

Newborough, Borough Fen & Milking Nook Neighborhood Watch Association

Date of meeting: May 29th 2018

Committee Present Chair: Sean Gleeson, Vice Chair: Derek Skingle, Treasurer: Kevin Richards, Secretary: Diane Collett. (13 members in total).

Apologies for Absence: Danielle Rosemary

Guest Speaker: Crime Reduction Officer for Peterborough - Amanda Large

SG opened the meeting and asked the committee to accept the minutes from the previous meeting which took place in March 2018 – proposed by DS, seconded by KR.

SG went onto to introduce Amanda to the street co-ordinators and all others present and thanked everyone for supporting NHW

CRO (Amanda Large)

Amanda gave a brief history of her career so far in **CR**. During the presentation the following topics were covered.

- **Crime Statistics** - The number of burglaries in the Peterborough area can be slightly inflated. In one given week there could be as many as 12 but this is made up of some being drug related, Domestic-when a couple split and one of them breaks in after leaving matrimonial home. Mental health related. Since the beginning of 2018 to present there have been 82 reported burglaries in Peterborough. Five of these committed Newborough/Milking Nook & Eye Green. This is made up of 1 garden shed break in 2 thefts from motor vehicles, 1 theft of motorcycle, and 1 break in to Business premises.
- Newborough has a very low crime rate, probably due to the fact that it's a little too far out. It has a tight community feel. However we cannot become complacent and its groups like NHW that are a good deterrent in keeping numbers low. Being a little nosey or being aware of when neighbours are away etc. goes a long way in keeping crime at bay.
- In the society we now live it's not just burglaries that can happen. There are also lots of scams going on which can have a dreadful impact on vulnerable people. Romance scams usually created through Facebook. The victim is taken in by the person they become *friends* with. These are criminals and convince people that they have fallen in love want to come over and visit them ask for money for flights etc. then never appear. Cold callers selling at the door can gain access to premises then go on to rob people, especially the elderly.
- **Home & personal security devices** – Amanda demonstrated a selection of what is available on the market. These ranged from basic plug in timer, shed alarm to name a few. These are available at cost price through **CRO via Peterborough police station**.
- **Reporting Crime and information gathering** - There is a database run by the police called Immobilise this can be used free of charge. It allows you to take photos including serial no etc. of

valuable items like bikes, jewellery are items specific to you. These can then be uploaded onto the database and if you are a victim of theft, if any items are then recovered at a later date by the police this data base is used to try and find the owners. There is also the Bobby scheme based in Yaxley, this is a charitable organisation were victims of crime aged over 65years get a visit by police , sometimes depending on the type of crime they come and do a check of your property and alarms have been fitted free of charge by them.

- **Being aware in your neighbourhood** – look out for rogue traders/cold callers operating in the area and don't be afraid to approach them specifying they are operating in a NHW area. New housing could potentially increase crime rates and social housing can also bring criminals to the area. Being nosy is not a crime and could stop a crime being committed in your street. It's neighbourly to watch out for one another. Make it your business to know when neighbours are away. Do each other's bins and post any letters etc. that are hanging out of their letterbox. Park your car on their drive while they are away can also act as a good deterrent, anything you find suspicious is worth reporting
- **AOB** – SG thanked Amanda for her time presenting such a comprehensive insight into crime in the area and how NHW can play a vital role in reducing crime numbers.

Thanks to all for attending

Date of next meeting – TBC

Chair: Sean Gleeson -----

Vice Chair: Derek Skingle -----

Treasurer: Kevin Richards -----

Secretary: Diane Collett -----