

Caledonian Ward Safer Neighbourhood Panel

Minutes

7.00-8.50 pm on 18.03.2010 King's Place, 90 York Way

Chair: Cllr Paul Convery — Gifford Street

Secretary: Jennifer Christie — Thornhill Square (apologies)

Police

PC Ben Roberts-Jones – Caledonian Safer Neighbourhood Team

TPCSO Darren Hearn — Islington Safer Transport Team

Residents and community workers

Stephan Schulte — York Way

Gloria Johnson — Bemerton Estate

Bill Millett M.B.E. — Westbourne Estate

Stephen Griffith — Senior Youth Worker, Copenhagen Youth Project

Stephanie Garner-Winship – LBI- MAGPI Neighbourhood Officer (minutes)

Sue Cartwright — Huntingdon Street

Laura Burrow- Fife Terrace Moorings

Lisa Tang- Friends of Thornhill Bridge Community Gardens, FORC

Penny Mellor- Southern Street

Shirley Pinfold- Ice Wharf

Sarah Sutherland- Security Manager, King's Place

Ana Castro- Building operations manager- King's Place

Neil Blake- Building operations director- King's Place

Contents

1. Apologies
2. Matters arising from the minutes
3. Update on ward priorities
4. Area updates
5. Islington Safer Transport Team report - Darren Hearn
6. New Priorities
7. AOB

1. Apologies

Sgt Michael Atkinson, Jennifer Christie

Paul opened the meeting by acknowledging the sadness, shock and concerns felt by all about the tragic death of a young woman in Outram Place and reflected that the panel plays an important role in tackling and preventing anti social behaviour and crime in the neighbourhood and that the panel will redouble its efforts.

2. Matters arising from the minutes

None

3. Update on ward priorities

At the last meeting, the ward priorities agreed were:

- a) Anti Social Behaviour on the Westbourne, Bemerton and Boston and Nailor estates.

- b) Vice related problems/sex working
- c) Sales of alcohol to minors

a) Anti Social Behaviour on the Westbourne, Bemerton and Boston and Nailor estates.

Homes for Islington are pursuing one ASBO, two injunctions and three ABCs against perpetrators of ASB on the Bemerton estate. Five Notices of Seeking Possession have also been served. Extra police and detached youth worker patrols have been tasked to the Bemerton estate. Agencies are meeting regularly to share information and evidence to tackle ASB on the estate in a joined up way.

There have been reports that the young people have moved to Boston and Nailor, Clayton Crescent in Naish Court and Gloria also stated there had been problems in Earlsferry Way and also Stranraer Way. Homes for Islington are deploying a professional witness scheme later this month to identify individuals involved in the ASB on the Boston and Nailor. Park Guard have also carried out extra patrols on Boston and Nailor. Guinness Housing are liaising with the Safer Neighbourhood Team and Homes for Islington to take joint action against those crossing over onto Clayton Crescent.

It was raised again that these activities need to be better publicised to improve residents feelings of safety and satisfaction. Stephanie Garner reported that this is an acknowledged area for improvement and efforts are being made to communicate more quickly and more effectively with residents. Stephan suggested use of the Kings Cross e-noticeboard that he and Will Perrin run (www.kingscrossenvironment.com)

b) Vice related problems/sex working

Both police and outreach teams have patrolled the areas identified at the last meeting (McKenzie Road, Atlas Mews, Paradise Passage, Papworth Gardens) but have found the area to be very quiet. Bill reported that it is mostly taking place around 7-8am. Police will continue to monitor the situation and will patrol those areas in the early morning. Other residents reported that they had not seen signs of sex working over since the last meeting in their areas.

c) Sales of alcohol to minors

PC Ben Roberts-Jones reported that the SNT have visited all the local pubs and shops to let them know they are targeting underage sales of alcohol. The police and council have been working together on a number of interventions:

- Two alcohol test purchase operations targeting specific licensed premises in Caledonian ward.
- Detached youth work around Bemerton, Westbourne and Stock Orchard estates.
- Weekend placement of a young people's Substance Misuse nurse to be based at the Whittington A&E to engage with young people who are in A&E due to alcohol misuse.
- Additional police patrols in liaison with the youth engagement team and HFI out of hours team.

