

**COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTION TEAM held at COUNCIL OFFICES
LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN at 12.30pm on 26 APRIL 2005**

Present: - In the Chair- Peter Pearson – Essex County Council.
Victoria Borges and Rachel Hutchinson – Uttlesford District Council.
David Gregory – Uttlesford District Councillor
DCI Grahame Bird – Essex Police
John Whitehead and Christopher White – Essex County Council
Dale Atkins – PCT
DO Paul Bowers - Essex County Fire and Rescue Service.
John Whittaker – Local Business
Michael Young – Road Safety Working Group
John Hardisty – UALC
Kerry Vinton – Go-East
John Willoughby – Uttlesford Community Support Group
Liz Tay – Connexions

58 LETTER FROM CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT SUE HARRISON

The Chairman invited DCI Grahame Bird from Essex Police to read a letter from Chief Superintendent Sue Harrison. Which thanked the Action Team for their time, work and commitment towards the Task Group and she hoped that the Group would continue to successfully advance.

Action

Peter Pearson to send a letter of thanks to Superintendent Sue Harrison for her time and commitment to the Task Group.

59 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Alasdair Bovaird, Ch Supt Botterill Sgt Dave Gritton, Sir Alan Haselhurst MP, Ann Jones, Sgt Sloane, Melanie Walker, Graham Bradley, Canon Duncan Green, Cannon Chris Bishop, Andrew Thomson, Peter Woollard and George Baddeley.

60 MINUTES

The notes of the meeting held on 25 January 2005 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

61 BUSINESS ARISING

(i) Minute 32 - Lighting at the White Horse Public House

Further to the last meeting Peter Pearson informed the Action Team that the County Council now see this as a major issue and have agreed to look at what could be done to improve the lighting.

(ii) **Minute 50 – Performance Targets**

Grahame Bird informed the Action Team that the PSA1 targets had now been ratified and set at 15% for the Braintree Division.

62 **CHAIRMENS' REPORTS**

The Group received reports from the latest meetings of the Community Support, the Alcohol and Drugs, the Road Safety and the Youth Initiatives Groups.

(i) **Community Support Group**

John Willoughby reported that two members of the group had attended a regional domestic violence meeting. He added that videos on domestic violence had now been issued to the public in order to help the community understand the issues surrounding domestic violence. The Police trailer would be used to visit the community to spread awareness and leaflets would be available on the Buffy Bus.

Liz Tay was concerned with the lack of age specific information on domestic violence and she informed the Team that she had written a paper on the Connexions Board to find support to help develop the work that was underway and to educate younger people. The Community Support Group had identified within their action plan that there is a need for an educational pack.

Action

That all information on age specific education was to be brought back to the Community Support Group.

(ii) **Alcohol and Drug Strategy Group**

Rachel Hutchinson explained that they had decided to set up an alcohol sub-committee to tackle the area of binge drinking, under age drinking and long-term alcoholics. She said that this would work towards addressing the lack of support facilities within the district.

(iii) **Road Safety Working Group**

Michael Young reported on recent activities. He explained that they had completed another safety belt enforcement/education with Essex Police and there had been a slight decrease in the numbers of people not wearing seat belts. But Essex Police still think that this was a bad figure. He added that they had also carried out the second Primary School Speed Initiative and 8 drivers were stopped for speeding and all agreed to the lecture and to watch a short film.

He informed the panel eye testing with Essex Traffic Police would be taking place in July and that the Summer Drink Drive/Fatigue education at a service station would take place in August.

(iv) **Youth Initiatives Group**

John Whittaker updated the Team on the agreed milestones. He reported that there might be a need to drop one or two projects due to a lack of funds.

He added that there were currently little or no provisions for 10-13 year olds. However he was aware that Fiona Gardener was in talks with the youth service about the lack of provision for young people. The Chairman advised him to contact the Children and Young Peoples Strategy Group as they were working with Fiona on this issue. The group were informed that Felsted and Stebbing churches were discussing the way forward in providing a Youth Worker (as Saffron Walden church does now).

63 **REVIEW AND AGREE PROCESS FOR FUTURE CSAT MEETINGS**

Peter Pearson reported that the Team was now moving into a new era and this would see a change in the way funding would be provided. He explained that the new system would require each group to submit their funding applications quickly to ensure projects get sufficient funding to enable a stronger and safer community. He said that they would also need to look at the way the Team was structured and how work could be focused and targeted. He added that there was also a need to understand the functions of all the groups and sub-groups within the partnership. He said that it was now important to make it clear that the Action Teams role was as the commissioner of work/projects.

