

**Hazlemere & Chepping Wycombe
Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG)**

**Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 15 July 2010 at
Sir William Ramsay School**

Attendees:

David Brown	-	Hazlemere Residents Association
Peter Cartwright	-	Vice-Chairman / Bucks County Council (BCC)
Sgt Andrew Deane	-	Thames Valley Police (TVP)
Rebecca Fetterman	-	Youth Service, BCC (items 6 and 7 only)
David Gresswell	-	Flackwell Heath Neighbourhood Watch
Robert Kin	-	Loudwater / Flackwell Heath Resident
Sandy Macdiarmid	-	Chairman / Penn & Tylers Green Residents Soc
Stuart Parker	-	Hazlemere Youth Centre (items 6 and 7 only)

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Madeleine Howe, David Johncock, Jean Johnson, Brian Mapletoft, David Onslow, Alex Slater and Dennis Watson.

2 Minutes of Last Meeting (27 May 2010)

The Minutes were agreed as accurate.

3 Matters Arising (not on the Agenda)

The following documents had been distributed since the last meeting:

- the June and July newsletters from the Hazlemere & Chepping Wycombe Neighbourhood Police Team (HNPT) were distributed at the beginning of each month;
- 5 July – a leaflet promoting the TVP-endorsed Anchor Staying Put Small Repairs Service available to elderly, disabled and vulnerable members of the community to get minor repair work carried out on their homes;
- 15 July – details of the Have Your Say (HYS) open evening at the Hazlemere Police Office to be held on 11 August.

Sandy Macdiarmid welcomed next month's HYS evening event, as a number of residents had commented that exclusively daytime HYS events meant that they could not attend because of work commitments. Andrew Deane said that further HYS evening events would be considered, especially if they could be held in association with other events attended by the public.

The initial training of the new PCSO for Tylers Green and Loudwater, Michelle Underwood, was nearing completion. Initially working with PCSO Roger Brooks, Michelle Underwood would be on the beat from the second week in August. PCSO Robert Sowicki was about to join the Hazlemere team for training and was allocated to Hazlemere.

4 NAG Constitution and Terms of Reference

When this NAG was established in early March / April 2008 (as the Hughenden, Hazlemere & Chepping Wycombe NAG) all members were required to sign the Constitution and Terms of Reference (C&ToR) then in force. The signed C&ToRs were lodged with TVP.

TVP has recently sent Sandy Macdiarmid the current C&ToR, dating from September 2008. Although having much in common with the original document it does differ – for example the current C&ToR has to be approved at a NAG meeting before a Declaration of Acceptance is signed by each member and given to TVP.

The current C&ToR document is circulated as a separate attachment along with these Minutes. It will be discussed with the intention of gaining approval at the next meeting on 9 September. Then each member will be asked to sign it and append contact details.

5 NAG Priorities

Andrew Deane reported an improved response to the latest policing priority survey: there had been an increase of 150 returns over the previous year. The article and questionnaire in the Spring issue of the Chepping Wycombe Parish Council (CWPC) Newsletter had made a valuable contribution to the increased response. The returns had been analysed and the top three priorities were:

- anti-social behaviour (ASB)
- speeding / road safety
- criminal damage.

It was recognised that there was overlap between ASB and criminal damage. David Gresswell proposed that these two priorities be combined so that there would be two 2010-11 policing priorities:

- anti-social behaviour (ASB) / criminal damage;
- speeding / road safety.

This proposal was unanimously approved.

As an incentive, CWPC had offered to fund a £50 prize draw for completed Newsletter questionnaires. The draw took place at this point – the winner was a Tylers Green resident who would be contacted by CWPC.

6 NAG Priority - Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) / Criminal Damage

At the previous meeting Brian Mapletoft had expressed concern about Bucks Free Press reports of problems in the Beaumont Way car park and public toilets. Andrew Deane reported that police investigations had found nothing untoward. David Brown, who sometimes passed through this area while dog walking, confirmed that he had seen nothing of concern.

At this point Rebecca Fetterman and Stuart Parker joined the meeting.

David Graham reported recent graffiti vandalism in the public passage, facing Budgens, between shops and flats in Flackwell Heath. Robert Kin added that the private passage between the Capricorn House and Libra House blocks of flats had been similarly affected. Andrew Deane would ask PCSO Daton Beckford to check on the situation.

Action – Andrew Deane

As a means of limiting public graffiti, Andrew Deane had been examining the pros and cons of Street Art Wall projects in Reading and Swansea. Both of these initiatives had resulted in an 80% reduction of uncontrolled graffiti.

Stuart Parker and Rebecca Fetterman advised that, in September, Hazlemere Youth Centre (HYC) was initiating a six week graffiti project within the Youth Centre premises. Rebecca also

outlined another initiative being launched in High Wycombe: young people would be invited to decorate boards surrounding a building development site. Andrew Deane undertook to send Rebecca details of the Reading and Swansea projects.

