

**EMERGENCY RADNAGE COMMUNITY MEETING  
24<sup>th</sup> October 2018 7pm Radnage Village Hall**

**Minutes**

**Chairman: Robert Nikiel, Thames Valley Police: PCSO Penny Ling, PCSO Ben Rackshaw, NHW Director of Operations for High Wycombe and District, Geoff Pegg, Minutes: Julie Bailey**

RPC chairman, Robert Nikiel opened the meeting to a packed house. He introduced himself and explained that this is not a RPC meeting but a community meeting, arranged as a result of our combined concern over the recent spate of burglaries. He then introduced PCSO Penny Ling, PCSO Ben Rackshaw and NHW Director of Ops for High Wycombe & District, Geoff Pegg.

Ben told us about what has been going on in the area. The main method of entry has been smashing rear or side windows, although patio doors have also been broken into. There have also been burglaries in other local villages. Most have happened during the night/early hours. Some in vacant properties but not all. CID is investigating. No comment can be made on suspects at this time, but operations are believed to extend cross- border, into Bedfordshire operation. A vehicle has been seized.

Some positives – there are a few police operations ongoing – there is now a regular police presence in the village, and looking for solutions to help with crime prevention, ‘house in darkness’ notices will be put through doors - if police have noticed, burglars will notice! More resources are available in and around Radnage, signs have been erected - “Crime Ops in Process”, “Neighbourhood Watch Area” etc all of which act as deterrents. Information about crime prevention and other security equipment is available. Timer switches have been sourced free for each attending household tonight. (£3.50 if bought from NHW after the meeting). It is recommended that lights are always left on when going out.

The local neighbourhood police team work until 10pm, after which we are covered by Marlow throughout the night, they regularly drive through Radnage and each visit is documented.

It is hoped that data tagging will soon be available free for Radnage, this is dependent on funding but TVP is working for us. If people want police to come to house to give crime prevention advice they will. They will also mark property with pre-mark so it is identifiable if stolen. It can be arranged for TVP to come to village hall one weekend to do data tagging if enough people are interested.

Ben asked who was signed up to TVP alerts – several people were unaware of these. Julie asked that each of the Radnage NHW co-ordinators be in touch with each other so that alerts reach whole village. Any queries, please contact Julie on [juliebailey@talktalk.net](mailto:juliebailey@talktalk.net)

**The meeting was then opened up for questions:**

Elliot Deering said he had not seen any patrols so when are they coming? Ben stated they *have* to patrol and usually come between 2 - 5am. It is all documented, seen by inspectors and queried if not done. Jayne Tordoff has seen 2 (neighbourhood team) police cars in village this week.

Anjanette Davies asked if funding is not made available for data tagging, would it be possible for us as a village to fundraise for this? Ben informed us that Clare Marchant will know the costs, he will email all questions from tonight to his inspector, answers should come through quite quickly. **Action: Ben**

Anjanette suggested that the police speak to the milkman from Wrenn Davis and newspaper deliveryman from Freemans, both of whom deliver to the village in the early hours. It was agreed this would be done. **Action Ben/Penny**

Martin Blakstad asked whether there is a way of being able to communicate to whole village? There is a Radnage facebook page for general information but maybe we should have a NHW facebook page. We also need more NHW controllers to pass on information to immediate neighbours. Julie Bailey will co-ordinate getting the village covered. **Action: Julie**

The legality of putting CCTV on Green Lane was queried? Robert stated it may be possible to put CCTV on each of the access points to the village (5) but costings would be in the region of £2000 per camera. We don't have an immediate electric feed and solar power wouldn't be adequate. The logistics of monitoring and storing data would need to be decided. It was agreed that this would be put on the agenda for discussion at the next Parish Council meeting. **Action Lin Freeth**

It was suggested that if RPC decide the cost of CCTV was too much, if all residents contributed approx. £200 per person this should be enough to cover it. Robert said RPC would be happy to manage this if residents were of a mind. Rebecca suggested that it may not be necessary to have it at every juncture if budget is an issue.