Action

That a facilitated meeting would take place at the end of June where the Chairmen or their deputies would discuss all the above issues and a forward strategy. A briefing of the findings from the meeting would be produced for the next CSAT meeting. Peter Pearson offered to produce a report giving overview of structure of CSAT and RAG and how LAA would affect the structure and funding issues.

64 **FUNDING UPDATE**

(i) **BSC Funding Status and Report 05/06**

- (ii) Chris White informed the Team that they had received the final Home Office Funding. He said that they had 24 applications and 12 had been funded. He added that they were now aware that their funding programme would need to be focused and targeted in order to show the priorities.

(ii) **BCU Fund Report 05/06** Page 3

It was reported that there had been no proposals to make any changes to the funding programme from the previous year. Therefore the funding would continue using last year's proposals

(iii) **UCSAT Partnership Funding Status 04/05 and 05/06**

Rachel Hutchinson informed the Team that there had been a slight under spend in 04/05, which had now been reabsorbed into the 05/06 budget. She said that the devolved budgets would continue for each working group of £2000. She then quoted the funding figures that had been provided from Partners and this had now been earmarked against a number of projects. One project was identified as evaluation of CSAT by an external organisation, the results to be used to progress the way CSAT address the new strategy and organise themselves. Another project which had funds earmarked against it was to produce a public version of the new Strategy 2005-08 something which promoted the good work of the team and stated its aims etc. This was a useful tool in helping reduce fear of crime in the general public.

65 **COUNTRYWIDE ASB DATABASE**

The Team were presented with a report, which provided an outline of a computer data base system that would enable ASB data to be collected by different external agencies countywide and by different departments throughout the District Council. Rachel Hutchinson explained that the central database would be accessible over the Internet, Intranet or Extranet and would allow organisations to work together and share information.

Team members unanimously agreed that the database was a great idea to bring all the information together and at a low cost.

It was RESOLVED that the Community Safety Action Team would contribute £2000 to enable partnership working through the Sentinel System and that £1000 be contributed yearly thereafter towards maintenance costs.

66 **ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR QUARTERLY REPORT AND ECC FUNDING UPDATE**

Rachel Hutchinson handed the Team an update on Uttlesfords anti-social behaviour cases by the Anti-social Behaviour Officer. For the report showing effectiveness of ECC funds spent on the two identified projects –it was agreed that there was a need to provide more evidence on each case. However the results in the update show that the job was being done well and improvements had been made.

Peter Pearson said that the idea was to hit and stop the behaviour that causes concern. He added that one way to find out if we had succeeded in changing their behaviour would be to ask the local people whom the behaviour originally affected. However he said that the results looked positive and showed that there had been a change in behaviour. He recommended that the improvement in behaviour should be published to inform the community of the work that had been done.

Action: Fiona Gardiner to publish a report to show effectiveness of ASB work and success stories, to reassure the public.

67 **PROGRESS UPDATE ON COMMUNITY SAFETY AUDIT 2005-08 AND STRATEGY**

Rachel Hutchinson said that the latest version of the strategy included business crime and displayed a survey that had been carried out with local businesses. She said that the Strategy would be going to full council tonight for formal endorsement. The new Strategy was to be accepted now that the Business Crime element had been included. She reminded members that the Strategy was a living document and that action plans, which support the aims of the strategy, would adapt as necessary.

Action

Rachel to email the Strategy to everyone.

68 **FEEDBACK FROM BUSINESS CRIME SURVEY**

Rachel Hutchinson informed the Team that a survey had been carried out with local businesses and research had shown that 2,000 small businesses per year close down due to crime. She said that this was only the tip of the iceberg, as some bigger businesses would not disclose any information plus most business crime did not get recorded separately to other crimes.

Action

That Police are to be invited to give their opinions on how to reduce Business Crime, and how it should be recorded.

69 **PROLIFIC AND PERSISTENT OFFENDERS UPDATE**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

70 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Chairman informed the Team that the meeting would be the last one for ECC Cllr John Whitehead as he was retiring.

71 **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held on 26 July 2005.

72 **Future CSAT Meetings**

25 October 2005
24 January 2006
26 April 2006
25 July 2006

24 October 2006