

Holme Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on Monday 29th April 2019 at Holme Parish Hall

Present: Councillors: Medwin Sherriff, Alyson Churnside, Sue Wragg, Christine Herbert

County and District Councillors: Roger Bingham, Tom Harvey

To be presented for acceptance at the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 28 May 2019

1	There were 7 members of the public present and the Chair welcomed everyone to the Assembly.
2	<p><u>Policing</u></p> <p>The chair welcomed Inspector Paul Latham and PCSO Martin Boak to the meeting. Inspector Latham had been invited to the meeting to talk about community policing and to answer any questions.</p> <p>Inspector Latham gave some background information – He is based at Kendal although Barrow was now the divisional headquarters due to the large number of incidents in a small area.</p> <p>There are 5 Community Inspectors including himself and each have 3 Sergeants who look after a number of PCSO's. There are only 2 stations that police now deploy from in the South Lakes area, Kendal and Barrow and these officers are pretty much governed by the radio and calls and so don't have a great deal of time for community work. PCSO's are less likely to be dragged away to an incident and so are best positioned for community work. However, there are still not enough PCSO's.</p> <p>25 extra officers were deployed in the last 12 months across Cumbria and 4 of these went to Kendal and 4 to Barrow forming Pro-Active Teams. There is the opportunity to bring all 8 together for bigger initiatives. These officers have time to deal with targeted opportunities. The police are trying to develop partnership working with a number of other agencies and now have a partnership hub at Kendal, where partners can work alongside officers.</p> <p>The biggest complaints used to be around littering and dog fouling but more recently this has switched to speeding and parking.</p> <p>In this respect police will only deal with unsafe parking and unnecessary obstructions. Parking offences such as parking on double yellow lines etc are dealt with by SLDC and CCC.</p> <p>Inspector Latham reiterated that all matters to do with speeding had to go through the CRASH team first of all. This team would look at the KSI (Killed and Serious Injury) Statistics first of all and then the perception of speeding. This team deploy the Speed Indicator Devices to ascertain if there is a problem before a community speedwatch team can be established. The CRASH team offers Speedwatch Initiatives monthly support and training and will visit repeat offenders where necessary.</p> <p>Community policing priorities continue to be informed by feedback from Parish Councils, SLDC and Community Safety Partnership. Rural burglary is becoming an increasing problem. There seems to be no pattern to it and it is possibly more than one group committing these offences. These offences need to be reported as soon as possible and the police would urge the public to call 101 if they spot anything suspicious. The Inspector acknowledged that there had been issues with the 101 service when it had first started, which may have put a lot of people off using it, but he assured us that improvements have been made.</p> <p>Questions</p> <p>What can the police do if there are no volunteers for a Speedwatch group?</p> <p>Not a lot. If there are no volunteers it simply isn't possible to police everywhere and the police would question if there is really a problem if no one is willing to volunteer. There have been many instances of speedwatch groups folding within months because they discover that there isn't really a problem.</p> <p>Do you find Speed Indication Devices work?</p> <p>National data seems to show that they do make a difference. Indeed, an experiment conducted in Endmoor showed that speed increased if the SID there was turned off.</p> <p>Are there any issues from Speedwatch groups? I.e. Local people reporting other local people?</p> <p>Local volunteers only record the registration number and speed of vehicles. Any letters that are sent out come directly from the police. The police will offer full support with and</p>

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	<p>incidents. There is a need for 6-8 people and it was suggested that we could form an alliance with the Milnthorpe group.</p> <p>Do people take notice of the letters? The police have found there are very few repeat offenders but there is an element of the unknown. Endmoor has the longest running scheme and there has definitely been an overall reduction in speeding which suggests the system works.</p> <p>What is the Police position on parking? Police deal with dangerous and inconsiderate parking as well as unnecessary obstruction. They adopt a common sense approach and do not go pro-actively looking for parking problems. Parking on the pavement is seen as natural traffic calming in many instances and is only dealt with if it is causing an inconvenience or obstruction.</p> <p>Inspector Latham agreed to take a look at a particular problem on North Road on his way out of the village.</p> <p>Inspector Latham and PCSO Boak were thanked for there attendance and left the meeting at 8.17pm.</p>	
3	<p>Apologies for absence: RESOLVED to accept apologies received from Councillor Taylor.</p>	
4	<p>Annual Reports: The chair read out his report for the year and advised that the Lancaster Canal would be celebrating its 200th Anniversary this year. Geoff Pegg would be organising events to celebrate this landmark, Reports followed from the Parish Hall Management Committee, Roger Bingham, Councillor Wragg and the Police.</p>	
5	<p>There were no matters brought to the attention of the assembly and the assembly closed at 8.50pm.</p>	

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