

2ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

GIBSON CRAIG HALL

TUESDAY 27TH OCTOBER 2009 7.30PM

1. WELCOME

Tim Shepherd, Chairman, welcomed the 39 attendees to the 2nd Annual General Meeting of the Currie East Neighbourhood Watch.

As a Mark of Respect the Chairman asked the Meeting to be upstanding to remember Muriel Baillie who as a Distributor for the Lookout and an enthusiastic supporter of the Watch died on 20th October 2009. Muriel actively supported several organisations within the community and our thoughts are with Stuart and her family at this time. One minutes silence was observed by the Meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Eleanor Anderson, Andrew Craigie, David Eatock, Sheila Gordon, David Henderson, Jim Herbert, Brian Latto, Sheila Law, Mrs Melvin (Thomson Crescent), Mr & Mrs McPherson (Easter Currie Terrace), Ann Proudfoot, Irene Reid, Gwynneth Ross, Anne Sherlaw, P.C. Mike Smith, Hamish Sutherland, Jack Wood,

At this point Tim Shepherd requested that Item 7 be brought forward and the Meeting approved this request.

7. Guest Speaker

In the absence of D.C. Allan Walker the Meeting was addressed by two officers of Special Branch, P.C. Lesley Williamson and D.C. Laura Stevenson. This was a very enlightening presentation which was informative and encompassed the ideals of Neighbourhood Watch. Due to the proximity of Edinburgh Airport the Watch Area may be a base for those considering an action and this was brought home by relating to the attack which was undertaken at Glasgow Airport. A quiet suburb near to a target.

The threat of terrorism is still present with the current Security Level being at Level 3 out of 5. As long as residents are vigilant and report their suspicions, then this will be acted on by the Police. It may be that while the suspicious activity is not terror related there may be a

criminal intent and there is a crossover which will assist the Police in their intelligence gathering.

There then followed an Open Question session which covered several topics. Tim thanked both officers for the presentation and for answering questions from the Meeting.

3. Matters Arising From Minutes Of A.G.M. 27th October 2008.

Tim Shepherd asked if there were any Matters arising and as there were no points raised Tim asked that the Minutes be approved. The Meeting approved the Minutes.

4. Police Report

P.C. Mike Smith was not able attend the Meeting.

No recent Police Reports were available and Lookout refers. This is due to a change within Lothian & Borders Police with information having to be reviewed prior to being released. The June/July reports are on the CENW website and it is intended that the next Police Report will be included in the next Lookout. There will be action undertaken to chase for more recent versions of the reports.

Tim Shepherd will contact the Currie & Balerno News to ascertain why Balerno is included in the Police Reports and not Currie.

5. Chairman's report

Tim gave an update on what was a busy year for the Watch.

Street Signs:- Signs required to be replaced and new signs were required. An order was placed with Edinburgh Council but was rejected by the Council on grounds of cost and against Policy of Street Clutter. An amended request will be submitted which will increase the number of replacement signs and reduce the number of new signs.

Information Packs:- Information Packs are in the process of being delivered to each household in the Watch Area. In conjunction with this the opportunity is being taken to speak to residents and asking if there are volunteers to assist with the work of the Watch.

Cala Application:- The Application and Neighbourhood Notification was submitted on the Friday before Trades Holiday. This Application followed the same format as the previous Cala Application. The Watch responded by producing a flyer, an objection letter template, printing and distributing 1200 copies within 14 days to allow residents the opportunity to object. The result was 451 objections and subsequent withdrawal of the Application.

Tim thanked all those who assisted with the distribution and also thanked Currie Community Council (C.C.C) who sponsored the printing. C.C.C. have acknowledged the assistance the Watch has provided but do advise that while the Application has been withdrawn it may be re-submitted, but in a different format, as this is an important site for developers.

Grants:- Funding has been received from HBOS and Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership. These funds are being used for Street Signs and Information Packs.

Lookout:- This continues to be produced and distributed regularly. There has been a lack of Police Reports, due to internal review by Lothian & Borders Police. Reports are placed on the CENW website but future reports will also be summarised in Lookout.

