Tuesday 19th January 2010 at 7.30 pm**

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| 1 | Welcome and Introductions |
| 1.1 | John Fuller welcomed everyone to the meeting. Agencies were represented by: Inspector Chris Savage and Sergeant Rebecca Williams Linda Browne – South Cambs. District Council |
| 1.2 | Representatives attended from the parishes Bassingbourn, Litlington, Abington Pigotts, The Mordens, Whaddon, Meldreth, Shepreth, Melbourn, The Chishills, Heydon and Foxton. |
| 2 | Notes of previous meeting |
| 2.1 | Notes of the previous meeting held on October 20 th 2009 were agreed |
| 3 | Police Authority Annual Consultation – ‘Your Police Force’ Jayne Wright Independent member – Presentation attached |
| 3.1 | <p>The following questions were raised:</p> <p>Q. - The workload has been increasing over many years in Cambridgeshire what is being done to make the Government aware of our situation? Ans. - The Chief Constable tries very hard on numerous occasions to make the government aware of the increasing population. There are hopes the situation will improve after the next censuses, which is due to take place in the next year or so.</p> <p>Q. - Is acquisitive crime stealing? Ans. - Yes and the focus is on serious acquisitive which is burglary, robbery and vehicle theft</p> <p>Q. - What are our clear up and conviction rates compared with other forces? Ans. - There is a comprehensive suite of measures which look at individual crime types as well as overall detection rates. The effectiveness of Cambridgeshire is monitored against other similar forces, requiring us to regularly ask where we are and to see where improvement can be made.</p> <p>Q. - Is the force now up to strength in the number of staff and are they all fully trained? Ans. - Yes. There have been two new intakes and new PCSOs and all staff are fully operational.</p> <p>Q. - Is there any prospect of Cambridgeshire joining with other forces? Ans. - There is no move to merge at the moment. However collaborative work with neighbouring forces happens in many ways.</p> <p>Q. - During a Parish Council meeting it was mentioned that 999 calls are not always directed to the correct area because of the post codes. Ans. - This is known to happen although wherever the call is taken it should automatically be passed to the correct force by a computer link. The problem tends to occur when using a mobile and not a landline. The advice is to explain you are a Cambridgeshire resident at the start of the call ensuring call centre knows exactly where you are calling from.</p> |

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| 4 | Update on previous priorities and community feedback |
| 4.1 | <p>Sgt. Rebecca Williams went through the profile update produced by the police divisional intelligence unit in consultation with neighbourhood staff.</p> <p>To reduce crime, fear of crime and anti-social/inconsiderate parking around rural railway stations in the panel area. Increased patrols around the stations and the nearby area, both in vehicles and on foot. Engagement with railway station staff. Information was gathered about when offences are occurring. Monitoring of parking in the area around the stations. Contact details for the Neighbourhood Teams were left with staff at stations. Contacted BTP to establish the level of problems they are dealing with</p> <p>It was asked if the staff had been informed at Ashwell Morden as this station is unmanned from 9.30 am. Sgt William assured them all stations had been contacted</p> <p>Meldreth seems to suffer the most with bike thefts & vandalism. Parking does not seem to be a great problem. Station Road in Melbourn is the only place parking has been seen to be a problem but this is not illegal parking. However the possibility of double yellow lines is being looked into.</p> <p>Reduce anti-social behavior and crime as well as the fear of anti-social behavior and crime. Educate young people about the impact of their behavior. Foot and vehicle patrols of the village. Positive engagement with residents who have experienced anti-social behavior. Reassurance offered and information gathered about the problem. Positive engagement with young people in the area who were receptive and did not want to cause trouble. Survey carried out in hotspot area to gather information about the issue. Engagement with Parish Council for the area, attending Parish Council meeting and we are working together on the anti-social behavior survey. Discussed youth provision in Shepreth with Youth Detached Workers. Engaged with South Cambs Youth Services about new play park site for young people to use, and the possibility of having a youth club in Shepreth.</p> <p>Reports of anti-social behavior in Shepreth have fallen and few young people have been seen out during patrols.</p> <p>Reduce the problem of anti-social behavior in the village and also reduce the fear of anti-social behavior for local residents, particularly the elderly residents of Vicarage Close.</p> <p>Foot patrols and vehicle patrols carried out. Engaged with Melbourn Village College to find out if they are experiencing any problems. Regular liaison with the caretaker there. Positive engagement with young people who have been out in the village. Explained the need to be considerate of elderly residents of Vicarage Close. House to house survey conducted in The Moor – feedback suggested the antisocial behavior had reduced and was seasonal. Liaison with businesses on the High Street. Guardian Awareness letters completed for young people found with alcohol. Moved on young people causing a disturbance. Talks to students at Melbourn Village College planned for February. Discussed problems with South Cambs Detached Youth Worker. Met with Parish Council</p> |

