

Local Community Meeting (West)

Date: Monday 3rd December 2018 Wards: Belfairs, Eastwood Park, Leigh, St Lawrence West Leigh
Location: Woodlands Centre, Belfairs Park.

Attendees: 15 people were present.

Apologies: Two apologies received.

1: Review of previously agreed priorities

Update provided on dwelling burglary's, from the period 2/10/2018 – 02/12/2018

Leigh – 1
West Leigh – 3
Belfair's – 8
St Lawrence – 7
Eastwood – 2

Theft from Motor Vehicle
Body Parts – Down
C/Theft – 5
Motorbikes – 12

45 arrests for dwelling burglary

Last period 32 offences
This period 21 offences

Overall reduction of 11 offences across the wards

Resident requests the location of the properties on Belfair's, an update will be provided outside of the meeting

PS Gardiner provided an update on identified locations. PCSO Holland has held many Coffee with Cops and been engaging with residents, as well as patrols in identified areas. This has seen a reduction of reports into Essex police.

Residents advise they have seen a decrease in activity's and thanked the police for their efforts.

Coffee with cops is advertised on Facebook and Twitter – suggestion of posters to advertise in local shops, leaflet drops to certain location, Insp Hughes will take this back for consideration.

Resident states that a particular area which was a problem for drug dealing has seen a drastic improvement thanks to extra police patrols. Very happy and thankful for all the police efforts.

2: Current Problems/information sharing

- Concerns around bogus callers was reported to Essex police non-emergency number, residents waited 30 minutes and gave up trying to report. Insp Hughes suggested if a crime is an action it is reported on 999

- Drug dealing around Eastwood has improved and police have been seen patrolling
- Excess speed on Bellhouse lane, request for a speed camera or bumps. This will be passed to Peter Swanwick for the community speed watch team.
- Drug dealing within the St Lawrence car park every night.
- Drag racing Eastwoodbury lane / Nestuda resident to establish a pattern of dates/times
- On the corner near to Byford's concerns continue around drug dealing and persons seen with cans of beer hidden under vehicle (Byford's is covered by CCTV)
- Drug dealing on corner of Buxton Avenue
- Concerns around a new development in Castle Point and the lack of communication in relation to road usage etc. Insp Hughes to look into this.
- Yellow lines need to be put in certain areas, residents to report to Southend Borough Council (SBC) directly

Updates

- Resident updated her handbag was stolen from car, she gave chase and got this back, and had been updated the person was charged with the offence.
- Concerns around the accuracy of Speedwatch data to be reported to SBC
- Discussions around bogus phone calls. Advised to go onto whocalledme.com and you can report the numbers
- Discussions around the double lines down the middle of the road and if this means you are unable to park on the side of the road. Residents to report to SBC

3: Set new priorities

Burglary - Op Insight

Increased visibility re drug activity at identified locations

4: AOB

Insp Hughes congratulated PS Gardiner on his official Sergeant posting and explains his change of role. He will no longer cover this area and will be moving shifts. He was thanked for all his hard work.

Insp Hughes asked residents to provide any suggestions for improvements that could be made to the meeting. This relates to the format, what is currently raised, and the information provided. Some feedback was provided

Winter Night Shelters

This will commence on 3rd December and there are seven churches involved. The clients cannot just turn up, they must be referred via HARP.

Their email is shelters@lovesouthend.org and Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/SouthendChurchesWinterNightShelter/>

OPERATION LEIGH BROADWAY

17th January at 10am – This is a partnership event looking at engaging with the community and retailers. Plenty of opportunity not just to meet your local officers, but Street Engagement teams, Active Citizens, Street Pastors, Peabody, SBC Teams to name a few. So please come and visit.

5: Date of next meeting

7pm on 4th February 2019 at St Stephens Church Alton Gardens Westcliff.

How can you help?

Active Citizens

We are actively recruiting active citizens who really want to be involved in transforming their community. There are no set hours or days, you volunteer when you can. It's a great experience and brings positivity to your own area.

Active Citizens are volunteers in the community who help us to lower crime and the fear of crime by interacting with the public. They can get involved in a wide range of work to assist us:

- Help us run community days of action
- Patrol with local police officers and Police Community Support Officers
- Provide reassurance and crime prevention advice

<https://www.essex.police.uk/join-the-police/volunteers/active-citizens/>

If you are interested then pop down to the Community Engagement Day on 17th January and you will be able to chat to a few and find out what they do – it's a great opportunity to be involved with your community.

Special Constabulary

Special Constables are volunteer Police Officers. They have the same police powers, uniforms and equipment as regular Police Officers but sacrifice their free time on a voluntary basis, organising their busy personal lives, day jobs and other commitments around police duties.

<https://www.essex.police.uk/join-the-police/special-constabulary/>

The neighbourhood Police team are contactable via email.
ian.hughes@essex.pnn.police.uk Follow Inspector Hughes on twitter
[@InspectorIanHughes](https://twitter.com/InspectorIanHughes)

Don't forget your 9pm checks – windows, doors, car doors – make sure they are all locked

REMINDER: Reports / updates of problems regarding rough sleepers should be communicated to ward councillors, to ensure that SBC is fully aware of situation). All reports of rough sleepers should be made via the national 'Streetlink' organisation, who act as the first point of contact for SBC.

Don't forget that requests for updates / information / answers should be Emailed to Simon Werrett at least 7 days prior to a meeting, to enable the necessary research to be undertaken and an appropriate response prepared.

REMINDER:

As the Christmas season approaches

- Make your home safe and secure by fitting 5 lever mortise locks on all external doors and secure locks on all other doors and windows.
- Install a burglar alarm.
- Lock and secure all windows and doors when you leave your home – take special care with UPVC doors (lift handle and lock door with key).
- Remove keys from locks and place them out of sight.
- Never leave tools or implements outside the property which thieves can use to forcibly enter your home.
- Use automatic light timers / sensors to make your property look occupied and consider leaving a radio on.

Don't leave presents on view in an unoccupied vehicle

- Photograph and record serial numbers of valuable items (laptops, computer consoles, satellite navigation systems, TV's etc.), use an ultra violet marker pen to security code your property, to assist with later identification.
- Ensure that vehicle is locked / secure and that all valuable items are removed / hidden from view.

If you are going away for the festive season

- Do not advertise that you are away – ask a trusted person to check on your property and remove mail. Cancel milk & newspaper deliveries. Ensure light timers and burglar / fire alarms are working.

Don't forget even if he has a big white beard and wearing a red coat

- Suspect callers should never be admitted to your property – always check identification and if necessary verify with a telephone call to the agency concerned. If you are still concerned call for advice from friends / relatives / Police. Remember that opportunist burglars usually knock on doors to check whether the premises are occupied and may use an excuse by asking for a named person. If you are unsure close the door and ring for assistance.