

**Policing & Community Safety Partnership Meeting  
Benmore, Erinvale and Orpen Areas  
25<sup>th</sup> June 2012**

**Attendance:** Harry Smith, Cecil Kennedy, Dennis Patterson, Ald Tom Ekin, Ria Jordan, Helen Smith, Billy Marshall, Matthew Russell, Eddie Cairns, Colin Patterson, Anne Cochrane, Ins Gordon Wilkinson, Sgt Brian Mc Laron, Dennis Catterson, Keith Addy, Lisa Mc Cambridge, Dave Elliot, Con Prendergast

**Apologies:** None

Introductions were made by everyone stating who they were and in what capacity they were attending the meeting.

Members attending the meeting were reminded of confidentiality and that when discussing issues that peoples names should not be used.

Last minutes were recorded as true and accurate, proposed by Matthew Russell and seconded by Jim Ross.

**Police Reports:** Inspector Wilkinson and Sgnt McClaron presented police crime statistics for the period 23/04/2012 – 22/06/2012 for Benmore, Taughmonagh and Erinvale areas. Please find statistics attached.

- The application for a license to open an amusement arcade in Erinvale had been refused. Alderman Ekin argued that amusement arcades should be on arterial routes, not residential areas. The applicant may appeal.
- Insp Wilkinson got in touch with the Chief Insp of the Urban Call Mgt Centre regarding the first impression given to members of the public calling to report incidents. This issue has been addressed and if you feel there is still an issue please contact Insp Wilkinson at Lisburn Road PSNI.
- Ricky Rice from BCC has agreed to supply 6 benches for Wederburn Park. They need to be instructed as to where best to situate them to minimise youths congregating around them. Colin Patterson is speaking with Jimmy Bowes about this who will liaise with Ricky Rice.
- Ricky Rice would like to speak with some people on the ground to discuss where to place 1 or 2 lights in strategic places in Wederburn Park. It may be possible to have this funded through the Small Local Investment Fund.
- The issue of the opening/closing of the Wederburn gates in Orpen needs to be unanimous before any change is made. Harry will arrange for Jimmy Bowes, Matthew and Sheila to meet with Ricky Rice regarding all of these issues.
- There have been some issues with dumping in Wederburn. The cleaning contractor for the Bonfire will be contacted to clean this up as soon as possible.

- The Community Safety website is up and running and has had 1731 hits so far and over 500 comments have been left. It has been a great success and is being updated regularly [www.finaghydsp.co.uk](http://www.finaghydsp.co.uk)
- In relation to the Benmore figures (attached) most of the ASB has been to do with the Bonfire and Locksley Lane. There have been slightly more incidents than normal, possibly due to the Crossroads Group closing. It would be useful to look at the figures for the same time last year. Sgt Mc Laron will try to get these figures for the next meeting.

**NIHE Report** - David Elliot is the new ASB Officer for NIHE (taken over from Colin Smith). He has been in post for 1 month and currently has 7 cases in total - 3 are live, 2 are to be closed and 1 is ongoing. David will speak to Seamus Sheehy regarding a burglary in Benmore where the keys, including those for the front door, were taken as these locks will need to be changed ASAP. So far, David has had 4 noise complaints, 2 complaints of dumping and 1 animal complaint. He reminded people of the need to report issues.

**BCC Report** – Keith Addy introduced himself as the ASB Officer for Belfast City Council. He stated that he has been partnership working with the ASB forum as a means of sharing information. He stated that the Community Safety Wardens seemed to have made a difference in the area, but these will be redeployed to another area at the end of June.

**Community Response** – Matthew asked if there was a possibility for political parties to come together to get the Finaghy Crossroads Office open again. Harry stated that there was no funding. Funding from the IFI had stopped to the Crossroads Group, as well as other groups. Harry and other members of the group have contacted numerous funders but there is just no funding available for it. The PSNI stated that although the Crossroads Group has closed, the PSNI still have the worthwhile links with people on both sides of the crossroads.

**Next Meeting:**

24<sup>th</sup> Sept 2012 at 7pm in Finaghy Community Centre