

**LEIGHTON-LINSLADE TOWN COUNCIL**

**COMMUNITY SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEE**

**MONDAY 16 JULY 2018 AT 1930 HOURS**

Present : Councillors R Berry  
T Morris  
C Chambers  
G Perham  
D Bowater  
C Perham  
C Palmer (substituting for A Dodwell)

Also in attendance: M Saccocio, Town Clerk  
S Sandiford (Head of Democratic & Central Services)  
M Jahn (Committee Officer)  
PCSO E Weedon (Bedfordshire Police)

Members of the Public: 0

**01/CS APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor T Morris be appointed Chair of the Sub-Committee for 2018-2019. There were no further nominations.

**RESOLVED to appoint Councillor T Morris Chair of the Community Safety Sub-Committee for the municipal year 2018-2019.**

Councillor Morris took the Chair.

**02/CS APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR**

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor C Perham be appointed Vice Chair of the Sub-Committee for 2018-2019. There were no further nominations.

**RESOLVED to appoint Councillor C Perham Vice Chair of the Community Safety Sub-Committee for the municipal year 2018-2019.**

**03/CS APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor A Dodwell (substituted by Councillor C Palmer).

**04/CS DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Members were asked to declare any interests, including the nature of those interests, which they had in any of the items under consideration at this meeting. No declarations were made and no dispensations had been requested.

**05/CS QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

No questions from the public.

**06/CS MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Sub-Committee received the draft minutes of the Police Liaison Sub-Committee meeting held on 9 April 2018.

**RESOLVED that the minutes of the Police Liaison Sub-Committee meeting held on 9 April 2018 be approved as a correct record and signed accordingly.**

**07/CS BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE REPORT**

The Sub-Committee received a verbal update from PCSO E Weedon of Bedfordshire Police regarding activity undertaken in respect of Operation Dodford and incidents of note for April, May and June 2018.

Members were informed that Inspector C Gurr had now moved from the Leighton Buzzard area and his replacement would be Inspector S Callow with Sergeant L Mitchell.

The Sub-Committee thanked PCSO E Weedon for providing an update and his continuing hard work in the town.

**RESOLVED to note the information.**

The Sub-Committee received a report seeking Member endorsement in respect of entering into a new Operation Dodford Framework Agreement for the financial year 2018/2019. As outlined in the report, the merits of continuing this framework agreement would include the continued attendance of Police at Community Safety meetings, providing a mechanism where information could be shared with members of the Council and where Police could be challenged in a structured environment.

A concern was raised that the Bedfordshire Police control room operators did not always seem to be aware when Operation Dodford activity was taking place in the town and it was requested that this be taken up with the Police.

**RECOMMENDED to the Policy and Finance Committee to endorse that the Town Council enters into a new Framework Agreement with Bedfordshire Police for the financial year 2018-2019.**

It was brought to the attention of the Sub-Committee that the Public Meeting scheduled by the Police Crime Commissioner for 30 July 2018 at 6.30 pm – 8.30 pm, to address concerns over policing in Leighton Buzzard, clashed with the Town Council's Policy & Finance Committee Meeting. This would mean that 12 out of the 21 Councillors would not be able to attend the Public Meeting to give support to the Police Officers or raise concerns on behalf of residents in their wards. The Sub-Committee requested the Town Clerk write to the Chief Constable outlining these concerns and that this also be copied to the Police Crime Commissioner and the Leighton Buzzard Observer.

The Sub-Committee was advised that since the previous meeting, a query had arisen regarding the policing checks of the 7.5 ton limit for lorries and whether the Town Council could support this by way of funding from the Community Safety budget. As this query had arisen during a period when no Chair was in place, the Town Clerk in discussions with the Leader of the Council had approved this. The Sub Committee was asked to formally endorse this, with the cycle and times of these checks to be requested by the Town Clerk.

**RESOLVED to endorse that funds from the Community Safety/Operation Dodford budget be used to support Central Bedfordshire Council in managing the 7.5T weight restrictions in Leighton-Linslade, at a cycle to be requested by the Town Clerk on behalf of the Council.**

#### **08/CS CCTV & RE-DEPLOYABLE CAMERAS**

The Sub-Committee received and considered a report in respect of the renewal of CCTV Airtime and Warranty for the two redeployable cameras. Members agreed that both cameras had not been moved around as agreed when first purchased so the benefit of being re-deployable cameras had not been fully achieved, which was disappointing and needed to be raised with the principal authority. Bedfordshire Police was asked to let the Town Council know if it was felt that the redeployable cameras could be better used in another location.

**RESOLVED to:**

- (a) renew the air time contract for 2 years at a cost of £4,800 which is to be met from Community Safety Earmarked Reserves (£3000) and Community Safety Budget (£40,000).**
- (b) Renew the warranty agreement for a further 2 years at a cost of £1,358.00 which is to be met from the Community Safety Budget (£40,000).**

The Sub-Committee was reminded that Central Bedfordshire Council was starting a process of replacing aging analogue CCTV cameras with newer digital technology. At a future point, the Sub-Committee would need to consider the replacement of Town Council owned cameras and funds would need to be set aside for this purpose.

The Sub-Committee received a report of recorded CCTV incidents in Leighton Buzzard from 1 April to 30 June. It was noted that the number of arrests stated in the report was based solely on the information captured by the CCTV and did not reflect any action taken by the police following the captured incidents or where the incidents formed part of a wider investigation.

**RESOLVED to note the report.**

#### **09/CS WATCH SCHEME UPDATES**

The Sub-Committee received a verbal update on Street Watch since the last meeting in April 2018. Recruitment of volunteers to the scheme was a major issue especially with the school holidays coming up and early evening patrols

were being organised for parks and playgrounds. The members were advised that the use of cycles was being considered, as well as the potential to extend the Street Watch service to provide victim support, if the appropriate training could be provided.

**RESOLVED to note the report.**

The meeting closed at 2023 hours.

I HEREBY CONFIRM THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 JULY 2018.

Chair

22 OCTOBER 2018