

AGENDA ITEM 9g

Notes from Tavistock Matters

4th September 2019

Tavistock Police Office

Present: Insp Mark Sloman, Louisa Daley, Rob Palmer, Roger Bird, PCSO Williams, Carl Hearn, Cllr Beresford, Cllr Ellis, Cllr Hipsey, Cllr Moody, Cllr Parker

Apologies: Cllrs Johns, Squires, John Ward

Notes from the last meeting dated 1st May 2019:

Texaco/Westbridge Cottages

No updates provided by DCC on the crossing nor the extension of parking for residents. The group are keen to be updated on any changes and would like to hear from a DCC officer on current proceedings – ideally for an officer to attend the next Matters meeting.

Action: LD to chase DCC through John Doswell

UPDATE – JD has left DCC and a new person has taken the role. LD will make contact and update the group before the next meeting.

All other actions from the previous meeting have been completed.

County Lines:

MS provided an update and explanation of what County Lines is and how this affects West Devon.

- There were some lines in West Devon identified earlier this year.
- Vulnerable adults at risk have been identified and are in regular contact with police for safeguarding purposes
- Police continue to safeguard vulnerable adults and children with partner agencies
- Work is being undertaken in the community to raise awareness for reporting
- Partner agencies have worked with police to create the Partnership Intelligence form where information can be collected and sent direct to the Police Intelligence Bureau – here is the link – (please save it in your “favourites” on your toolbar):

<https://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/contact/contact-forms/partner-agency-information-sharing-form/>

Please note that this is for yourselves as Councillors, partner agencies and stakeholders only, this is not a form to be completed by members of the public.

Modern Slavery:

Following reports of a possible Modern Slavery issue in Tavistock the Police have undertaken significant enquiries, safeguarding checks have been undertaken. There was sufficient evidence to take further into a criminal investigation. The Police request that any information or concerns from members of the public be reported via 999 if an emergency or 101 or 101@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

Crime figures:

MS reported that crime figures for Tavistock are down by 20% compared to in year figures from the same period in 2018. However there has been a recent spike in commercial burglaries.

Queries were raised around RTA's and their classification of offences.

Action: MS to find RTA figures/driving offence figures and share at the next meeting

RB praised the police team for their work in reducing crime especially given the reduction in the number of police officers.

Action: LD to draft an email to senior officers reflecting their appreciation and noting the hard work undertaken by officers in West Devon, to be shared with the group in draft form.

Street Pastors:

Patrols are –

Friday 2200 hours until 0130 hours

Saturday 2200 hours until 0230 hours

There are approximately 50 people involved with the Street Pastors including the Prayer Pastors.

It was reported by RP that general ASB levels in the town are now low but from time to time they still witness and assist with serious incidents.

RP suggested that it would be really helpful for SWAST, Ambulance service to attend the Matters meetings. Cllr Moody advised that he would ask a representative to attend future meetings.

Action: Cllr Moody to invite SWAST to attend the next Tavistock Matters meeting

Further discussions were had led by Cllrs Ellis and Moody regarding obtaining funding for higher level first aid courses for Street Pastors to attend if they wish. RP suggested that there would be an appetite for the Street Pastors to attend if the funding were made available.

Action: Cllrs Moody and Ellis to investigate funding streams and course providers for this and liaise with Rob Palmer.

In November 2019 it is the 10th anniversary of the Street Pastors first patrol in Tavistock, there is a service of thanks at Abbey Chapel at 7pm on 18th November to mark this occasion.

School Pastors:

School Pastors are present in Tavistock College on a Wednesday lunchtime. They have slightly less time – 30 minutes – due to a change in the school timetable.

The engagement is going well and the school is positive about continued support from the Pastors.

Tavistock Town Council Update:

Cllr Ellis highlighted drug paraphernalia on sale at Goose Fair last year and said that he would like to see a reduction/stop to this practice. He will work with the Goose Fair team on this and feedback at the next meeting.

Action: Cllr Ellis to update at the next meeting

West Devon Borough Council Update:

Cllr Moody advised that there are Meet Your Councillor events running in Bedford Square, the next one being held on 14th September. Cllr Moody also offered this as a partnership engagement opportunity.

Cllr Hipsey asked for some information on dashcams and if they are useful or not. MS advised that there is a new police operation called Operation Snap whereby dashcam footage can be used as evidence. Please see the attached link:

<https://operationsnap.devon-cornwall.police.uk/>

Community Speedwatch was discussed. PCSO Kevin Williams will be the link for any Tavistock based Speedwatch projects. A minimum of 10 committed volunteers are required.

PCSO Williams can be contacted at the following email address:

Kevin.williams@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

Thank you for attending this meeting. The next Tavistock Matters meeting will be held on **20th November 2019**, 1630 – 1800 hours at Tavistock Police Office. If you have any suggestions for the agenda then please email Louisa.Daley@swdevon.gov.uk