Is it legal to aim private CCTV onto the road, ie. filming the public? – Ben will find out. **Action Ben** Penny stated that it can overlap with neighbours if agreed. We were reminded that Car Tax and MOT can be checked on the .Gov website if a suspicious vehicle seen.

Graham Wass asked whether mobile CCTV could be used here on a temporary basis? Another suggestion was a wildlife camera which costs around £50 and has night time vision.

One person said the nature of his business means coming back into village around 3am in a white van but he has never seen or been stopped by police.

Peter Hague also said he comes home at odd times but he *has* seen police cars around. Peter stated that he regularly contacts Clare Marchant but always gets an "out of office" reply. She is part-time but should answer. Ben will query this. **Action: Ben**

Unmarked delivery vans regularly come into village. Crissy Darly suggested that it might be worth canvassing big companies like Amazon etc to use identifiable delivery vans. TVP has no jurisdiction.

Once responses from TVP to tonight's questions have been received, Julie will collate and distribute.

Tony Eden asked again about the legality of putting up CCTV in Green Lane as it is a private road. Robert will look into it. In the meantime, a few signs have been put up as deterrents. **Action: Robert**

It was asked whether TVP are covering the whole village and not just up by village hall? Penny said they should be and questions will be fed back. A burglary patrol operation is in force and Radnage is priority at the moment which will continue throughout Christmas period. Ann Brown requested that the bottom of Common Rd also be included as it is a dead end.

James Darly asked whether it is worth submitting photographs of any suspicious vehicles to TVP – yes but would need registration. A photo was taken of vehicle parked at bottom of Hatch Lane few days ago. The driver didn't like it. This is an effective deterrent, but should always consider your own safety. Photos should be submitted to TVP - [marlowsouthwestruralnhpt@thamesvalleypnn.police.uk](mailto:marlowsouthwestruralnhpt@thamesvalleypnn.police.uk)

Suggestion - Radnage Residents could have "Radnage resident" car stickers. This could be arranged if wanted. If a suspicious vehicle is seen by police they can quickly check it. ANPR is in operation from M40 so any suspicious vehicles can be checked against it.

Safety is a concern. Penny suggested if you think someone is breaking into your house call 999 immediately. Don't corner them! If possible get everyone into one room and barricade door. Keep talking to 999 controller whilst waiting for officers to arrive. Robert will ensure that all TVP contact details are on Radnage.net **Action: Robert**

Heath Freeman asked about crime statistics. There have been 9 offences (6 burglaries) in Radnage in past few weeks. Penny said if anyone wants to speak to an inspector directly they would be very welcome. This meeting was originally scheduled for mid-November and higher ranking officers would have been in attendance but due to bringing meeting forward they were not available for which they send their apologies.

Tony Williams is one of the unfortunate victims. He informed us that police came out very quickly, fingerprinted everywhere but it was obvious that thieves were wearing gloves. They had chiselled their way in and this left identifiable marks which can be more useful than finger prints - if same tool is used then marks can be cross checked.

Brenda said a couple of houses reported drones over properties in the summer - TVP have dealt with this in one area and it was neighbours kids so don't think its related.

Tony Eden returned to the subject of calling 999 - if we think we have burglars in the house, what are statistics on response time to a 999 call. TVP have certain time limits, everything is graded. Obviously if burglars in the house this would be high priority.

### **Penny Ling passed over to Geoff Pegg, director operations, Wycombe District NHW**

Geoff told us NHW helps to make people aware of what they can do to help themselves, in homes, but also sheds, garages etc. A shed could be broken into to find tools to get into the house. They also cover car crimes, anti-social behaviour and cons & scams.

Little things you can do to make your house look lived in - a couple of lights on gives the impression that there is someone in. A car on the driveway. Post pushed through. Remember a glass panel in bottom half of front door shows if post is building up - ask a neighbour to clear post. Wheelie bins – get your neighbour to put out/bring in. Don't just leave your hallway light on.

