

Greater Finaghy Policing & Community Safety Partnership Meeting
Benmore, Erinvale and Orpen Areas
19th May 2014

Attendance: Jim Ross, Eddie Cairns, Matthew Russell, Dennis Patterson, Grainne O'Hare, Harry Smith, Insp. Wilkinson, Sgt McLaron, Helen Smith, Anne Cochrane, Johnny Strong, Harry Smith, Elaine Mc Williams

Apologies: Raymond Stewart, Cecil Kennedy, Dave Elliott, Sheila Close, Colin Patterson, Joan Bailey, Yvonne Morrow

Previous minutes: Proposed by Matthew Russell and seconded by Jim Ross

Police Reports: Statistics were given for the time period 23/3/2014 – 16/05/2014 for Orpen, Benmore and Erinvale. Please find statistics attached.

Matters Arising

Benmore Stats

17 incidents in total. These included 1 assault, 2 theft, 2 suspicious persons, 2 ASB, 6 concerns for safety, 1 attempted burglary, 1 vehicle theft, 1 excess alcohol and 1 incident of criminal damage. The incident of assault occurred in Ramore and the investigation is ongoing. The 6calls of concern for safety involved the incident at Moveen House where a male fell of a balcony. The vehicle theft took place in Kinnegar Road where a Yamaha motorcycle was taken. It was later located in Locksley Park. The incident of criminal damage took place in Orlock Square and involved a vehicle being keyed.

Erinvale Stats

4 incidents in total. These included 1 burglary, 1 suspicious person, 1 suspicious vehicle and 1 incident of ASB. The burglary involved an Audi car being taken from an address in Wederburn Avenue. This car was later recovered in Dromore with false number plates. The incident of ASB involved people on scramblers on the football pitches in Wederburn. Police spoke with those involved.

Matthew Russell stated that a resident of Erinvale has reported to him that people are still using the roundabout to race around at the shops. This doesn't occur every night, usually on Sunday nights.

Orpen Stats

8 incidents in total. These included 1 burglary, 3 suspicious incidents, 2 thefts and 2 incidents classed as 'other'. The burglary took place at the start of April in Orpen Park where a Toyota Celica was taken. One

arrest was made. The 2 thefts involved a car in Porter Park. 2 males tried to push it away at 6am one morning. The 2 males were arrested and were from the Dunmurray area. The other theft was an internal family matter.

The gates to the park at Wederburn will be fitted with anti-climb bars soon. Ricky Rice from BCC was on site today looking at the gates.

NIHE Report

Dave Elliott reported that he has 2 active cases. One is in relation to harassment in Torr Way which will hopefully be concluded with mediation. The second involves dog fouling in Innisowen Drive. Dave also stated that some tenants in Glenarm Square have reported groups of youths gathering.

Other Business

Some members of the group expressed to the members of PSNI present that they felt they had been let down by the PSNI not attending the previous meeting as many people had unanswered questions regarding the conviction of a resident in Geeragh Place. In response to this, Insp. Wilkinson stated that there is a limit to what the PSNI can put in to the public domain. Their hands are tied by law and / or their procedures. He also reminded the group that people are not guilty until proven so in court and so to indicate anything before a court case may jeopardise the case. Eddie stated that he felt people in the area were misled by the PSNI as they were led to believe the incident related to fraud. Insp. Wilkinson stated that he could not comment on this without knowing what had been said to whom and when.

Insp. Wilkinson stated that the reason for the PSNI's non attendance at the previous meeting was due to the new development / protocols within the district due to Service First being introduced. They did try to get shifts changed at the last minute but were unable to do so. He stated that unless something unforeseen happens then with forward planning there should always be someone there to represent the PSNI at the meetings.

Dennis stated that the HET are looking in to the murders in Finaghy.

The annual band competition will take place on Sat 14th June. Flags will be erected for this in the coming week.

Next Meeting

To be arranged!!