

Dumbreck Community Council Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

Minute of Meeting of Thursday 22nd January 2009

Present: George Boyes, Jacqueline Geddes, Carol Jacobsen, Kathleen Lanigan, Robert Mitchell, James Sewell, Sergeant Joseph Conway, Constable Tracy McDonald.

Apologies: Bruce Fraser, Fiona McCreath, Sheila Smith, John Thomson.

In the absence of Sheila Smith, Kathleen Lanigan chaired the meeting.

1. Minutes of last meeting were adopted

Proposed by Jacqueline Geddes and seconded by George Boyes.

2. Matters arising not on the agenda

The Romanian girls have returned to Dumbreck Road handing slips of paper to drivers stopped at the lights at Nithsdale Road. They cause a nuisance but, on telephoning Helen Street Police Office, Jacqueline had been told that it is not a Police matter but one for Glasgow City Council. Constable McDonald will speak to the girls to find out what they are doing.

3. Financial Situation

There is £146.06 in our bank account. Carol is still to be reimbursed £30 for three evenings hire of the meeting room. Funding of the Neighbourhood Watch had been discussed at the last meeting of Dumbreck Community Council. As a sub-committee of the Community Council we are unable to apply for grant funding. We would need to be a separate organisation and create our own constitution. DCC does not want the group to be separate and would prefer that it be funded by donations from residents. The need for funds is not a necessity at present. George said that the Police have a fund to assist Neighbourhood Watch groups, he will find out more about this fund and we will leave things as they are at present.

4. Police Report

Sergeant Conway said that the Division was still recruiting more officers. Five extra start next week making the total 35 and by 2nd March there will be 41 officers. A new shift system will then be in place to enable a Police Officer to be on duty in each area at all times. The three Sergeants will also be on shifts so that the two areas have a Sergeant at all times.

Constable McDonald gave the crime figures for the Dumbreck and Bellahouston area for the period 1st September to 31st December 2008. In total there were 543 “incidents”: to which the Police attended and 99 “crimes”: 50 of which were detected.

The crimes reported included:

- 10 Attempted housebreakings (6 garages and 4 houses)
- 2 Housebreakings (1 garage and 1 house)
- 3 Attempted break-ins to a motor vehicle
- 4 Vehicles broken into (mainly vehicles owned by residents or their visitors when something of value had been left visible in the vehicle. No Sat-navs stolen)
- 4 General theft (mainly through open or unsecured door)
- 6 Acts of vandalism (3 detected)
- 2 Incidents of disorder (assault and breach of the peace)
- 5 Incidents involving Bellahouston Academy (4 detections)

There have been no housebreakings or attempted housebreakings in Dumbreck since 18th December. The present Police initiative, Operation Diadem, has meant that undercover officers have been in Dumbreck at night. Anyone out during the night is likely to be stopped and interviewed by Police. If you are woken by someone acting suspiciously at night and can see someone, phone 999. Otherwise, telephone 532 5400 to advise Helen Street Police Office that there is someone acting suspiciously in the district. If you want to contact our Community Police Constable Tracy McDonald directly: phone 532-5447. The Community Police can also be contacted by email from a link on the Govan Community Police page of the Strathclyde Police website – www.strathclyde.police.uk or email address GovanCommunityPolicingTeam@strathclyde.pnn.police.uk Constable McDonald will telephone Carol Jacobsen if there is any pattern of activity in the area. Carol will then inform the rest of the coordinators.

5. Incident Report

George reported a fence damaged in Maple Lane on 25th and 26th November. Three pupils were caught after Police were called to a fire-raising incident in Maple Lane on 13th January.

Carol reported an attempted housebreaking in Nithsdale Road on 28th November.

Kathleen had been advised of two housebreakings in Fleurs Avenue.

On 6th January there was an attempted break-in to a shop in Fleurs Avenue and an incident of vandalism opposite.

6. Bellahouston Academy

Sheila Smith had reported no incidents at the Fleurs Avenue side.

There are still incidents occurring in Maple Lane.

On 2nd December boots had been taken from a back step in Urrdale Road. One boot was retrieved quickly. The School was informed and Mr Anderson traced the boy and he showed him where he had thrown the second boot. The owner was very impressed by Mr Anderson's actions.

Despite repeated requests made by Mr Anderson to pupils and GCC Cleansing Department there is still a problem with litter, especially by the bridge over the M8 at Gower Street.

7. Publicity

We have not received any feedback from residents regarding the minutes enclosed in the last Newsletter. DCC thought it was a good way of informing all residents and might encourage residents to be more interested in Neighbourhood Watch. Over the past year we have lost a number of co-ordinators and there are a number of streets not covered. Carol will produce a revised co-ordinators list and this, together with a request for more volunteers can be put into the next Newsletter.

8. Next Meeting

The next meetings for Dumbreck Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators will be on **Thursday 21st May** and **Thursday 17th September 2009** at 7.30pm in the upstairs meeting room at Sherbrooke St. Gilbert's Church.