Phone things into the police (101) if you have any information. It might be incomplete but could be useful in conjunction with other information that the police may have.

Keep an eye out for any vulnerable people – they are often targeted. Grab rails at front door is a giveaway.

Over last few months crime alert messages have been abandoned by TVP so Geoff is in discussion to try and re-instate them. These messages also serve the police well as it may result in information being passed on to them.

NHW membership is free. Signs are free (eg. NHW area, no doorstep selling etc). Useful if everyone is signed up.

'Nottingham knockers' – usually youths with a sob story – some may be genuine but most are checking out you/your property to see whether worth burgling. Please do not buy from them and call the police if any come to your door.

Lots of literature available tonight and security products can be bought through Geoff after meeting. Mini safes (baked bean can, dictionary), shed alarm padlocks, alarms etc. Marker pens black and UV – mark with postcode and house number. If you don't want to wait until the possibility of data tag marking, NHW works with 'SelectaDNA' who supply 'microdots' which are encoded with your personal ID. If stolen and recovered, it can be identified as yours. Cost normally £50, through NHW it's £22 – should be able to mark up to around 50 items. \*See further details at bottom.

Members discounts available for alarms - 2 local companies are worth trying. If off on a long holiday, know key-holder company. Jewsons give members a discount. Work closely with Insurance company A-plan. Computer Gallery claim 7.5% discount. Details from Geoff.

Geoff was asked how we find out who our local NHW co-ordinator is. Unfortunately, due to GDPR he is unable to tell us without their permission. The co-ordinators at the meeting all gave their permission and Ian Blaylock suggested we have an article in the next Contact magazine explaining what NHW is with details of all Radnage co-ordinators. Julie will do this. **Action: Julie**

As previously discussed, NHW co-ordinators should be aware of each other and share information.

If you would like to join a scheme or volunteer to be a co-ordinator please email:

[juliebailey@talktalk.net](mailto:juliebailey@talktalk.net)

Current known NHW co-ordinators are:

Ian Blaylock – Green End Road (Hatch Lane end)

Carol Wheeler – Common Road -

Julie Bailey – Green Lane

+4 still to be identified...

More volunteer co-ordinators are needed please.

Janet White volunteered to be co-ordinator for Green End Road (City Rd end) and Bowers Lane, Catherine Turner volunteered for Bottle Square Lane and Lisa Watts will do City Road.

Thank you!

Robert reported that a digital speed indicator sign is now up in the village. It will be moved around. Sponsorship received from County Council – it is currently outside the school.

**Robert thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.**

Resources were then available for everyone to take/buy as required.

\*Since the meeting, Geoff Pegg has confirmed the arrangement with the manufacturer of SelectaDNA security marking kits whereby our Neighbourhood Watch scheme members can now buy these kits at a special price of £22.00 per kit inclusive of VAT and p&p directly from them.

Whilst burglaries in the Wycombe District remain low, they always increase with the extended hours of darkness once the clocks go back this weekend. So, do consider increasing your protection with SelectaDNA.

SelectaDNA is a smart way to invisibly identify valuable items such as computers, antiques, jewellery, TVs, and other electronic equipment. It is a liquid only visible under UV light that you can use like ink to put a mark on the items, but inside the liquid is the DNA – lots of microdots that contain a unique code that is registered to the owner. So, when the stolen item is recovered, the police can use their UV lights to check the marked area, identify the code, look in the database and return the item to the registered owner. The thief is also highly likely to be convicted of the crime.

The liquid comes with warning stickers to put on your doors or windows and tamper-proof stickers to go on the larger items, alerting would-be burglars to the risks of taking anything from the house as it is all marked. Each Selecta DNA kit can mark around 50 items and this special price of £22.00 includes the cost of the database registration and delivery. There are no repeat fees for this registration.

To order, please visit:- <https://www.selectadna.co.uk/nhw>

Enter WDNHW22 in the Voucher Code box at the bottom of the page and this will take you to the ordering process at this reduced price.