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**CHIPPENHAM
TOWN COUNCIL**

Improving the quality of town life

**Minutes of a meeting of the Chippenham Community Safety Forum held on
Tuesday 6 December 2022 at 11.00 am.**

Councillors present:

Desna Allen (Chair)
Pete Cousins

Liz Alstrom

Also present:

Representatives from the following groups
Wiltshire College
RCCG Church
CHAP
Sheldon Road Methodist Church
Chippenham Borough Lands
Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust
Wiltshire Neighbourhood Watch
Wiltshire Police Cadets
Doorway
Wiltshire Police
Chippenham Community Hub
St Andrews Church

Officers present:

Matt Kirby, Director of Community Services
Daryl Jones, Head of Community Development
Jaqui Gallimore, CCTV Supervisor
Michael Weeks, Democratic and Civic Officer

22 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair, Councillor Desna Allen, welcomed all to the Chippenham Community Safety Forum.

23 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Chairs announcements.

24 NOTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The notes from the previous meeting held on Friday 7 October 2022 were approved as a correct record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.

25 WILTSHIRE POLICE UPDATE

Sergeant Michael Tripp introduced himself to the forum.

Sergeant Tripp is newly installed in the role, and confirmed in the New Year the Town will see a new inspector in post (Inspector P Foster), an additional Sergeant and a new PCSO.

During the World Cup, the police in Chippenham have had a visible presence in the town's night time economy.

With the upcoming Christmas period the yearly campaign to reduce drink & drug driving will start within the week. This would also include a visible presence around the town.

Wiltshire Police have a new victim engagement template that all officers are beginning to use. This follows a recent review when the constabulary was in special measures. Sergeant Tripp confirmed that all officers in the Chippenham team are aware of the template and are using the new process.

Councillor Peter Cousins queried the lack of CCTV monitoring in the car park, and if there were plans to monitor it in the future to tackle the ongoing anti-social taking place behaviour there.

Sergeant Tripp confirmed that Wiltshire Police have seen a dramatic reduction in the amount of incidents reported in Sadlers Mead car park, which may be linked to the changing seasons to the winter months. Daryl Jones confirmed that it is possible to link the existing Town Council system to the car park system but finances / existing resources make this prohibitive due to the amount of cameras already being monitored across the town (currently 60 cameras, the car park would bring over 50 extra cameras). In addition Matt Kirby stated that the car park is the responsibility of Wiltshire Council, and they should provide the resources to monitor the system.

Officers from Fraud Protect and Cyber Protect introduced themselves to forum members. The respective teams can visit areas / community groups to present to residents how they can protect against fraudulent activity. These presentations can be tailored to suit the audience e.g. tech aware / non tech aware.

The officers stated that 80% of fraud is preventable and they are there to offer resources to help reduce this.

26 **ROUGH SLEEPING UPDATE**

Due to the severe weather protocol being enabled by Wiltshire Council their representative Louis Shortfall sent his apologies.

27 **ASSISTANCE TO RESIDENTS OVER THE CHRISTMAS / WINTER PERIOD**

There were the following in person updates:

Chippenham Borough Lands Charity

- The charity has seen an increase this year in welfare grant applications this year. Anyone wishing to apply for a grant can still do so via the CBLC website.
- Grants have been given to local community groups to provide warm spaces, community lunches and coffee mornings.
- The Charity can also provide debt assistance to residents if they require it.

Sheldon Road Methodist Church

- Free community lunches on a Saturday although not on Christmas Eve. Anyone can come to receive a free 2 course lunch.
- Monday mornings the Church offer a warm space and a coffee & cake morning.
- They will be hosting a free Christmas Day lunch for individuals who are on their own, but this needs to be booked.
- All details can be found on their website site.

Overcomers House Redeemed Church

- Currently delivering food parcels on Saturday and Sunday evenings to residents and are open to receiving further referrals for assistance.
- Will be delivering hampers to approx. 42 families supplied by the Citizens Advice Bureau prior to Christmas.

Doorway

- Due to time of year, new guests have been welcomed to the Charity for assistance recently.
- All guests being supplied with food parcels and referred to other local community groups such as Sheldon Road Methodist where appropriate for free lunches etc.
- If you are aware of anyone sleeping rough, report on the streetlink website. The website will pass on details to the appropriate roughsleeper team.

Chippenham Community Hub

- Currently in the process of setting up a warm space at the hub which

should open to residents in January. This is in addition to what the hub already provides e.g. crafting sessions etc.
Michael Weeks provided the following emailed in / sourced online updates.

Salvation Army

- Christmas Gifts and toys for those aged 0 - 16 year olds, and food parcels to all those in need are currently being prepared for those already referred to them.
- Individuals can be referred to the Salvation Army for assistance if not already been helped by a statutory agency.
- The food bank is open all year round, but those in need are required to be referred by an appropriate agency. This ensures that they are being given all appropriate advice and support not just receiving food parcels.
- The Salvation Army charity shop on New Road will provide clothing to people if required.

Café Spero

- Food bank open every Tuesday 12 till 1pm. No criteria / referral needed just bring a bag.
- On Thursdays the café provides a warm space and hot drinks from £1 between 12 and 2pm but will be closed for two weeks over the Christmas period.

Chippenham FUEL

- In the week before Christmas this Wiltshire Council initiative will provide families with children on free school meals a holiday club at Sheldon School. All details on the Wiltshire Council website.

Chippenham Library

- Will be providing warm packs providing such items as a blanket to residents that require items to help them keep warm at home. Residents to go to library and ask for one.

Chippenham CAP (Christians Against Poverty)

- Providing debt assistance and have a presence at the Ladyfield Church Tuesday weekly café morning. The café also provides a warm space for all residents that require it.

28 **WILTSHIRE AND SWINDON POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

PCC Philip Wilkinson provided a verbal update to the forum.

The PCC confirmed that following 16 months in the post he can confirm that officers within Wiltshire Police are working hard and are dedicated, but matters relating to criminal activity require a multi agency response, and its not just the polices responsibility. The PCC highlighted the recent knife crime in Swindon as an example of this where their needs to be prevention, reduction and of course appropriate sentencing when charges are brought against an offender.

Issues within Wiltshire Police have been identified regarding strategy and planning, and the new Chief Constable when in post will be held to task by the PCC, with the new Chief Constable having a clear remit to be operationally minded, with the reinforcement of neighbourhood policing teams.

New officers are being recruited but they will take time to be trained and then deployed with the PCC wanting these new officers to do at least 2 to 3 years in the neighbourhood teams before moving onto the various special teams within Wiltshire Police. This will give continuity to residents.

New training packages for all Sergeants will be rolled out to provide them with the necessary tools to carry out their role.

The PCC confirmed the new Chief Constable will be in post for spring 2023.

29 **FORUM MEMBERS FEEDBACK**

All organisations are encouraged to engage with the One Chippenham Website to promote what they are doing / review existing provision within the town.

30 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next Chippenham Community Safety Forum is Tuesday 14 March 2023.

The meeting concluded at 12.33 pm

These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting.

Signed on behalf of Committee as a true record of the meeting.

Chairman:

Date:

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