



# WORKING FOR A SAFER COMMUNITY

Wycombe District Neighbourhood Watch Association

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF WYCOMBE DISTRICT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION BY ZOOM FROM 7.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY, 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2023.

- The Chairman welcomed Supt. Emma Burroughs, TVP; John Hayward-Cripps CEO, National NHW and Brian Hill, Risborough NHW.
- Attendees: Committee Members – Jennifer Swallow, Caterina Dodero, Geoff Pegg, Ray Cox, Eric Hambling and Stan Jones plus others totalling 21 people.
- Apologies for absence: Ian Burrell, Val McPherson, Chris Johnston, Anisa Shaikh and Roy Craig.

### Chairmans Introduction

It is a relief to many of us that the pandemic is easing, but some are still suffering or prefer not to mingle as they might have previously. I would like to wish our treasurer Ian Burrell a speedy recovery from his recent severe bout of covid. Because of Covid we have not had the opportunity to attend as many events as before, so our product sales are lower, but our finances are in good shape as you will hear later.

During the past year TV police have consolidated their operations into a new South Bucks Local Police Area. Our regular meetings with Insp Steve Bobbett have expanded to include all NHW operations in South Bucks and we have been joined by Insp James Ellis. Emma might mention this later.

Caterina has been working hard to get our new Facebook and Instagram sites active and she has produced a number of news items that have appeared on Alerts but also notably in a number of the local newsletters in the Wycombe area. Similarly Jennifer has been working on our website to make it more attractive, user friendly and updated. Ray has produced remote seminars to keep these going while physical attendance has been difficult.

Crimes change with the times and technology. The price of the metals in catalytic converters is volatile and often high so a criminal industry has

developed to steal and process them. There are ways you should follow to reduce your vulnerability. Cybercriminals are forever updating their methods to steal our money. Cars are being stolen from drives because of the new remote opening technology. As new crimes are developed we advise our members as soon as we can so they can avoid them. Drug dealing continues unabated in most areas. It is important to report it and any other crime to the police. We are often told someone reported an incident and nothing happened so they stopped, but that is not the case. All information is recorded and acted on based on its severity. This is why repetitive crime such as constant drug dealing in a location should be reported each time it is seen, and by all those who witness it, so it raises its level of severity and be acted on accordingly – so keep reporting. I hope that being a member of NHW makes you feel safer and be safer in your home and neighbourhood. Finally I would like to thank our Ops director Geoff Pegg for all the sterling work he does for the Association.

Minutes of the last AGM: Accepted with no comments.

Report of the work done by the Association during 2021:

This will be posted on the website. Geoff Pegg, Operations Director, highlighted some items, including, the association continued to be self-funding from sales, 11 groups were addressed covering crime prevention, we maintained our relationship with A-plan, 18 radio interviews were held, 25 tables manned at mosques and shops, 86 Alerts were sent out, various Bucks Council forum meetings contributed to, visits held to a number of sheltered housing schemes with some setting up NHW schemes, presented to police cadets and attended monthly meetings with S Bucks police inspectors.

The audited accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020:

These will be posted on the website. The Treasurer, Ian Burrell, is unwell so Geoff Pegg explained the financial status. David Rouse was thanked for auditing the accounts and was voted as auditor for next year by the remote election.

Election of members of the committee:

Voting results: Total voting was 23.

Election of members of the committee of the Association – the existing committee namely Caterina Doderio, Jennifer Swallow, Ray Cox, Eric Hambling, Ian Burrell, Shafait Ali, Geoff Pegg and Stan Jones were elected unopposed.

Election of officers of the Association – Stan Jones, Geoff Pegg and Ian Burrell were elected unopposed.

Update of the Constitution:

Because of the amalgamation of the two LPAs into South Bucks it is necessary to amend our constitution. The new version was circulated and remotely voted on and accepted.

Any other business:

There was a discussion over the number of Alert messages sent out. As they can be sent out by several different agencies it is difficult to see how they can be coordinated and it is left to coordinators to decide which to send on to their members.

Following the conclusion of the official business of the Annual General Meeting the chairman closed the meeting.

The presentations of our two speakers, Superintendent Emma Burroughs, Commander of the Wycombe Local Police Area and John Heyward-Cripps, the chief executive of National NHW can be found on our website.

After the presentations the Chairman thanked Emma and John for their very interesting contributions, everyone for attending and closed the meeting.