

**Notes from Tavistock Matters**

**3<sup>rd</sup> June 2020**

**Skype meeting**

**Attendees:** Cllrs Sellis, Moody, Ewings, Hipsey, Johnson, Parker, Mark Sloman, Roger Bird, John Ward, Louisa Daley

**Apologies:** Carl Hearn, Cllr Ellis

**Speedwatch:**

Speedwatch has been put on hold for 10-12 weeks due to Covid-19.

*Action: LD to add to next meeting agenda*

**Police Update:**

MS advised that the community, like others, had been through a tough time but that the relationships with local people have generally been understanding, he and the team are grateful for any feedback from the public in case anything similar is further required so that the team can learn going forward.

SH wished to register his thanks and appreciation to the police team in West Devon over the past few months, on behalf of himself and also Tavistock Locals Help group.

MS continued to update on current crime figures, noting a 49% decrease in crime compared to a similar period of time last year. However, of late, increases are being seen particularly in the areas of Domestic Violence and Antisocial behaviour (mostly these are CV19 related)

As of early June, figures are returning to previously "normal" levels.

JM asked if there had been an increase in drugs locally, MS advised that Police have been in contact with local dealers for one reason or another but that currently in West Devon there is no evidence of an increase in County Lines.

GP asked about a warrant carried out in Anderton Lane, MS advised that the resident is likely to be in prison for some time.

GP asked about graffiti in Tavistock as there has been new graffiti covering new BT boxes and a similar tag seen around the Tavistock area, including the pimple.

*Action: MS to find out who the owner of the Pimple is and to contact them with regards clearing the graffiti.*

*Action: JW to obtain images of the "SEER" tag around Tavistock and arrange a "Name That Tag" campaign which we can run locally on social media.*

MS advised that due to recent concerns about speeding the Safety Camera Partnership had been in the area recently and officers are aware and being proactive.

#### **WDBC Update:**

JW advised that ASB had declined over the past few months but that he had been busy with other Environmental Health issues which has arisen due to CV19.

LD advised that there had been a marked increase in Safeguarding and Domestic Violence issues in West Devon and updated the group on the twice weekly meetings held with D&C Police under Devon OPIC (Operational Police Incident Cell) which had been created in response to Devon's response to the CV19 outbreak.

DS advised she wished to convey her thanks to WDBC officers, some of whom had worked around the clock to assist with food parcels and the work with volunteers.

SH advised that over the past 3-4 days there had been a large increase in jet ski incidents on the Tamar, this is overseen by the QHM but was thought to be linked in some way to the excess number of motorbikes being seen in WD lately – it was considered to be linked to the release of restrictions and the hope would be that this will decline soon. The Tamar issues are being dealt with by the MOD Police.

#### **Tavistock Town Council:**

AJ updated that TTC had been very busy especially with burial ground staff and the parks and open spaces. A joint press release had been issued the week before with the Police and TTC around the use of the parks and safety advice signage that keeps being taken down.

Graffiti was mentioned again and will be linked into the campaign that JW will do around name that tag.

AJ brought up the ongoing problems with Crowndale Road and land adjacent to the football club being used by young people, leaving their litter, burnt ground due to BBQ's, glass bottles, food litter and also being antisocial to residents living the other side of the river.

Some photographs were shared to the police for identification. MS will highlight this issue with local officers to patrol on a regular basis. ME advised that the football club will be using CCTV. LD advised that to comply with RIPA there needs to be signage showing that CCTV is being used nearby. ME said that she would check this with the club to ensure that there is signage.

#### **Devon County Council:**

DS advised that some cyclists on the moor seem to be having scant regard for walkers. MS advised that cyclists are actually not allowed to cycle on the moor and that this should be reported to DNPA (Dartmoor National Park Authority.)

GP agreed with regards cyclists at speed and dangers to walkers and dogs.

*Action: DS to contact DNPA to raise the issue*

**Street Pastors:**

Have not been patrolling since the end of March due to the current situation. Volunteers have become involved with local counselling services. Daytime patrols are likely to commence as the lockdown releases. The night time patrols are likely to open in line with the night time economy.

**School Pastors:**

School Pastors are likely to return in September when the secondary schools open again. The College has been working closely with the school pastors on safeguarding reviews and updates.

**Recovery Planning:**

GP advised that Tavistock BID team are working with the town centre as part of a recovery plan.

**Any other business:**

Vandalism of signage for Samaritans on the viaduct.

*Action: LD to link in with Rob Sekula*

Goose Fair was raised as a query over whether this would be happening this year. AJ advised that there was a meeting to be held shortly on this and as soon as a decision had been made that the relevant people would be notified.

Date of the next meeting:

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 3pm – 4pm**

