



Working for a safer London

## SWISS COTTAGE PUBLIC MEETING

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2009 @ 1900 hrs  
CROSSFIELDS CENTRE,  
8 Fairhazel Gardens,  
London, NW6 3SG

Swiss Cottage Safer Neighbourhood Team

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### Present

Nick PARRY (NP)

Police Sergeant (Metropolitan Police Service)

Roger Freeman (RF)

Ward Councillor

Andrew MARSHALL (AM)

Ward Councillor

### Minutes

ACTION/  
FOR NOTICE

### INTRODUCTION AND APOLOGIES

opened the meeting and introduced [redacted] as a speaker

explained the geography of the borough and the fact that [redacted] who was responsible for wards in the north of the borough.

said that in a survey of people's perceptions, Camden came out as the top borough across London last year. This had slipped to 5<sup>th</sup> out of 32 boroughs this year, but was still impressive.

### 2. SPEAKER: INSPECTOR STEVE BURRELL

introduced himself and pointed out that he has knowledge of the area, having previously lived in Swiss Cottage.

wanted to talk about a public attitude survey results, which had seen a big drop in the number of people in Camden who felt safe at night. also went through the logistics of the survey and the type of question it contained.

Though Camden was doing poorly on the 'safety at night' question, this was not the case during the day. has been asked to find out why there has been such a big change, and cannot find an answer. All other indicators stayed high, but it may be to do with more people being out at night during the summer (when the survey was conducted). it was not possible to check with those who answered the survey, as it was anonymous

● pointed out that it could not be related to performance as Camden's performance was still excellent and was the best performing borough in London. ● asked those present their feeling on the matter and the general response was that they didn't feel any less safe than at any other time within the last 18 months.

**MOA pointed out that people are scared at night as there are less people around, but this hasn't changed recently.**

● stated that a question in the survey has now been changed to ask for confidence in the police and the council combined instead of just police, so this may result in scores falling.

● said that the subject at been brought up across the borough and he was confident that this was done correctly in the north cluster. He also pointed out that priorities do change across different wards.

**MOA asked if survey asked why people didn't feel safe at night?**

● said that it didn't, which was one of the reason he was having so many problems finding a solution.

**MOA asked what was the ration of responsibility for the council and police?**

● said that the council do a lot more than just lighting. Housing and security are one area, tenancy law is another, but they do a lot more than most people realise.

**MOA asked what reassurance work was going on?**

● said that members of the public could give their e-mails addresses to the police to receive news from the SNT. There are also leaflet drops, noticeboards, public meetings and quick comms. He also pointed out that crime on the ward was very good at present.

**MOA expressed concern about e-mails being sent in the past.**

NP has now been trained and can send out e-mails securely so asked for e-mail addresses to be given at the end of the meeting.

**MOA asked about questionnaire changes.**

● said it was a government initiative as they are measured jointly and it couldn't be changed.

● said that the issue of cycling on the pavement had been raised several times and asked and RF for help in resolving the problem.

● said Boris JOHNSON is talking of lifting cycling restrictions, but thinks that more emphasis should be placed on the cyclist.

**MOA asked what contact there is with cycling groups and also wanted to know about 2-way cycling proposed in the area?**

Several people stated that the 2-way cycling was already in place in certain streets and wasn't an issue.

SB said the team are in contact with schools and Bikesafe as well as 3 clubs and a national organisation.

**MOA was overtaken by a cycle on the pavement on the way here. Officers saw it happen, but weren't able to do anything, which shows how difficult it is to stop.**

talked about the rent-a-cycle system in Paris and that it had been mooted for London. However, many of the cycle there have been stolen.

**MOA asked if there were any training courses offered to offending cyclists?**

said this was a very good idea, but at present there wasn't the legislation in place to introduce this.

said that the CCPCG have recently held focus groups across the borough and cycling on the pavement came out as one of the top priorities along with drugs and ASB. went on to say she felt this to be a governmental issue.

Finally, NP introduced the Swiss Cottage SNT from around the room.

### 3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Minutes of the last meeting were checked and approved.

### 4. POLICE REPORT AND STATISTICS

NP talked through the graphs, which had been handed out. Crime was reducing in general, but Theft/Handling (which includes vehicle crime) had increased slightly in recent months.

Since June the team has done 101 Stop & Search, spoken to 521 people, dispersed 121 people (dispersal zone linked with Kilburn), made 3 arrests for breaching the dispersal zone and 12 other arrests.

There have been other arrests on the ward by the response teams and the SNT have also identified offenders

Burglary is going down, but there have been problems with multi occupancy housing where the front door is insecure and this leads to several offences in the same building.

NP reiterated the crime prevention message and said insecurities are still the biggest problem on the ward in terms of burglary.

ASB is still occurring and with Bonfire Night and Halloween approaching, the team are planning to do late shifts. Shops will also be visited to warn them about selling unsuitable products to youngsters during this period.

NP would be around to take extra questions after the meeting.

**MOA asked whom to call in general when there is ASB and the SNT are not on duty?**

NP gave the non-emergency number and said that voicemail can also be left on the SNT phone to be picked up when they were next on duty. NP added that if it was a crime in progress or an emergency to call 999.

**MOA asked about the non-emergency number?**

and NP said the newsletter contains all numbers and that can be sent out.

gave out some contact cards, which contained all the relevant phone numbers.

5. **SNT TARGET CRIMES**

**RF asked if there were any specific burglary problems?**

NP said the team are doing revisits to victims, but there are still lots of insecure premises being broken into.

All 3 SN priorities were proposed and remain in place, after a discussion about other possible options.

● talked about crime types overlapping and how dealing with ASB can also impact on drugs and acquisitive crime.

6. **QUESTION TIME**

**MOA asked why Fairfax Place was not included in the dispersal zone?**

NP said it needs to be backed up statistically and Fairfax Place wasn't.

● said there was a public consultation on the dispersal zone, plus it also needs to be based on reported crime and incidents.

7. **FUTURE MEETING**

The next meeting was set for Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2010 at 7pm at the Crossfield Centre, Fairhazel Gardens.

● also informed everyone of the sad death of [REDACTED] and expressed gratitude for all the help she had given to the community over the years. The funeral is on October 16<sup>th</sup> at Golders Green Crematorium.

8. **AOB**

MOA said that there was a shop on Finchley Rd, which had applied for an alcohol licence in the past, but had been rejected. This has now been resubmitted to sell alcohol from 7am to midnight and a petition had been started to object to this. Those attending were invited to sign.

● had complained about licensing issues before with some success.

**MOA lived in Fairhazel Gardens and said that the new lights in Goldhurst Terrace were very good, but wanted to know who is promoting better lighting within the council and why were more streets not benefiting from this?**

● said the residents and SNT had requested the lighting and it was implemented after an EVA (Environmental Visual Audit) was conducted. The lighting team have a 5-year plan and a prioritised list of work across the borough. CJ stated that if people wanted new lighting that they should put in a request for their area to be assessed.

RF said that nobody in Fairhazel Gardens had requested lighting and the reality was that there was a limited budget and a backlog of requests across the borough for new lighting.

MOA asked if the streetlights were energy efficient?

● was not sure so would find out and report back.