

## PANGBOURNE NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP

### Minutes of the meeting held at 4.30pm on Wednesday 21 July 2021 in the Large Hall of the Barn, Goosecroft

**Present** J Chishick Tidmarsh with Sulham PC (Chairman), Hazel Preston-Barnes clerk Streatley PC, PC R Hubbard-Clark TVP, PS D Lond TVP, R Jones WBC and Purley on Thames PC, J Higgs Pangbourne PC, B Kerr-Muir Pangbourne PC, J Langford Purley on Thames PC, G Rolfe Purley on Thames PC, C Thompson clerk Purley on Thames PC

**In attendance** S Williams, Assistant Clerk, Purley on Thames Parish Council

**21/17 Apologies** J Spring Streatley PC, I Parsons Basildon PC

**21/18 Declarations of Interest** None

#### **21/19 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21 April 2021 were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**21/20 Matters arising from the Minutes that are not already on the Agenda** None

#### **21/21 Introductions and reports**

##### **Pangbourne**

The Belisha Beacon outside Garlands had not yet been fixed.

Vandalism and threatening behaviour around Bourne Road had improved since TVP had visited.

On 10 July, there had been some vandalism at the WCs at the Recreation Ground. It had been reported but, unfortunately, there had been some problems with the new CCTV system so it had not been possible to provide TVP with pictures of the incident.

There were still issues of speeding on Pangbourne Hill and in near the primary school. TVP could be requested to go out with the speed gun; WBC would also need to be involved.

Some unpleasant graffiti had been put on a wall on Pangbourne Hill and, although the Open Spaces Warden had tried to remove it, it was still visible. There was also graffiti behind the village hall, on Kennedy Drive, and on Chiltern Walk. It had been reported to TVP (and WBC) the day before the meeting so too recently to appear on the figures presented to the meeting; it might be possible to add it to the statistics, otherwise it would be included at the next meeting. TVP explained this would be classed as either criminal damage or antisocial behaviour.

**Update:** After the meeting, TVP sent updated statistics which included two additional criminal damage reports: the graffiti reported on 20 July and the damage to the WCs at the Recreation Ground on 10 July.

There had been instances of youths jumping from Whitchurch Bridge into the River Thames. The bridge was privately owned but the PC was going to plant prickly bushes on the banks to prevent/discourage access.

There had been a report of a woman who saw a dog chasing wildfowl and decapitating a duck.

## **Streatley**

It was reported that a dog had killed a deer on National Trust land; the dog was known to be generally aggressive and to worry cattle, scare horses/riders in Upper Basildon. The owner's car registration had been caught on CCTV.

Streatley Hill would be closed from 2 to 13 August while repairs were carried out to the Bull.

The yellow lines at the top of Streatley Hill, which had been introduced as a temporary measure, were to be made permanent.

WBC was looking into the issue of over-weight goods vehicles in Streatley and using the skew bridge; three cases were being prosecuted.

The hot weather had led to an increase in littering around the village.

## **Purley on Thames**

It was disappointing to see how much higher TVP's crime figures were for Purley than for other villages in the area, especially in such a short period of time. TVP explained that there was a significant seasonal element to the reports, and ASB in particular increased over the summer, particularly near the river and meadows.

A resident was concerned about speeding on the A329 Purley Rise. TVP confirmed that requests for officers to go out with the speed gun could be made and should be copied to Cheryl Evans at WBC.

Trees and vegetation had grown and was now overhanging some of the street signs and traffic lights. This would be reported to WBC's Streetcare team.

The kissing gate between River Gardens and Blount's Meadow had been lifted off and left. This was done when people with bicycles or pushchairs wanted to go through but the gate was usually put back. The same had happened on Mapledurham Drive. WBC was looking at putting in a ramp to make the meadow more accessible from River Gardens, and this was something which would need to be considered then too.

There was a possibility of putting a shelter in Bucknell's Meadow and, when asked for input, TVP advised that the consequences be carefully considered as, unfortunately, shelters could make it difficult to monitor what was happening and lead to increased instances of antisocial behaviour.

Littering was an ongoing problem.

Yellow lines which had been introduced as a temporary restriction had helped keep the bus route clear and were to be made permanent.

At a previous meeting, it had been suggested that the primary school use child-shaped traffic cones at drop-off and pick-up times but it was not known if this had been progressed. There was discussion about whether a "walking bus" might help and it was agreed that this would be for the school to set up and manage.

## Basildon

I Parsons had sent his apologies and given a written update on issues in Basildon.

There continued to be parking problems in Church Lane for visitors accessing the Thames. Speeding through the village was another ongoing issue although negotiation with WBC was offering some mitigation, and parking at the primary school was still causing difficulties at drop-off and pick-up times. I Parsons wished to thank TVP for the work it was already doing in these areas.

## Tidmarsh with Sulham

Yellow lines were to be made permanent. It was explained that it is illegal to park inside yellow lines, ie on a verge, as well as actually on the lines.

A car had been left in Sulham lay-by for a considerable time, the tires were flat and weeds had grown underneath it. This should be reported to WBC who would put a seven-day order on it and remove it. TVP would check the registration.

There had been an issue with misleading signage after a traffic accident. The diverted route had been taken but had rejoined the road before the site of the accident. It was explained that officers put out signs in the when they arrived on the scene of an accident and a mistake had been made on the day.

It was confirmed the e-scooters are still illegal on both roads and pavements. The police could issue warning notices, but there was nothing to prevent people buying scooters. TVP was working with schools to explain the consequences (one 15-year old will have points on his driving licence as soon as he is eligible for one) of using e-scooters illegally.

## West Berkshire Council

There was nothing further to report.

## TVP

### Reported incidents 21 April 2021 to 21 July 2021

	Tidmarsh with		Basildon	Purley on	
	Sulham	Pangbourne		Thames	Streatley
ASB personal/community	2	0	0	2	1
Criminal damage	2	2	0	2	1
Theft from cars	0	1	0	0	0
Theft of cars	0	0	0	1	0
Burglary – dwelling	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary – non dwelling	0	0	0	1	0
Theft	0	0	0	2	0
Assault injury/non injury	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>

There was a request for more information to be given, for example about how many reported crimes reached resolution as in an offender being brought to justice by way of prosecution or out of court disposal. This might help the PCs decide if anything further could be done to support TVP, eg increased CCTV coverage, etc.

**Update:** After the meeting, the request for additional information was passed to police headquarters together with a query as to whether such information could be shared with the NAG, ie whether it could effectively be made public. Clarification was also given as to the work involved in putting together the crime figures for the meetings: each parish had to be looked up separately and there could be up to 100 reports, all of which had to be looked at in order to place them in the correct category. It was not really felt that more detail would be likely to help the NAG or lead to better crime reporting overall.

A series of combined events with TVP, mounted police and the fire brigade was being organised for the riverside on Wednesday 4 August and again on Friday 20, Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 August. The ambulance service was unlikely to be present as it was not yet undertaking any public engagements because of Covid.

The police station was due to move from Pangbourne to the new tri-service community station in Theale from 1 November. The site would be shared by TVP, Fire and Rescue and South Central Ambulance Service.

#### **21/14 REVIEW OF OPEN PROFILES**

##### **Antisocial behaviour**

There was nothing further to report.

#### **21/15 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA OR REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ACTION**

None

#### **21/16 Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 27 October 2021 at 4.30pm in the Large Hall of the Barn at Goosecroft (subject to change) to be chaired by Jon Chishick.