



Torrige District Neighbourhood Watch

**Minutes of Forum Meeting held at
West Croft Junior School, Bideford
Tuesday 11th October 2016 at 7.15 p.m.**

Members Present:

Tom Carrick (Chair), David Braziel (Vice Chair), Mike Jackson (Secretary), Angela Lovering (Bideford), David Butler (Monkleigh), Roger Copp (Milton Damerel), John Bowers (Winkleigh), Luke Brennan (Bideford), Robin Edmonds (Woolsery), Jane Wilson (Woolsery), Christine Summerfield (Bradworthy).

Visitors: Lorraine Grigg – Woolsery co-ordinator.

1. Welcome & Apologies.

Tom welcomed everybody to the meeting and the following apologies were given:

Helena Schiller (Treasurer) and Barry Jenkins (Winkleigh) who had expressed an interest in joining the Forum.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting held 12th July 2016. These had been previously circulated and no amendments were needed. With all members who were present, in agreement, Tom signed the master copy as a true record of the proceedings.

3. Matters Arising.

- a) DBS Vetting – David has obtained confirmation from DaCCWA that PVP vetting is more thorough than DBS vetting and so we don't need to get involved with these extra checks, because several members of the Forum are already PVPs.
- b) Sally Ferris is now the APS in charge of both Holsworthy and Torrington but may come back to help at Bideford on occasions.
- c) In respect of issuing the half-yearly printouts by email, no response has been received from any of the PCSOs to say that this would not be acceptable and so this change will be introduced for the next distribution.

4. Chair's Report (Tom Carrick). Tom expressed his disappointment at the way that Donna, who was our guest speaker at Appledore last month, was subjected to very aggressive questioning by various members of the audience. This type of behaviour has happened occasionally at other meetings when other police officers have been our guest speakers and should it continue, it will only lead to difficulties in our managing to get police speakers in the future. Donna had already been in touch with Tom as she felt that she was being unfairly blamed for actions which are outside her control. Whilst it may just be a coincidence, we have received no police input to the Crime Report for the past two weeks. A new Beat Sergeant has still to be appointed to Bideford. A recent Crime Report had to be recalled due to it containing sensitive information which should not have been made public. Tom also expressed his concern that over the past few weeks he had noticed what he thought to be a cooling of relations between the police and NHW when he was in the police station at Bideford.

5. REPORTS:

Treasurer. In her absence, Helena produced an 'Income & Expenditure' statement to 28 September 2016 which is summarised below:

<u>Expenditure</u>		<u>Income</u>	
		Torrington Commons Allotments Grant	25.00
		Holsworthy Town Council Grant	25.00
		Bideford Bridge Trust Grant	300.00
North Devon Print. ('What's NHW all about' leaflets).	169.00		
Angela Lovering Expenses.	33.85		
Hall Hire for Westward Ho! NHW (2017)	45.00		
Total Payments	<u>£247.85</u>	Total Receipts	<u>£350.00</u>
Closing Balance at Bank 28/09/2016	1938.72	Opening Balance at Bank 24/05/2016	1836.57
	<u>£2,186.57</u>		<u>£2,186.57</u>

Angela pointed out that the expense figure of £33.85 was Office expenditure and that she would contact Helena to have the narrative amended for the annual account statement.

DaCCWA (David Braziel). David produced a draft of the 'Neighbourhood Watch Scheme Co-ordinator Information Guide' which he has been working on and made a copy available to everyone. This will be presented to the DaCCWA meeting next Tuesday and if accepted will then become the standard document over the whole of Devon and Cornwall. Any mistakes spotted should be brought to David's attention asap. Tom explained that David had put in a great deal of time and effort in producing this draft, which was a fine piece of work. The matter of the recalled Crime Report is also to be raised at the DaCCWA meeting.

Torrington Records (John Bowers). John has no changes to report except for registering Ian Ripper, as a new co-ordinator in his area.

Bideford Records (Angela Lovering).

