

**NOTES FROM PUBLIC MEETING**  
**CHAired BY COUNTY COUNCILLOR PAUL HODGKINSON ON THURSDAY 24TH MAY 2018 AT 7PM AT THE**  
**GEORGE MOORE COMMUNITY CENTRE, BOURTON ON THE WATER**

In attendance: County Cllr Paul Hodgkinson  
Policing Inspector for the Cotswolds, Karen Ellis  
PC Jason Page  
Parish Councillors R Hadley (Chairman), R Daniel L Hicks, B Rogers, B Sumner  
Circa 20 local residents

Cllr Hodgkinson welcomed all attendees to the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, aimed at providing the community with an update on policing and crime in Bourton-on-the-Water.

Inspector Ellis reported as follows:

Following PCSO Olivera's transfer, the Neighbourhood Policing team would continue to be formed by PC Page and PCSO Symes with the addition of a new PCSO appointment expected in October 2018.

Whilst there was no significant change reported in the crime levels, current policing in the community included additional patrols, increased visibility, stop and search, specific targeting of individuals and groups, as well as working in partnership with various organisations to assist in solving the longer-term problems.

PC Page reported as follows:

- A constructive meeting between the School, Housing Association, Parish Council and the parents of individuals that were causing concern and who had been excluded from School had taken place.
- Whilst other areas are seeing changes to police resourcing, at the present time, the neighbourhood policing team would remain in force for Bourton-on-the-Water.
- CCTV evidence from the Co-op of youth antisocial behaviour had resulted in positive action.
- Six voluntary interviews had taken place related to public order offences.
- Recent stop and searches had taken place.

PC Page reiterated the importance of the public calling the non-emergency service, 101, to report any suspicious activity as all information provided is highly valuable.

Cllr Hadley thanked the Police for their efforts and responses towards ongoing anti-social behaviour and updated as follows:

- Parish youth plans include the desire to provide a supervised purpose built, permanent youth facility. Whilst this was in the early stages, the youth club will continue to operate in its current premises and the outreach services would continue through to the end of August 2018.
- The Parish Council had provided the community centre café as a venue to facilitate engagement between young people, youth leaders and the school inclusion leader.

**Q&A session**

1. There was general interest from residents with regard to an ANPR system, with a suggestion that more than one was needed.  
Response: ANPR and CCTV options were currently being assessed as to the preferred way forward. Lansdowne and High street was being considered as the initial site for ANPR and the system could be repositioned to other sites in the village, as necessary. The Police were supportive of both systems as crime deterrents citing the value of Rodborough's ANPR system in reducing speed.

2. Excessive speeding on Rissington Road was highlighted.  
Response: Cllr Hodgkinson advised that the new gates had been erected and publicised in Browser. This was one of the measures introduced to help reduce speeding. The recent GCC Highways radar survey would be assessed to inform other measures which could include additional vehicle activated signs and ANPR but individuals were also required to change their driving behaviours.
  
3. A concern was raised with regard to a van and two male individuals who appeared to be offering jobs for cash payment.  
Response: In all instances the Police advice is to ring the non-emergency service, 101, and provide as much detail as possible.
  
4. The Police were asked what individuals should do when dealing with abusive cold callers. Recently there were peddlers in Letch Lane who had been abusive to home owners.  
Response: The public should call 101 to report peddler activity and, as with any other incidents of concern, provide as much detail as possible.
  
5. There were two buskers on the village green recently, playing a violin and amplified music. There also appeared to be donations taken in exchange for a music CD.  
Response: Cllr Hadley explained that he was currently in dialogue with an individual with respect to the Parish bye-laws which did not permit busking.  
  
Cllr Hadley asked if a banning order could be enforced by the Police. Inspector Ellis explained that, despite bye-laws to prevent busking, the Police would always be proportionate in their actions. Any request for an individual to desist, may not necessarily result in an arrest. It was acknowledged that these can be difficult issues to Police, even with bye-laws, and offered to assist with a way forward.
  
6. A concern was raised with regard to traffic congestion and risk to public safety due to delivery vehicles in the village in general, as well as lorries using the bus stop lay-by on the high street.  
Response: P Hodgkinson advised that it is illegal to use the bus stop lay-by between 7am and 7pm and the matter had been passed to parking enforcement officers to take appropriate action.
  
7. It was mentioned that the parking enforcement officers often cannot find a parking space in the village.  
Response: Cllr Hadley agreed to issue parking permits so that they could park in the community centre car park.
  
8. It was reported that Johnson's coaches were setting down and collecting groups of people on Victoria Street, for Chester House Hotel. A coach had also parked in front of Kendall Davies solicitors overnight.
9. Response: Cllr Sumner confirmed he had reported the coach outside of the solicitors and Cllr Hadley agreed to speak to Chester House Hotel. PC Page said that a similar incident in Lower Slaughter resulted in the Police writing to the Coach company.
  
10. A query about dogs on the Naight playing field was raised.  
Response: The current signage meets applicable legislation and it was not a matter that could be covered by Parish bye-laws. Inspector Ellis advised that it would not be an issue for the Police unless the dogs were dangerous.

11. A recent incident that occurred in Cemetery Lane prompted the question whether the cemetery gate could be closed or the benches removed, as it appears to be a meeting place for youths and subsequent anti-social behaviour.

Response: Acknowledging a recent incident, Cllr Hadley advised that currently the Council wanted to keep the entrances to the cemetery open and monitor the situation. Notices would be altered to the effect that children would not be allowed to use the facility without a responsible adult and PC Page confirmed that extra patrols were being undertaken.

12. It was advised that issues previously reported in the area of the Naight had improved since Taylor and Fletcher installed CCTV monitoring equipment. Given this positive change, it was felt that previous summer time curfews were not needed.

13. It was suggested that communications in the Browser, on the Parish website and via other social media platforms on how to contact the Police when facing challenging situations would help the public.

Post meeting note 1: The Gloucestershire Constabulary website advises the public to report non-emergencies by completing the online form, by calling 101 or by emailing [101@gloucestershire.police.uk](mailto:101@gloucestershire.police.uk). For emergencies where a crime is in progress, life is at risk or someone has been injured, the public should call 999. Further detail can be obtained from the Gloucestershire Constabulary website [www.gloucestershire.police.uk](http://www.gloucestershire.police.uk).

In response to the concerns about youth behaviours and as the Councillor holding the youth portfolio for the Parish, Cllr Hicks explained that whilst there are concerns with certain individuals it should be remembered that often there are reasons behind behaviours that need support and efforts are being brought together through partnership working to help identify the root causes and provide support to repair issues.

Cllr Hodgkinson drew the meeting to a close thanking everyone for their interest and engagement in helping to resolve various issues.