

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EDGWARE SNT WARD PANEL, WEDNESDAY 9 MARCH, AT 7.30PM AT THE LONDON ACADEMY, SPUR ROAD, EDGWARE**

**Present:** FM (chair), Sgt Reid, MC, SK, AF, PE, DC, LC, DC, NL, MW, SM, AR, AA, SR, AT, HL, CB, NG, SP

Sgt Reid introduced new member Paul Elms (via SK)

**Apologies:** DW, DM, Dr.AA, HI, JJJ

### **Chairman's Welcome:**

FM welcomed attendees to the meeting, and specifically Paul Elms to his first meeting.

### **Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

PCSO Laura De Jesus has now left the team. The minutes were adopted.

### **Edgware Hub Team:**

- Following the reduction in budgets the team are down to 5 PCSO's after attachment to Golders Green who have lost 3 PCSO's from 6 previously.
- School patrols continue
- Meetings with banks to discuss pickpocketing continue
- The bus test at London Academy was successful
- Additional weekend robbery patrols to deal with the increase in burglaries during past few months – there has been a Jan to Mar spike throughout Barnet

### **Canons Corner Buses:**

SK addressed this topic after joining the police for a typical school 'run', during which Sgt Reid and his team see school children from the Academy on and off buses every day, and stop traffic to allow large numbers of students to cross the road. SK was concerned that 6 of DR's team was committed daily for this task. Considerable discussion followed.

The Headmistress of the Academy thanked Sgt Reid and his team for all their efforts. 1400 children and the staff were all exiting the school at the same time. She welcomed the idea of buses stopping inside the school, but 2 buses were totally insufficient. The school tries hard to stop children crossing the road 'willy nilly', but it cannot instruct staff to manage the children outside the school. Senior staff are outside, but there are just too many children for too few buses. Safer Transport have been trying for the past 2 years to improve the overall situation but any change must be cost neutral and the cost of additional transport is prohibitive, but they are close to agreement on an additional service in the mornings.

MC felt that if this was to be a permanent arrangement then it should be reviewed. However all schools have a police presence to manage incoming and outgoing student movements, but the Academy is on a major road with considerably greater problems than others, and not many schools are so placed or so badly affected. MC was concerned that the weight of the panel should be used to speed up decision processes if necessary. SK is and has been communicating with Barnet and felt that this might help matters.

Efforts have been ongoing for several months to ease the problems by relocating the 107 bus stop, and this has now been agreed by TFL and the Police (see SK note following the meeting dated 14/3/11). SM (Barretts) has promised to report on the timescale for this move. However there are just not enough buses to handle 1400 school children, and it is necessary for the SNT to continue to manage the traffic and the buses, for both security and Health and Safety reasons. This is a typical task for SNT's and, unless and until the needs change, Sgt Reid and his team would continue to handle the situation on a daily basis.

### **Stonegrove Update:**

SP described the next phase, Sterling Court. The Planning Committee will meet on 16/3 to try to agree matters because funding is only available for this financial year. A start is expected in July, and there will be 107 affordable homes, no private homes. This will facilitate the removal of older blocks

### **Edgware Ward Update**

- Search warrant issued for PWITS, followed by arrest and guilty verdict
- Street briefings held at Lynford Gdns, Parkside Drive, Edgwarebury Lane
- Pub Watch taken over from Burnt Oak
- Regularly attend Edgware Infants Environment Club every Tuesday
- ASBO meeting groups being maintained for Stonegrove and Broadfields
- A visit was made to Tashbar School and a second visit has been requested
- All SNT's sending officers to participate in patrols at varying locations around Barnet. Hot spots have been identified and will be attended daily. Mill Hill and Hendon are now included in this cover.
- PCSO Monique Mason has returned following maternity leave.
- Street drinkers have been causing problems but have been diverted from Station Road and the side of Peacocks, to Heronsgate. There is a desire to make Edgware a 'drink-free' zone
- Rise in robberies in Station Road during last 6 weeks, with several incidents involving JFS students. 5 suspects have been arrested and charged. Subsequently, these robberies have stopped..
- A PCSO spotted known offenders going to 'Cash Converters'. Items there had been stolen locally, and the offenders were subsequently arrested and property returned.

- There has been an increase in ATM crime in Station Road. People are being distracted when using the machines, and losing their cards and money in the process. CCTV are now watching the machines.
- The Ward Panel purchased a portable Projector Stand, 10 m of cable, and a USB stick.. A backup hard drive was also made available to back up pictures and documents.
- **SNT's – The Future** – A business case was made by Barnet Police to retain existing teams. SNT's will be brigaded into groups of 3. They will maintain their own areas and will not be merged. One sergeant will be moved to other duties and the remaining two sergeants will together manage the 3 groups. There will be no change to PCSO's and they will hopefully be kept in place. This is a proposal only at this stage, and should it go ahead then Edgware will be brigaded with Hale and Mill Hill. Other reports are being issued, there will be recommendations from the Winsor Report, then the Pensions Review, so much remains to be determined.
- **Crime stats** are available from [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk) and this seems to be a good site. Edgware had 124 offences in January and the detail is available on the police site.

## Priorities Update

### Burglaries in Broadfields

- This is a default patrol area.
- Other units also patrolling
- Incidents reducing slowly
- Broadfields ASB Forum up and running
- Street briefings continue and there is also a street-a-week door knocking exercise
- Crime prevention leaflets dropped
- Time switch drop on request
- Proactive operation ongoing, suspect groups are being disrupted where possible

### North Broadfields ASB

- Distinct crossover withy burglary issues
- Now targeting families of suspects through tenancies
- Younger groups causing problems in Cromarty
- Luther Close now the epicentre of main problem group

### Youth Diversion

- Attained charitable status and now seeking funding
- Sgt Reid obtained a donation of £3000 to Stonegrove Youth Club from MPS to fund music production sessions and holiday activities.
- There are plans to develop the Edgware model in other SNT's across the borough

## Pickpocketing Issues

- The vast majority of incidents relate to theft of unattended property eg purses, handbags left on trolleys
- Leaflets have been given out walking through supermarkets in an attempt to educate shoppers to take more care with their belongings.

## **Priorities**

There is no change to the agreed priorities:

- Burglaries in Broadfields
- Pickpocketing in Station Road
- Youth ASB in North Broadfields
- Youth Diversion North Broadfields.

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday May 11 2011 at the London Academy at 7.30 pm**