

## **Minutes of the Faversham & District Engagement Forum**

**Tuesday 22 January 2019**

Present:

Mayor Cllr T Abram	PC Jez Chittim	Insp. Richard Bushell
Paul Shirlaw	Chris Oswald Jones	Sara Swanton
Mark Starling	John Hatton	Maria Newman
Julia Bailey	Bill Harbour	Frances Beaumont
Caitriona McConkey	Erica Moshiri	Allan Hogben
Jeff Tutt	Lyn Powell	Maureen Bradley
Cllr Shiel Campbell	Cllr Nigel Kay	Cllr Geoff Wade
Philip Ashley	Susan Ashley	Terry Atkins

In Attendance: Adrienne Begent

### **1. Welcome**

The Mayor, Trevor Abram, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

### **2. Apologies for Absence**

Findlay MacDonald	Kevin Fraser	Peter Flower
Carole Jackson		

### **3. Minutes from meeting held 10 July 2018**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed following one amendment. (Page 2. Fireman in Abbots Road should read Firearm in ...).

### **4. Report from Kent Police**

PC Jez Chittim introduced himself as the new Faversham Town Beat Officer. He confirmed that the area had two new PCSO's Dennis Patchett and Jamie Dolton.

In the last 4/6 months there has been an increase in Anti-social Behavior (ASB) calls in Faversham. These incidents can be tied to several groups of teenagers.

The Police will work with the council to create a database of names of offenders. If they live in social housing steps will be taken to remove them from the area.

Contact has been made with secondary schools in the area, requesting that a letter is sent to all parents asking for names of potential offenders for inclusion in the database.

The police have already worked with OPTIVO, resulting in a family being removed from Lionfield as a result of their ASB.

PC Jez Chittim urged the public to report all instances to the Police.

Paul Sherlock informed the meeting of problems in West Street due to Morrisons which has not CCTV and only part-time security officers. He considered that the kids are running wild.

Janet Turner confirmed the problems in West Street and added that Abbey School pupils had been seen in the vicinity drunk in daytime.

Lyn Powell added that the shoplifters from Morrisons used Flood Lane as a rat run. There was evidence of drug use in front gardens.

Reports of shoplifting at Morrisons and other supermarkets in town are appearing on social media. A violent shoplifter was removed by the manager at Morrisons who was recognized by the CPO and arrested. They remain in remand.

PC Jez Chittim confirmed that Morrisons don't make a profit in Faversham and consequently do not see security as a priority.

Insp. Richard Bushell commented that the supermarket needs to take more responsibility and that pressure will be put on the Manager.

Cllr Geoff Wade commented that when the CCTV was fitted 25 years ago, it was monitored in Swale, it is now monitored in Medway. Is it still an effective tool for crime prevention?

Insp Richard Bushell it is not as effective as when monitored in house but has a place. "Hawk Eye" is an alternative, but few units available and Swale decides where to locate them.

Cllr Nigel Kay added that you can't just put up CCTV, there are Officers at SBC with knowledge.

**ACTION: PC Jez Chittim to enquire into the provision of CCTV in Faversham and confirm which are presently working and faulty.**

The PCSO' s had met with residents of West Street following damage to three vehicles. The Residents were pursuing the provision of CCTV with SBC.

PC Chittim confirmed that in between emergency calls the police will be increasing their presence in Faversham in response to the increase in ASB.

There has also been four burglaries in Faversham in the four weeks preceding the meeting. Further, farms in Oare and Herne Hill had been targeted. One vehicle had been stolen after the keys were extracted through the letterbox. The farm in Herne Hill was attended by the helicopter whilst the burglary was taking place, resulting in arrests being made.

On 21/11/18 PC Jez Chittim and PC Kirstin Jones spotted a car known to the police in Swale on A2 leaving Faversham, they flowed it to Whitstable where it was stopped. Information led them to an address where a cannabis factory was found. Arrests were made.

On 20/12/18 the police received a call that presumed stolen vehicle was on Davington Hill. The vehicle was pursued for 15mins before stopping. The driver was arrested and charged with seven charges. They have been remanded.

Caitriona McConkey of Abbey Place confirmed that the Chapel has been vandalised and ASB occurring outside the property.

Cllr Nigel Kay raised the issue of on going problems in the town with cyclists, such as cycling the wrong way to down roads and on pavements.

## **5. Future Proposed Developments**

Cllr Geoff Wade stated that with all the proposed developments in the area there was a need to work with the Parishes. We need to know what each other is doing and keep everyone informed.

Adrienne Begent confirmed that SBC was initiating meetings between Clerks to improve communication.

Cllr Bill Harbour (Sheldwich PC) voiced the opinion that the Duchy had been clever in the way they had presented their proposal. Some members of the public are convinced it is going ahead, before SBC have made the decision. Sheldwich PC have an action group ready to fight the proposal if necessary.

Cllr Julie Bailey (Eastling PC) stated they had thought the village was protected but the developments would cause them problems on the A2.

Cllr Jeff Tutt (Dunkirk PC) The Duchy have brought the agenda forward asking what people would like before SBC have made the decision about garden villages and possible locations,

## **6. News & Updates from other Parishes**

Cllr Bill Harbour (Sheldwich PC) confirmed that the Parish will do a Neighborhood Plan.

Cllr Jeff Tutt (Dunkirk PC) confirmed they will submit there plan in the next few weeks.

## **7. AOB**

Jeff Tutt commented that the press had reported that Swale CCG was one of worse areas in the County for doctor/patient ratio. The commissioning group needs to commit to the provision of new facilities in line with development.

Cllr Geoff Wade confirmed that Future Health and Community Health Needs was on the Agenda for FFF on 28<sup>th</sup> January.