Jim Herbert has intimated his resignation as Editor of Lookout after 15 years (see Item 8)

Wheellie-Bin Stickers:- Full coverage for the Watch Area as a new sticker has been included within the Information Pack currently being distributed to all in the Watch area.

Tim concluded his report saying his 2 years in office had been a worthwhile and enjoyable experience, working on behalf of the Community, and does recommend this activity. Having worked with a friendly and supportive group of people he took the opportunity to thank all involved. Thanks went individually to Gordon Laing, Bob Kerr, Iain Proudfoot and Andrew Craigie. Thanks went collectively to the Committee, Street Co-ordinators and Street Distributors.

6. Financial Report

In the absence of the Treasurer, Brian Latto, Iain Proudfoot presented the report to the Meeting.

The main income was from subscriptions and there was £160 approx not collected as a result of people not wishing to pay or being out when a Distributor called. The Grants received (£3550) have been advised in previous items.

Expenditure mainly related to the provision of Lookout and the Information Packs. While there appears to be a healthy bank balance there are several bills to be paid for Street Signs and Information Packs.

The Meeting was then asked if there were any questions.

One question related to the amount of the subscription still at £1. This matter will be included as a point to be discussed at a future Committee Meeting.

8. Lookout Resignation of Editor.

Jim Herbert intimated his resignation as editor of Lookout after undertaking this task in 1995. In order to mark the work undertaken a framed copy of the first edition of Lookout edited by Jim will be presented to him, along with an anecdotal book on Bridge. The thanks of the Committee also go to Jim.

As the Editor's post is now available, any volunteers should contact the Chairman. This matter will be included as a point to be discussed at the next Committee Meeting.

9. Election of Committee

Four members of the Committee had intimated their resignation:

Bill Gordon, Ian Lawrie, John Sanders and Ian Shepherd. Thanks to these individuals for the work that they have done for the Committee and the Watch.

The remaining 20 Committee members names, inclusive of Office Bearers, were read out by the Secretary and each had intimated their intention to remain on the Committee.

The election of 16 Committee Members was proposed and accepted by the Meeting. Any other nominations were then requested. Archie Clark was proposed by Hamish Sutherland and seconded by George Ballantyne. Tim Shepherd then asked Archie Clark if he was willing to be a Committee Member. Answering in the affirmative, Mr Clark was accepted by the Meeting and was welcomed to the Committee.

10. Election of Office Bearers

Treasurer Brian Latto No other nominations Re-elected by the Meeting

Secretary Iain Proudfoot No other nominations Re-elected by the Meeting

Vice-Chair Margaret Michie No other nominations

Proposed by Gordon McFadzean Seconded by Ian Campbell No objections received.
Margaret was duly elected.

Chairman Robert Kerr No other nominations

Proposed by Gordon Laing Seconded by Gill Burnside No objections received. Robert (Bob)
was duly elected

Tim Shepherd then stood down and Bob Kerr thanked Tim for all the work that he had
undertaken in his 2 years in office.

11. A.O.C.B.

- a) Gordon Laing advised the Meeting that he had placed literature and handouts for anyone who wished to avail themselves of the items on a table within the hall.
- b) S.A.S. Security Systems had been contacting the area and everyone should be aware of this as this company are attempting to obtain various details regarding the security of properties.
- c) The individuals who were responsible for Moonbeams and Rosebud Charities are no longer able to continue as Company Directors.
- d) One way to stop a cold caller is to advise that you are not the Homeowner but merely rent the property.
- e) Cold Calling. This is a matter to be discussed by the Committee. Provision of window stickers may be the way forward. A No Cold Call Zone may present problems. Archie Clark advised that Currie Community Council (C.C.C.) did not find a need for such a zone and C.C.C. did not pursue this matter.
- f) It was not known when the 20 m.p.h. zone would commence throughout Currie.

With no further matters arising Bob Kerr closed the meeting and all were invited to partake in the light refreshments provided by Elizabeth Wightman.

Addendum to Item 9

Subsequent to the A.G.M. Jim Herbert has intimated his resignation from the Committee.