

Bollington Community Action Meeting

at Ovenhouse Lane Community Centre on 20th April 2011

This was the 25th of a series [which began in 2004] of meetings organised by the Bollington Community Action Team (CAT). Cllr. Graham Hibbert presided over the meeting, and gave extra advice during the meeting on 'internet scams'. The officer present was PCSO Lindsey Whitehead, Apologies for unavoidable absence were sent by PCSO Gareth Barber and PC Gary Thurgoland. The meeting was attended by twenty-two Bollington residents, including two other Town Councillors and by two "Councillors in Waiting".

Lindsey explained how the team as a whole has been dealing with the most recent priority issues chosen by vote in the January meeting: **Speeding, Anti-Social Behaviour, and Drugs.**

- a) **Speeding:** A man has been arrested for drink driving. In a driver engagement day there were three offenders spotted and all three agreed to watch the educational video in the Town Hall, rather than paying a fine and having points added to their licences. Lindsey asked for some volunteers to help her with speedwatch. They did recently catch four offenders in Palmerston Street, which surprised her. The 'smiling SID' has been used again in Clarke Lane.
- b) **Anti-Social Behaviour** There has not been a lot reported recently, but people at the meeting reported their observations of ASB, especially on the recreation ground. The CCTV may be adjusted to help identify the offenders.
Lindsey says the special "distraction activities", using large screen TV, an X-box and Wii equipment, have mostly been well attended and they do keep some youngsters off the streets. They have been helped by the financial support of the 'Peaks and Plains' housing authority at a rate of two per month.
Volunteer adults are welcome to come and get involved if they wish to do so. Please contact Lindsey for the details at 0845-458-6371
- c) **Drugs:** Having received helpful information a search warrant was obtained and a property entered leading to a man being arrested and charged.
- d) **Burglary:** This has been at a low level. However there are some known offenders continuing their crimes, and more evidence is needed to deal with them. One suspect has now been remanded in custody, which should help the situation.

It was agreed that the priorities for the next period for our CAT will be **Speeding and Drink-Driving, Drugs, and Anti-Social Behaviour.**

Gary and Lindsey are also meeting members of the community at the Community Centre Luncheon Club, the Bingo evenings and the Coffee Mornings at Shrigley Court. Useful information is obtained at some of these events, which is what 'neighbourhood policing' is about!

The meeting closed at 8.50pm and Lindsey discussed individual problems with some of those present. Lindsey also said she is continuing to hold surgeries in the Library on Saturdays, and the next one will be from 10am to 12 noon on Saturday 7th May, followed by another on 21st May.

The next meeting will be at the St John's School in Grimshaw Lane
on Wednesday, 26th October 2011
and it will start at 7.30 pm.

Please note the change of venue for this meeting!

M. Stedman 21/4/2011