

Laddenbrook - Safer & Stronger Community Group (SSCG)

Minutes

A meeting was held for the above group on Thursday 8th January 2009, commencing at 7.30pm.

Venue – Wickwar Town Hall

Attended:

Mr H Gawler (Chairman)
Mrs P Trull (Secretary)
Mrs Jacqui Ward – Community Safety Support Officer (Rural & Parishes)
Mrs Deborah White – Communities Co-ordinator (Rural & Parishes)
Sergeant C Ogborne – Avon & Somerset Police
WPC L Bainbridge – Avon & Somerset Police
Mr E Briggs – Rangeworthy NHW
Mr T Proffitt – Wickwar NHW
Mrs K Stimpson – Wickwar Resident
Mr R Stimpson – Wickwar Parish Council
PCSO Haley Harrison
Mr P Revill – Wickwar NHW
Mrs A Revill – Wickwar Resident
Mr Mike King - Parishioner

Apologies:

PCSO Sean McKinnon

The Safer and Stronger Community Group is a partnership between a number of organisations driven by South Gloucestershire Council and Avon and Somerset Police regarding community and police issues. It provides an opportunity for the community to ask questions and raise issues of concern to them. All issues will be noted and 3 priorities identified for action.

1. **Chairman's welcome**
Chairman welcomed all those attending this meeting.
2. **Minutes from the previous meeting.**
Minutes from the meeting held on the 25th September 2008, were accepted as a fair representation of that meeting.
3. **Matters arising from the meeting held on the 12th June 2008.**
 - **Review of warning lights Rangeworthy School**
It was felt that the Police should monitor the situation.
 - **Safety Camera Partnership**
Mr Shield did not attend this meeting, but the action has been passed on to him as a reminder, to report back at the next meeting.
 - **Lorries using Rangeworthy Village as a detour; this is also a problem in nearby villages**

The state of the roads is still deteriorating in Rangeworthy. Sewage overflow is an ongoing problem. Wessex Water is investigating this issue. South Glos Council are keeping the area monitored with repair and inspection. This matter was being looked into by Steve Shield, who will report back to the group at the next meeting.

- **Avon Crescent – Wickwar. Lighting needed for public safety along a dark footpath used mainly by elderly residents.**
Funding grant for the project was applied for by the Group and was successful. The light is now installed and residents are very happy with the results.
- **Public footpath to be installed along both sides of the road through Wickwar traffic lights. Public safety issue.**
Chairman Mr H Gawler and Wickwar Parish Council will contact Mr M Parry (SGC Highways Department). For a sites inspection
Action – Chairman Mr H Gawler
- **Fly tipping**
Priority by Police and SGC.
WPC Lee Bainbridge says there has been a notable increase since Christmas, packaging and household waste.
SGC – Street Care section will identify problem areas. Cameras will be installed in certain areas to try and catch persistent offenders.
Considering the downturn in the economy it is thought that there might be an increase in builders waste as there is a charge at Tips for business waste.
There have been problems in the area for fly tipping old tyres. The Police and SGC Mr David Cole are monitoring the situation.
It has been noted that SGC do not make the situation any easier by restricting trailer sizes used by residents.
Action – Ongoing
- **Wickwar weight limits (Lorries)**
WPC Lee Bainbridge has been monitoring the situation and are still catching offending drivers.
The Trading Standards Officers have been working in Wickwar and have effected some prosecutions for lorries exceeding the weight restrictions.
Action – Ongoing

Agenda for this meeting

Discussion on local community issues

- Chairman Mr H Gawler has been discussing problems with a parishioner who lives in the Engine Common area, regarding building supplies stolen on three occasions. It appears that this situation has been solved with the parishioner installing electric gates to his property.
- **Downs Road – Dangerous bend in road**
Wickwar Parish Councillor Mr R Stimpson suggested that there be a sign for the recommended maximum speed to 20MPH. Also reflective chevrons as you leave and enter the village.
Police support this initiative.

Action H Gawler

- **Vandalism - Rangeworthy**

PCSO Haley Harrison reports that a car stolen in Rangeworthy has been found. Cars vandalised in Rangeworthy PCSO H Harrison says this may be a local person and parishioners have been spoken to and leaflets dropped into peoples homes. The vandalism has stopped.

Wickwar – Vandalism to cars in the High Street. Arrests have now been made for these offences.

- **Wickwar Speed Watch**

The Speed Watch gun is in need of replacement. WPC Lee Bainbridge says there might be a spare gun that can be loaned to Wickwar Speed Watch. JW says there might be funding for a new speed gun from SSCG funding.

Action – Wickwar Speed Watch

- **Funding**

JW – New funding available for community projects. Applications should be completed by April 2009.

Budget allowed for the SSCG meetings should be spent on providing secretarial staff and funds for the hire of meeting places. Any excess funds may be rolled over to the next financial year.

- **Boundary Changes – Laddenbrook**

Wickwar/Rangeworthy/Bagstone form Ladden Brook with WPC Bainbridge.

Tytherington stays with Thornbury South and P.C.Jones

All Iron Acton, both the East Ward and the Village Ward, go to Frampton Cotterell and P.C.Barraclough working out of Chipping Sodbury.

Iron Acton industrial estates, including part of the East Ward, move to Yate

This means that Ladden Brook gets split into 4.

CO – This is just a proposal at the moment and has yet to be decided.

The plan is to align the policing boundaries with the voting boundaries.

The aim of the Police is for their Officers to be seen by the public; in rural locations this is not always practical. Workloads on the Police are ever increasing with the size of the areas they have to cover.

When more information is available this will be passed on to the Group.

Action Sergeant C Ogborne

- **Neighbourhood Watch**

Wickwar Watch co-ordinator Mr T Proffitt says that the Watch members help provide information to the local community and parishioners contact the Watch for information and help.

A lot of people do not like to contact the Police, but would like to talk to a member of the community.

DW – Could groups apply for funds from the SSGC funds?

CO – The Police would not like to see the NHW schemes fold and actively encourage groups.

TP – Suggested that the Police Inspector could hold an annual meeting with all the local NHW to maintain contact.

Action Sergeant C Ogborne

▪ **Meetings**

Sergeant C Ogborne asked those attending of the current level of meetings at 4 per year was adequate or would members like there to be two meetings per year? The group wished to keep to the 4 meetings per year.

Priorities for this Meeting

1. **Fly Tipping**
2. **Downs Road – Wickwar. Suggested maximum speed on the bend 20MPH and reflective chevrons on the entrance and the exit of the village.**
3. **Wickwar Speed Gun replacement.**

The date of the next meeting will be on Thursday 9th April 2009, at Rangeworthy Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm.