



NEEDHAM MARKET NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



Minutes of the Quarterly meeting held at
MSDC Amenity Centre
Monday 10th March 2008.

1. **Attendance:** (18 Members) Greta Balson, Yvonne Butcher, Pat Carter, Mary Clutterbuck, Trevor Gibbons (PRO), Mary Gooderham, Peter Groom, Shelagh Herring, Trevor Jones, Norma Keeble, David Levett (Deputy Chair), Cllr Wendy Marchant, Cllr Mike Norris, Cllr Ted Nash, Shelia Read, Brian Scoggins, Brian Smith, Maurice Sore
2. **Apologies:** (3 Members) Robert Jolley, John Stainton (Deputy Chair), Clive Walker (Treas)
3. **Minutes of previous meeting:** Proposed by Trevor Jones seconded by Norma Keeble
4. **Matters arising:**
 - a. Cllr Wendy Marchant would like to put on record her thanks to Theresa Jones for the reminder about the Safer Neighbourhood meeting on the 4th March.
5. **Chairman's report:**
 - a. With the Chairman, John Stainton, unusually absent due to illness Trevor Gibbons volunteered to take the Chair.
 - b. With the change from monthly to quarterly meetings the committee decided to deliver the minutes of the previous meeting to all of the co-ordinators some days prior to our meeting. With so many members present it looks like it paid dividends.
6. **Secretary's report:**
 - a. The Secretary and Clive Walker still have to "refresh" signs in: Foxglove Ave, Barking Road and the sign close to the Red Lion.
 - b. DFL thanked Norma Keeble for distributing minutes to Co-ordinators in areas 2,3,6,7 and 8.
 - c. In the absence of our Treasurer our fund balance remains unaltered at £1,101.23.

7. Treasurer's report:

See section 6C

8. PRO report:

TG said that now he has all the relevant information he would update the co-ordinators list. He also said he would continue with his topical reports for the Town Newsletter.

9. Police report:

We were pleased to have Sgt Curtis in attendance. He indicated that Theresa Jones was leaving her post to work with young people in Bury St Edmunds. (The secretary was asked to convey our thanks to TJ for her help over the years.)

Sgt Curtiss mentioned the recent Safer Neighbourhood Team meeting and the desire of the Police to increase the profile of the team.

Police contact with the young people and the internet café have eased problems associated with this group. SNT intend to get more articles into local magazines.

Street briefings by SNT have not been well attended and in consequence they wish to be involved in any gatherings that NHW arrange.

Sgt Curtiss stressed the need to secure vehicles and houses. He illustrated this point with the example of 5 vehicles being entered in Tostock with none of them being locked. There have also been houses entered that were not secured.

Dave Gilson is available to do security presentations if required. SNT can also do pedal cycle postcode marking.

Norma Keeble asked when in June NHW week is:- Sgt Curtiss to advise.

Cllr Wendy Marchant mentioned a MSDC service which fits locks, spy holes and security lighting to houses and garden sheds. It is free to pensioners and those on benefits. TG asked if the MSDC website referred to this service. Nobody could give an answer. The Police and Council propose knocking on doors to promote this service.

- 10. Any other business:**
- a. Attention drawn to "litter pick" dates of 4th and 5th April. Full details are in Town Newsletter.
 - b. Will there be a quiz this year? Clive Walker and John Stainton will be asked to consider.
 - c. Norma Keeble mentioned a "den" used by children off Barking Road. Known to contain cans, bottles and maybe more.
 - d. SCA group - now only for Needham Market and Stowmarket children who have been excluded from the mainstream education system.
 - e. Norma Keeble says older people prefer to contact her rather than the Police at Martlesham.
 - f. Sgt Curtis will establish the protocol at Martlesham for dealing with incoming calls.
 - g. MSDC Safe and Secure Schemes - Cllr Ted Nash and Cllr Wendy Marchant will liaise with MSDC to see if details can be included in the Town Newsletter.
 - h. Trevor Jones mentioned that the photographic project was publicised at the SNT meeting. Contact Trevor for this very useful way of keeping a photographic record of valuables.
 - i. Yvonne Butcher said a cycle marking session is needed.
 - j. Peter Groom raised the issue of cycles being used without lights.
 - k. Greta Balson mentioned two break-ins in Anderson Close. Drink and fishing equipment was stolen.
- 12. Date of next meeting:** AGM Monday 9th June at 7.30pm
- 13. Closure:** The meeting closed at 8.40pm.