Greater Finaghy Policing & Community Safety Partnership Meeting

Benmore, Erinvale and Orpen Areas

27th January 2014

Attendance: Sgt. Brian McLaren, Con. Mark Delargy, Sheila Close, Matthew Russell, Ria Jordan, Anne

Cochrane, Grainne O'Hare, Harry Smith, David Elliott (NIHE), Elaine Mc Williams (BCC), Dennis O'Neill (South Belfast Area Youth Project), Lisa Knocker (South Belfast Area Youth

Project), Helen Smith, Yvonne Morrow, Billy Marshall, Ald. Tom Ekin

Apologies: Colin Patterson

**Police Reports:** Statistics were given for the time period 21/11/2013 – 22/01/2014 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**

21 incidents in total.

\*These included 3 domestic reports, 1 criminal damage report, 2 thefts, 7 reports of antisocial behaviour, 4 suspicious persons, 2 burglary and 2 reports of concern for safety.

\*1 burglary incident took place in Locksley Park on Boxing Day where the resident was away over the Christmas period. Due to a new door in the process of being fitted, there was only plastic covering part of the door and so was easily accessible. The side gate was also left unlocked. Items removed included DVD player, CD Player, etc.

\*The 7 incidents of ASB are encouraging, considering this period included the Christmas school holidays. These reports of ASB included tyres being let down, youths causing annoyance, teenagers gathering in communal hallways and an ongoing dispute between neighbours. A discussion on the reduction of ASB incidents was held. This may in part be due to the work being carried out by the three full time out reach detached area youth workers, along with other part time workers. They have been working with the young people to establish what thins they would like to be involved in.

\*Sgt McLaren also gave a brief report on an incident that occurred in Glenarm Square where 2 serious assaults occurred. A resident was visited by two young males. When the two males were denied entry into the flat they came across two other people who, possibly due to consumption of drink and/or drugs they carried out an unprovoked attack. The two young males, who are not from the Finaghy area, have been arrested for GBH. The resident in the flat where the two young men tried to gain entry has now moved out.

#### **Erinvale Stats**

6 incidents in total.

\*These reports included 1 vehicle hijacking, 1 burglary, 1 report of ASB and 3 reports of suspicious vehicles.

\*Sgt McLaren gave an overview of the reported vehicle hijacking which occurred in Wederburn Gardens on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2014. The incident occurred at approx 09.15am and involved a care worker who's vehicle had become stuck. A passerby helped to push the vehicle free however once the vehicle was free he drove off in the vehicle. The vehicle was later found in Andersonstown intact. The enquiry is ongoing with CID.

### **Orpen Stats**

1 incident in total.

\*This incident was a report of concern for safety in Porter Park and involved a male with a head injury being aggressive to ambulance staff.

### **NIHE Report**

Dave Elliott reported that he has 3 active cases. One is in relation to youths gathering in Glenarm Square, one is a neighbour issue in Garron Crescent and one is in Innisowen Drive and is in relation to dog fouling.

#### **BCC Report**

Elaine Mc Williams, the new ASB Officer for BCC had nothing further to add. Ricky Rice was unable to attend the meeting but asked the group to discuss anti climb bars on Wederburn Park gates. If there is a consensus that the residents want the anti climb bars then BCC will look in to the possibility, however he stressed that they do look quite unsightly. Sgt. McLaren will ask Johnny Strong to ask the residents of Orpen what their views are in relation to these bars.

# **Other Business**

Another community safety magazine is in the process of being designed. If anyone has any information they would like included in it please let Harry know. Also the Community Safety webpage is doing well.

Finaghy Traders Assoc organised some great activities at the cross roads around the Christmas period. There was a grotto, a large Christmas tree and a family day of activities. It was felt that this really helped to lift the atmosphere of the crossroads area. They have also organised for the seating to be taken away and renewed by students in the local college.

## **Next Meeting**

Monday 24th March 2014 @ 7pm in Finaghy Community Centre