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| | <p>Although no official data from the surveys Sgt Williams agreed to send to Parish councils. Action – Sergeant Williams to forward parishes with survey information.</p> <p>Melbourn Problem sharing group. The group was set up to identify problems in the Parish and to find imaginative ways to deal with them. The group consist of members form many organisations including youth workers, District Council, The Police and the Parish Council. One project is to enhance rather than close down the High Street car park.</p> |
| 5 | Current issues as identified in profile update |
| 5.1 | <p>Bassingbourn – Once again it was noted the violent crimes offences occurring at Kneesworth Hospital were not separated in the profile. Residents mentioned these could affect property sales.</p> <p>Crime levels have remained stable in Bassingbourn, Melbourn, and Fowlmere and Foxton. Decreased in The Mordens and Meldreth Dwelling Burglaries have increased in Fowlmere and Foxton Burglary other remained stable in Bassingbourn, Fowlmere and Foxton and the Mordens Thefts stable in Bassingbourn and increased in Melbourn and The Mordens. ASB incidents have remained stable in The Mordens and Bassingbourn, increased in Fowlmere and Foxton and decreased in Melbourn and Meldreth.</p> |
| 6 | Road Safety |
| 6.1 | <p>Due to the time of year the numbers are low on the speed checks although: 4 speeding tickets have been issued 4 parking tickets 22 motorists have been given advice 62 letters have been sent</p> <p>Speed watch representatives asked what could be done about repeat offenders Insp. Savage said where identification is possible the team would make a visit however speed watch is an advisory process so they are limited to what they can do.</p> <p>More equipment is available Also there is a new van and a member of staff for the mobile safety unit and some of the time will go to speed check.</p> <p>Tadlow are concerned with the B1042 running through the village at 50 mph. They are unable to use a speed gun for this reason and asked for someone to visit them.</p> |
| 7 | Community feedback on current and future issues |
| 7.1 | <p><u>Bassingbourn</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is still a problem of speeding on the Causeway and North End. • Although things are much improved there are the same concerns as before. If the police presence is withdrawn the problems may return. Insp Savage said every effort would be made to ensure this didn't happen. • Options are being looked into for the youths Pub4Kidz |
| 7.2 | <p><u>Melbourn</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking outside the Chip shop in the evenings. To be looked into • Although there has been a seasonal lull but would like the presence to be ongoing. |
| 7.3 | <p><u>Haydon</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serious speeding problem on Fowleme Road there have been several accidents recently. A speed check was requested. This is a 30 mph road. |
| 7.4 | <p><u>Meldreth</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASB on the land behind the Burtons. This is privately owned land with two outhouses where some youths have made a bridge between the two and are |

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| | <p>climbing up and running between the two. Also enabling them to peer into peoples homes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parish Council would like to thank the police for attending the last meeting |
| 7.5 | <p><u>Fowlmere</u> – Nothing to report</p> <p><u>Foxton</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are concerns regarding burglaries, sheds are being broken into and there seem to be higher value items being taken. Increase in ASB at the Village Hall with groups of youths. It has been worse over the winter because the Pavilion set aside for them was broken into and is unusable. The police are aware of this issue and there will be a joint visit with SCDC ASB advisor to the youths and their parents. |
| 7.6 | <p><u>The Mordens</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unhappy with the communication between the village and the police team. Surgeries were set up for 2009 and on both occasions neither the van or the officers turned up. There has never been an explanation for this. There has been a spate of coursing around the village, this was reported but there appears to have been no action. A van has been seen driving around without number plates or lights. Sgt Williams to look into. Metal still being stolen form the area and residents wanted to know what was being done about it. Insp. Savage explained there were much tighter regulations now on dealing in metals and the crime rates had dropped considerably in the last two years and sales were monitored very closely. A speed check was requested for Ashwell Road in the direction of Ashwell. This is a 30 mph road A speeding check was also requested for Steeple Morden High Street |
| 7.7 | <p>Abington Pigotts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Parish Meeting had arranged for a member of the policing team to attend the last meeting unfortunately they were called to another incident. The Parish Meeting understands this must take priority but have had no further contact with the police team and would still like a meeting. Sgt Williams to arrange. |
| 8 | Plan of new police site |
| 8.1 | Insp. Savage pointed out the plans on display for the new police office where the PCSOs would be working from hopefully by the summer. The old station is now closed. |
| 9 | <p>The meeting was informed of a review that would take place in the Bassingbourn/Melbourn panel area to determine whether changes were necessary to make 'panels' more effective. Lead officers from the County Council, District Council and Police spoke briefly about the review from their organisational stand points.</p> <p>The review was supported by the Local Strategic Partnership and attendees and interested parties were asked to complete a questionnaire. It was added that broad consultation would take place with the aim to feed back results at a future meeting</p> |
| 10 | <p>Priority Setting</p> <p>It was agreed to adopt the following priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tackle anti - social behaviour affecting the Burtons, Meldreth. Improve community contact with Guilden Morden, Abington Piggots and Bassingbourn parishes. Tackle road safety issues to include speeding issues in Fowlmere Road, Heydon, Tadlow B1042, Ashwell Road, Guilden Morden, The Causeway and North End, Bassingbourn and in Steeple Morden. Parking obstructions outside the Fish and Chip Shop, High Street, Melbourn. |
| 11 | <p>Locations and Dates of Future Meetings</p> <p>Tuesday 20th April 2010 at Foxton Village Hall</p> <p>Tuesday 20th July 2010 at Bassingbourn Village College</p> <p>Tuesday 19th October 2010 at Melbourn Village College</p> |