- Follow up home visits will be carried out if young people are identified at risk with representatives from relevant agencies.
- Materials on alcohol awareness and positive activities distributed to the YP engaged.

Stephan reported a licensing meeting for a shop that had sold alcohol to minors twice. It was felt that much stronger action should have been taken as the shop in question lost its license for only a month.

4. Area Updates

King's Place

King's place have worked together with the police over the winter and have seen a reduction in problems in the York Way area.

Thornhill Bridge Gardens

It was noted that there have been problems east of the Islington Tunnel but, taken in context of the past ten years, things have certainly improved. There are issues with lighting the canal because lighting can adversely affect the bat population. Steph Garner informed the panel that a bat survey has been carried out to enable installation of bat friendly lighting in Wharf Road Bridge. The King's Cross development should have a positive impact on the canal as a whole as it will increase footfall along the canal.

Edible Islington have given a grant for £150k of improvements to Tiber Gardens to turn it into a community garden/allotment, however there is ongoing consultation over a wall which is listed which residents would like to see taken down to improve visibility into the gardens. It was noted that a decision needs to be made as soon as possible before it becomes established as a place for anti social behaviour.

Southern Street/Killick Street

Penny fed back that in November some local drug dealers were evicted and for a while problems ceased, however there are now regularly people in their late teens/early twenties selling drugs on the corner of Southern Street and Killick Street. This happens often until late at night and her bedroom overlooks the spot where they are doing it. The young men involved have a Brindle type dog called Rambo. Laura reported that she had also seen this happening near Fife Terrace by the canal.

Fife Terrace Moorings

The residents of Fife Terrace Moorings have set up a neighbourhood watch scheme in their area.

Bemerton Estate

Prospex have moved their premises to the Nag's head although they are still delivering a street team service and sessions in Jean Stokes and on the Westbourne estate.

Caledonian Road/Copenhagen Street

Steve Griffith reported that a large group of young girls and boys have started congregating at this end of Cally Road, just near Edward Square/Carnegie Street from late afternoon/early evening. Some of these young people are known to him and he is

concerned that they could get themselves into trouble hanging around in such large number on the street. Stephanie reported that local residents have also been in touch stating that they are intimidating, noisy and smoking drugs and drinking most nights.

Huntingdon Street

The cash machine on Huntingdon Street was robbed on Monday by three men.

North of railway

Things have calmed down a bit although there has been some motor vehicle crime in the area. Extra police resources have been tasked to the area and there have been plain clothes decoy operations to tackle the problem. There have been six offences in the past fortnight.

Gifford Street/Rufford/Randells Road

Has been quiet.

Motorcycle Theft from Sparkplug on the Ringcross estate Ben to ask Holloway SNT to let the panel know what happened about this theft. Stephan will pass details onto Bill so that Bill can raise at the Holloway steering panel.

CYP

From the end of this month, Copenhagen Youth Project will be based in the Barnsbury Community Centre and will run sessions on a Monday evening.

Paradise Passage

Bill informed the group that a gate has been installed where the car park is to prevent non residents from entering.

5. Islington Safer Transport Team report

All has been quiet in Caledonian ward transport wise- no incident reports from drivers. Main problems have been further along Holloway road. The Safer Transport Team have been patrolling all the bus stops and giving out crime prevention materials.

6. New priorities

- 1-Anti Social Behaviour on the Bemerton, Boston and Nailor, Westbourne estates
- 2- Drug dealing on Killick Street/Southern Street
- 3- Anti Social Behaviour Edward Square/Caledonian Road/Carnegie Street

7. AOB

Stephanie informed the group of the consultation that is underway regarding a controlled drinking zone that if agreed will cover all of Clerkenwell and Southern parts of Caledonian and Barnsbury wards. All residents living in the affected area will receive a consultation document. Consultation ends on the 17th April.

Steph to send Stephan PDF of consultation leaflet.

Bill asked that at the next meeting, housekeeping and health and safety re fire regulations are dealt with at the start of the meeting.

Next meeting: 27th May, 7pm, King's Place