

**Policing & Community Safety Partnership Meeting  
Benmore, Erinvale and Orpen Areas  
23<sup>rd</sup> September 2013**

**Attendance:** Insp. Gordon Wilkinson, Sgt. Brian Mc Laren, Cecil Kennedy, Joan Bailey, Gail Mc Givern, Sheila Close, Matthew Russell, Ria Jordan, Anne Cochrane, Jim Ross, Grainne O'Hare, Dennis Patterson, Harry Smith, Raymond Stewart, Johnny Strong

**Apologies:** Yvonne Morrow, Ald. Tom Ekin, Billy Marshall, Jimmy Bowes, David Elliott, Keith Addy

**Police Reports:** Statistics were given for the time period 26/06/2013 – 17/09/2013 for Benmore, Orpen and Erinvale. Please find statistics attached.

Last minutes were recorded as true and accurate, proposed by Sheila Close and seconded by Matthew Russell

**Matters Arising**

No matters arising that will not be dealt with by the agenda.

**Benmore Stats**

58 incidents in total.

\*These included 5 domestic reports, 3 criminal damage reports, 4 thefts, 2 assaults, 21 reports of antisocial behaviour, 9 suspicious behaviour, 1 burglary and 13 'other' reports.

\*The 4 reports a thefts included theft of lead from Benmore Walk which is quite unusual for the area. NIHE was informed and this has been repaired.

\*The 21 reports of anti social behaviour included, amongst others, drunk and abusive neighbours, youths looking into car windows, setting fire to wheelie bins, threats on facebook and throwing eggs at windows (which has been recorded as a hate crime).

\*9 incidents of suspicious behaviour reported in Benmore showed that more people are beginning to report suspicious activity which is very encouraging. These incidents of suspicious activity included a blue transit van with southern number plates acting suspiciously, a bus damaged in Benmore Drive and males shining lights in to cars around Ramore.

\*The burglary incident involved windows being smashed in a house in the early hours of the morning and damaging furniture inside.

**Erinvale Stats**

15 incidents in total.

\*These reports included 8 incidents of antisocial behaviour, 2 incidents of suspicious activity, 1 domestic report, 1 assault, 1 report of criminal damage and 2 'other' reports.

\*The 8 incidents of antisocial behaviour mainly occurred around the bonfire site. This was discussed by the group. It is thought that drugs seemed to be available on the 11<sup>th</sup> night. This will be discussed in more detail with Erinvale Bonfire committee in order to avoid this being repeated next year. Ongoing work will be done with the bonfire committee.

\*The suspicious activity included 1 report of a scam over the telephone asking people for personal details, and also included 2 males in the Vines collecting things from driveways, however this turned out to be nothing untoward.

### **Orpen Stats**

7 incidents in total.

\*These incidents included 2 of antisocial behaviour, 1 assault, 1 theft and 3 'other' reports.

\*The 2 incidents of antisocial behaviour included one report in Orpen Park of 7-8 youths acting suspiciously around vehicles. The second report was again in Orpen Park and involved a group of approximately 20 youths shouting sectarian abuse.

\*The 3 'other' reports included cars blocking access across a driveway and 2 reports of a house alarm sounding.

### **NIHE Report**

Dave Elliott was unable to attend.

### **BCC Report**

Not available

### **Other Business**

Dennis Patterson queried response times by the PSNI and it was explained again that response times depend on the volume and type of calls that have come in at any one time. 999 emergency calls must take priority over calls which have no threat of death or serious injury. Therefore if a number of 999 calls are in progress at one time, this may delay the response to a non emergency call.

It was noted that the number of domestic related calls has increased lately. It is good to see that members of the public are reporting. Brian Mc Laren explained to the group about their pro-arrest policy. He also explained about their DASH form and the Public Protection Unit at Willowfield who will carry out a call back with the victim and advice will be given re Womens Aid, etc

There has been some ongoing issues regarding the booking of the football pitches in Wederburn. One particular group has allegedly been using the pitches for training without booking, making it difficult for other teams to practice. In protest at this, 3 cars drove on to the pitch to stop the team practicing. The park ranger was made aware of this and reported it to the PSNI for information purposes. It was suggested that the group asks Alderman Tom Ekin to follow up on the matter.

### **Next Meeting**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November @7pm in Finaghy Community Centre