



EYE PUBLIC MEETING

A public meeting was held at Eye Town Hall on Tuesday 2 May at 19:00 hrs.

PRESENT:

Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner

Sandra Graffham (Communications Manager), Anna Parkinson (PA to the PCC) and Tim Passmore (Police & Crime Commissioner).

Suffolk Constabulary

Lee Andrews-Pearce (PC, Eye SNT), Tonya Antonis (Superintendent, Eastern), and Inspector Mark Jackson (Locality Inspector - Halesworth)

1. POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER OVERVIEW

- 1.1 The PCC welcomed 26 members of the public to the meeting and made introductions. The PCC spoke briefly about the key elements of his role and current priorities. A copy of his handout will be attached to these notes for the record.

2. POLICING UPDATE

- 2.1 Inspector Mark Jackson spoke about policing in the Eye locality; a copy of his handout is available for the record.

3. KEY AREAS OF DISCUSSION

- **COMMUNICATION:** A Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator expressed concern about the lack of communication from the Constabulary since the role of Liaison Officers had been removed and also that the website information was often out of date. Inspector Mark Jackson drew attention to the Police Connect Service which provides localised information via email, text or phone, though admitted there had been some problems with it recently. The PCC agreed that communication is vital and he would take this point back to the Constabulary.
- **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH:** Neighbourhood Watch members asked if there could be a police presence at annual Neighbourhood Watch meetings. Inspector Jackson, who said he is keen to work with Neighbourhood Watch more closely, said yes officers absolutely are available to attend meetings, though it obviously depends on resources and commitments.

- **TRAVELLING COMMUNITY.** Following the disruption caused by the travelling community's visit to Eye in 2016, a resident asked what plans were in place to move them on should they visit again in 2017. Inspector Mark Jackson reassured the meeting that he was working with the owners of the private land where the travelling community stayed previously, providing advice as to how to make it as secure and inaccessible as possible, while maintaining access for the local businesses which need it. The Inspector added that it was essentially a civil matter and police powers were limited unless crimes were committed. However, he and his team are conscious that residents feel intimidated by the presence of the travellers. The PCC added a longer term solution was needed and that discussions had taken place with regard to creating temporary sites which travelling communities could move to if they are causing disruption elsewhere.
- **101 SERVICE:** There was a discussion about the length of time callers are still kept waiting, despite reassurances last year that improvements would have been made by now. The PCC apologised for the delay to full implementation of the new technology – which will help - and explained that extensive testing is still taking place to ensure the system is fully robust. Full implementation should be in the summer.
- **COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH:** A number of residents remain concerned about vehicles speeding through local villages. Inspector Jackson said he is very supportive of anti-speeding measures and would provide details to all those who required them of Community Speedwatch. He added that speed enforcement would be taking place in various locations in the summer.
- **ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR:** Many people expressed concern about the amount of anti-social behaviour taking place in Eye. PC Lee Andrews-Pearce reassured the meeting that they were aware of the youths involved and are currently gathering sufficient evidence to take action. He also urged residents to report all incidents that they witness as it can be added to the growing file.
- **POLICING EXPENDITURE:** The question was asked how much is paid into the policing budget by local residents and how much is spent on policing in the area? The PCC said it should be possible to work out these figures.

The PCC thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 20:30 hrs.