- We still need Area Co-ordinators for Buckland Brewer and Appledore
- Three Co-ordinators have moved away. Their Watches were Coronation Road, Bideford West, and two at East the Water, Ian Hay Close and Trent Close.

Angela also requested agreement for her expenses of £24.57, of which £23.24 was for the Office. This was unanimously agreed by the Members.

Holsworthy Records (Mike Jackson). Jon Benson has agreed to take over as our AC for Ashwater, following the recent death of Ann Shadrick, who was one of our long standing ACs. As far as I am aware, Ann didn't have a deputy and so we have actually lost her own Watch scheme which covered some 50 households. We still need ACs for Holsworthy Town, Cookbury, Pyworthy Village, and for Sutcombe where Toni Sluggett is still looking to step down. Lorraine Harris, who was vetted to become a Holsworthy Town CO several months has not returned her Watch registration form and is not responding to emails or phone calls. I have asked Mark James (PFCSO) who recruited her to try to make contact with her.

We have also lost our CO for Holsworthy Beacon, Peter Fry, who has stepped down due to work commitments. I have got his list of Watch members and Roger Copp and myself are contacting them to try to find a replacement CO.

Grants (Mike Jackson). Helena has already covered the 3 grant payments that we have received. What the account statement does not show is that Bideford Bridge Trust have given us a grant of £300 against our application which was for £500. No explanation was given for reducing the amount. Angela thought this was probably due to our levels of expenditure which had been reducing recently and we need to consider this for future grant applications.

Publishing (Mike Jackson). The new “What’s It All About?” leaflets have been printed and now incorporate the various amendments which had been suggested.

Secretary (Mike Jackson). The CO questionnaires have been printed and folded, and are ready to go out with the next Newsletters.

Report from Newsletter Editor (Angela Lovering). The Autumn Newsletter will be issued at the 16th November NHW meeting. On this occasion we have enough material already to fill the Newsletter.

6. Review of the Appledore NHW Meeting. It was unanimously thought that the Football Club was an excellent venue for our purposes and that we should consider it for future meetings. Whilst we were generously given the use of the venue free of charge it was felt that a donation should be offered if used in future because the Club would have expenses which needed to be covered. A similar situation arises when we use Holsworthy Football Club. There were 21 people attending the meeting which included Donna, the guest speaker. Of these, 11 were Forum Members, 6 co-ordinators and 3 were visitors. Turnout from COs and visitors is still disappointing and hopefully the CO questionnaire will help to resolve this problem.

7. Bideford NHW Meeting – 16th. November. Mike said that he was unable to book the Polyfield Centre room, which had been previously suggested, because it is very heavily used, with only Sundays and Fridays being available. We have secured the use of the main hall at West Croft School and can have the use of the kitchen for making tea and coffee. As our new Superintendent has already committed to be a guest speaker at our next AGM, it was suggested that we should approach our new PCC, Alison Hernandez, or one of her assistants. Tom is to try to arrange this. Angela volunteered to organise the refreshments with the help of other Forum members who will be in attendance.

8. NHW Street Signage. David has been in contact with DaCCWA concerning our street signs which are left in place when a co-ordinator leaves. Ideally, a new CO should be recruited but if this does not happen then the signs should come down. There is a possible problem with ownership however, if the residents themselves have purchased the signs. For the time being, it is recommended that we take no action with these ‘defunct’ signs.

9. Any Other Business.

- a). David said that he had a new deputy co-ordinator who was also going through the PVP vetting process, and would therefore be able to help with the Office rota in due course.
- b). An enquiry was made about the ‘Trick or Treat’ notices which we used to have available at Halloween, to deter callers, for households which didn’t wish to participate. The paper notices are no longer available but one can be downloaded from the National NHW website or our own website under ‘Downloadables’.

10. Dates of next meetings:

**NHW Meeting - Wednesday 16 November 2016 at West Croft School, Bideford
FORUM - Tuesday 10 January 2017 at West Croft School, Bideford**

With no further matters to discuss, Tom thanked everybody for coming and the Meeting closed at 8.25 pm.