

POLICE LIAISON GROUP MEETING
Minutes for the Meeting on Tuesday 14th January 2025

Attending: Sally Durant, Lindsey Cape, PS James Adgey, PC Jonny Rees, PC Mickey Williams, PCSO Lorraine Childs, Michael Fletcher, Chris Royle, Colin Lusk, Nick Hutchings, Janet Deboo, Darren Smith, Chris Morley-Smith, Cllr Clare Vollum, Terry Smith, Richard Hurford, Carol Webster, David Noakes, Catherine Flintoff, Chris Denington, Lyn Earle, Sophie Jackson, Martin Keene, Russel Hayes, Pam de Goris, Wendy Grossman

Apologies: Diana Dunrossil, Cheryl Wong Rogers, Lorraine Martin, Sylvia Levi, Andrea Samuelson, Ben Pethick, Andrew Brown, Roger Metcalfe, Lotte Campanale, Nicholas Worrall

Contact details for SNT and Met Police

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Twitter (Richmond borough)	@MPSRICHMOND
To report a crime	Dial 101 or https://www.met.police.uk/
Emergencies	999

1. Welcome and apologies

Sally Durant (chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting and said that the apologies would be noted in the Minutes. The attendees all introduced themselves and the road/organisation they represent.

2. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting held on 1st October 2024

No corrections needed.

3. Matters arising from the last minutes

Proposed mural – would the Kew Society like to gauge interest in a mural? Richmond Arts Society have expressed interest. There was concern about the amount of graffiti although someone paints over it quickly. This has been discussed for more than a year but it's difficult to find a solution. Apparently the ceramic mural near the Barnes Railway station has been effective. **Action** – Clare to check with Richmond Arts Society to get this moving forward.

Stickers for homes in Kew discouraging cold callers – two-sided sticker has now been designed and was passed around for approval.

Speeding around Kew Green – Clare said that proposals are being considered by Kew Green residents to tackle the speeding and it's likely that some measures will be introduced soon.

Question about enforcing the 20mph speed limit particularly on the Mortlake Road. Local police don't have a speed gun and so can't do much. A question of additional cameras was raised. Some roads are TFL and some are council.

4. Reports

Police

Questions and discussion.

Difference between robbery and theft is the use of force. Motor thefts up and noted that items visible in cars is the main reason. People don't appreciate that a car can be targeted very quickly and items stolen, even if a driver just runs into a shop, and it is important to spread the message not to leave things on show. Hotspot around Kew Retail Park over Christmas with things on display and people shopping more than usual.

Theft of motor vehicles seems high but levels similar across other boroughs and quite low compared to other parts of London. 7 out of 8 were keyless car thefts using technology. Steering locks are a deterrent. None of the cars stolen had a steering wheel lock. Lorraine said that some of the keys were in boxes/bags but some of these are not legitimate versions and may not actually work. Anyone buying a protective bag/box should test it. NW co-ordinators were asked to make residents aware of these issues. David Noakes shared a leaflet created by Richmond Council about keyless car theft and a digital version will be circulated.

One of the prolific shoplifters is in prison currently and is banned from the Borough and shoplifting has gone down due to this. Team liaising with shops to get them to report and to work together to reduce shoplifting. If a criminal behavior order has been issued, if the individual is seen in the area, he/she can immediately be arrested.

Question raised about figures on solving crimes and the police team explained that investigations are handled by various teams depending on the type of crime and so it isn't possible to report on outcomes of investigations.

Neighbourhood Watch

Welcome to Martin Keene who is now representing Clarence Road. Thanks to Martin Gealer who represented Clarence Road for many years.

Russel Hayes will be leaving due to become a Magistrate. Sally thanked him for all his valuable input over the last three years.

PCSO Lorraine Childs has been very helpful with incidents on Alexander Road and residents wanted to say thank you for the help.

Clare said that information about speeding and road traffic figures are analysed and prioritised by urgency. The roads in Kew aren't very high on the list.

David Noakes reported on some Council initiatives.

- 2,000 anti-social behaviour leaflets have been created by the council and shared and will be on the website.
- Parking meter fraud continues in south Richmond, nothing in Kew. Older residents being targeted and someone well-dressed will trick them and then their card disappears and is used to remove cash from cash points. The fraudsters often wear masks and operate outside of CCTV view including in supermarket parking areas. Please inform neighbours of this scam.
- The Borough Community safety plan for 2024-27 is done and consultation will start and it will then be implemented. Residents can feed into this plan to ensure we agree with the priorities. Comments can be made until the end of March. This will be emailed around and it's good to let residents know they can feedback on the plan.

5. Questions and Discussions:

Cumberland Road had a large bus stuck today which created gridlock. This could be solved by a change in one resident parking space outside house number 2. This is a roads issue and not a police issue but if a video is sent to PCSO Lorraine Childs she will forward this onto David and try to get this resolved.

Where are the height warnings for the bridge posted? They need to be far enough away that drivers don't get right in front of the bridge before they realise. Recently several trucks have got stuck as they can't turn around and so create havoc. The signs need to be more visible.

Staff numbers – police are at full strength and recruiting to replace Jonny who is moving to a new role at the end of March. No info about cuts to budget and no indication of any reduction at this time.

Question about the leaflet on Big Scams and when it was published. It is still relevant and correct information despite any date it was produced.

Melliss Avenue anti-social behaviour has improved. The police have had more presence in the area, and confirmed the CCTV for Cedar & Maple Houses has been fixed but not the gate.

Clare informed there is a petition re Royal Parks police, and it can be found via Google.

Zebra crossing and lines have faded on Townmead Road and parking on the zig-zags/double yellow lines is dangerous. Some has been reported to council and repainting of lines occurred but are worn again and also not being followed by residents using the gymnastics centre. Clare will walk around the Townmead Road area to identify parking and issues in that area to try to resolve. If parking fines are issued they would be online and not notices put on cars, so some people may be receiving fines for bad parking.

6. Priorities (next three months)

Drugs and related violence

Motor vehicle crime

Theft from local businesses

AOB

Delivery companies are leaving things in sight outside homes, and it is best to complain directly to the delivery companies.

David Noakes mentioned that Kew Ward had an 8.7% reduction in crime last year compared to the previous year.