

MINUTE

of

NEWTON MEARNS SOUTH, BUSBY, CLARKSTON AND EAGLESHAM AREA FORUM

Minute of Meeting held at 7.00pm in Williamwood High School on 8 September 2015.

Present:

Councillor Barbara Grant
Councillor Alan Lafferty

Councillor Ian McAlpine

Inspector Alan Dickson (Police Scotland); George McLachlan (Busby Community Council); and Irene Yona (Newton Mearns Community Council).

Mr McLachlan in the Chair

Attending:

Paul O'Neil, Committee Services Officer.

Apologies:

Provost Alastair Carmichael and Councillors Stewart Miller and Jim Swift; Bill Duguid (Eaglesham and Waterfoot Community Council); Station Manager David Fothergill, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service; and John Seenan (East Renfrewshire Neighbourhood Watch Association).

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. The forum considered and approved the Minute of the meeting of 26 May 2015.

PROJECT MONITORING AND PROPOSALS 2015/16

2. The forum considered and noted a report by the Deputy Chief Executive, providing an update on projects previously approved by the forum and the balance outstanding in the General Services budget for 2015/16.

POLICE AND FIRE SERVICES – UPDATE

3. In the absence of a representative from the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Mr McLachlan invited Inspector Dickson to give an update on the activities of the police in the forum's area since the date of the last meeting.

Inspector Dickson explained that overall there had been relatively low levels of criminal and antisocial activity in the area since the last meeting. He indicated that the annual public satisfaction survey was currently being carried out and that completed forms were to be returned by the end of September. He also reported on the recent successful "Safety in the Park" event in Arthurlie Park organised by Magic Wand, an East Renfrewshire volunteer group. This had again been well received and an outcome report would be produced in due course. It was noted that Constable Karen Searle had been appointed as the new campus officer for Eastwood High School.

Whilst reporting on the recent *Operation Neighbourhood* initiative, Inspector Dickson highlighted that this was a Glasgow-wide initiative aimed at reducing housebreaking. Having outlined the number of officers involved, he indicated that the initiative had seen success in East Renfrewshire, explaining that a small number of people tended to be responsible for multiple offences. He indicated that the results of the operation should be known for reporting to the next meeting.

Concluding his remarks, Inspector Dickson advised that the number of incidents of violent crime in East Renfrewshire had reduced.

The forum noted the position.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

4. It was noted that the next meeting would be held in Mearns Castle High School on 1 December 2015 at 7pm.