Action – Andrew Deane

Sandy Macdiarmid reported that he had been contacted by a Hazlemere resident whose house adjoined Rose Avenue Recreation Ground. This resident complained of ASB involving noise, bad language, alcohol consumption and the failure of users of the basketball court to comply with the notice requesting that the court is not used after 9pm. Andrew Deane responded that the police were aware of these complaints, that special police patrols of the area were undertaken as necessary, and that any problems were dealt with. However the 9pm restriction on the use of the basketball court was not enforceable in law. The basketball court had been established in its location long before the present owner bought his house. There was a general recognition that recreation areas in general and basketball courts in particular were not places of quietness. Sandy Macdiarmid would advise the householder that there was no action that could be taken by the NAG.

Action – Sandy Macdiarmid

David Brown advised that, on behalf of a number of residents, the HRA had complained to Hazlemere Parish Council about the noise of generators whenever the travelling fair visited Rose Avenue Recreation Ground. The HRA had asked the Parish Council to ensure that the generators were located further away from housing.

Andrew Deane reported that noise and minor criminal damage was again taking place on Tylers Green Common. Police were monitoring the situation and special patrols were being scheduled to coincide with the anticipated peak times of this activity. Details of troublemakers were being recorded and they were being issued with yellow and red cards as appropriate.

Action – Andrew Deane

7 Youth Involvement

Rebecca Fetterman and Stuart Parker described the work of the Hazlemere Youth Centre (HYC). It offers three evening sessions each week:

Monday	14 -19 year olds	25 – 35 attend;
Wednesday	11 -13 year olds	20 – 30 attend;
Thursday	13 -16 year olds	10 – 20 attend.

Young people from the local area – not just Hazlemere – are welcomed at HYC.

For the summer holiday period BCC Youth Services has organised a programme of activities for 13 -19 year olds. These are documented in the 'summer 10' brochure which has been given to every school student in the age group. Rebecca Fetterman distributed a few copies of this brochure at the meeting. [David Gresswell has since located a BCC link where this brochure can be viewed: see http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/assets/content/bcc/docs/youth/summer_brochure_2010.pdf .]

The work of HYC is overseen by a voluntary Management Committee which meets four times a year. The role of this committee will assume greater importance between now and March 2011: BCC has decided to put youth services out to tender, rather than employ youth workers directly. The committee will influence the content of the tender – for example an extension to weekend activity at HYC. The Management Committee would welcome new members who could help over the next few important months to shape the future of the HYC.

Rebecca Fetterman would welcome any publicity in local publications to attract more young people to the HYC, and to encourage additional members of the Management Committee.

Action – All

Andrew Deane would ensure ongoing liaison between the HNPT and HYS. PCSO Robert Sowicki would become involved with HYS.

Action – Andrew Deane

Rebecca asked how Youth Services could help the local community. In particular there is a Detached Youth Work Team ('detached' because there is no attachment to a particular location or project) that could carry out a needs assessment on a specific youth issue.

Action – All

Sandy Macdiarmid, on behalf of the NAG, thanked Rebecca Fetterman and Stuart Parker for their time and valuable contributions to the meeting. Rebecca and Stuart then left the meeting.

8 NAG Priority – Speeding / Road Safety

Andrew Deane outlined a new TVP initiative on motoring offences. On a monthly basis officers would concentrate on a particular location to identify and deal with a full range of infractions, such as the use of mobile phones, failure to use seat belts and child seats.

HNPT continued to deploy Temporary Speed Indication Devices (TSIDs). TSIDs were always attended by police officers or PCSOs and provided a visible presence and deterrent to speeding.

David Gresswell reported a recent motoring incident on a Flackwell Heath road. At 10.30am two cars accelerated recklessly and dangerously from a standing start. He asked what action a member of the public could take having witnessed such an incident. Andrew Deane said that if relevant details (location, date, time, registration number and description of the driver) were reported to TVP, a Section 59 Notice would be issued to the registered owner. This notice is a warning not to reoffend in 12 months.

David Brown reported that cars regularly caused obstruction by parking in and near bus lay-by on the A404 near Hazlemere Library to pick up school students in afternoons. The police would monitor this next term.

Action – Andrew Deane

Robert Kin observed that a speed cushion at the top of Sheepridge Lane, Flackwell Heath would be better located a short distance away. Peter Cartwright advised that no more speed cushions were being installed because of the noise nuisance and the detrimental effects to emergency vehicles (notably delays to fire engines and ambulances; discomfort to ambulance patients).

9 Communications

Andrew Deane advised that, from September 2010, the TVP website would have a separate section for the Hazlemere & Chepping Wycombe Neighbourhood. Sandy Macdiarmid welcomed this overdue development, it being 11 months following the separation of the H&CW NAG Area from the Hughenden NAG Area.

10 Any Other Business

No other business.

11 Next Meetings

The dates / times of the next two meetings, to be held at Sir William Ramsay School, are:

Thursday 9 September 2010, at 7.30pm
Thursday 21 October 2010, at 7.30pm (provisional).