

Burghfield and Mortimer Neighbourhood Action Group

Minutes of Meeting held on 27 September 2023 at St John's Village Hall, Mortimer

Present: **NAG Members:** Graham Bridgman (Chair, SMPC), Richard Coles (Secretary, Mortimer), David Hannington (UNPC), Robert Hubbard-Clark (TVP), Dudley Ives (Neighbourhood Watch, etc), Andy Murray (TVP), John Wells (SMPC)

Others: Eight members of the public

1 **Chair's opening remarks**

GB welcomed everyone to the meeting and clarified who was who and how the meeting would be conducted.

2 **Apologies for absence**

Nick Carter.

3 **Minutes of previous meeting (16 June 2023)**

Agreed.

4 **Matters arising**

Nothing not otherwise on the agenda.

5 **Constitution**

GB – a draft revised Constitution had been circulated to take account of the revisions agreed at the last meeting, in particular that the Vice-Chair for any meeting would be the most senior TVP officer present, and Officers would remain in post until the elections at the next Annual Meeting (unless they resigned in the interim). The changes were agreed.

6 **Thames Valley Police Neighbourhood Team Report**

RH-C presented the report for 23 June to 26 September verbally (subsequently provided as the table below):

Crime type	Burghfield	Mortimer	Beech Hill	Sulhamstead	Wokefield	Ufton Nervet	Padworth
ASB	19	14	2	2	0	1	1
Criminal Damage	11	11	0	0	0	0	0
Theft from motor vehicle	0	3 (plus 1 attempt)	0	2	0	0	1
Theft of motor vehicle	1 (plus 1 attempt)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary dwelling	1	1	0	1 (attempt)	0	0	1

Crime type	Burghfield	Mortimer	Beech Hill	Sulhamstead	Wokefield	Ufton Nervet	Padworth
Burglary non dwelling	1 (plus 3 attempts)	1	0	1	0	0	2
Theft	2	2	0	1	0	1	1
Assault injury / non injury	12	14	0	2	0	0	0
Total	51	47	2	9	0	1	6

AM and RH-C then spoke to the report and answered questions from those present.

Their formal report (supplied after the meeting) is as follows:

“Police action taken in relation to local ASB and crime in Mortimer

“Incidents with catapults, there have been 10 reported incidents with catapults officially logged with Thames Valley Police.

“All 10 reports have had victim contact by PC 853 Robert Hubbard-Clark and investigations completed or are ongoing. Foot and vehicle patrols have been completed around the village and will continue.

“A number of reports did not have any lines of enquires to identify suspects however one report had clear CCTV of the incident taking place and suspect has been named and is under investigation by Thames Valley Police.

Leaflet drops and house to house enquires have been completed in key locations in Mortimer.

“Incidents with the Co-Op in Mortimer a number of reports were made and the main suspect to these reports have been identified and referred to the youth offending team.

“Ongoing issues with door knocking in Damson Drive, photos of suspects have been obtained and ongoing work is being completed to identify them.

“The local NHPT will make contact the Dads Shop re the ongoing issue with blots trying to be obtained in the shop.

“One catapult has been seized in the village of Mortimer by local officers. This catapult was hidden for use in the local area.

“Police action taken in relation to local ASB and crime in Burghfield Common

“There have been ongoing issues with knock knock run within Burghfield Common, a group of six youths have been identified. Home visits have been completed by the local Police officers and parents spoken with. All six have been referred to the youth offending team for prevention work.

“ In summary the local neighbourhood have been working hard to tackle the ongoing issues and bring offenders to justice and a number of offenders have been dealt with and are being dealt with by youth justice.”

7 Parishes and other NAG representatives – reports and observations

(There was a distinct lack of representation from parishes – only Mortimer and Ufton Nervet being present.)

Residents near St Marys School, Mortimer have contacted SMPC (and WBC) regarding parking problems.

RC commented on the ASB and criminal damage in Mortimer, which TVP are now dealing with.

GB commented on e-scooters and an incident witnessed recently.

In general, the tone in the village is heightened by the inactivity by TVP to 'step on it'.

Residents/local business owners attending the meeting reported on ASB and the belligerent attitude of youths, intimidation, their perceiving themselves to be untouchable, etc – adding to a sense of frustration and a lack of tolerance (nb there are ongoing investigations, so these minutes may not include all items discussed, and are necessarily circumspect).

TVP made it clear that, where there was relevant evidence, they would actively look at incidents with a view to appropriate action.

The Four Houses Corner travellers' site, and the current planning application, was discussed at some length.

TVP promised to update further on the response to ASB incidents etc.

8 AOB

JW commented that Community Speed Watch efforts in Mortimer were successful and would continue.

(Nb – for reasons set out above, these minutes are restricted, but the Secretary does hold a voice recording of the entire meeting if further clarification is needed.)

9 Venue for, date and time of next meeting

Burghfield Village Hall (subject to availability). To be arranged in line with TVP shift patterns.