

**Houghton Regis Town Council
Combating Crime Working Group
14th October 2015 at 2.00pm**

Present:	Cllrs:	K Wattingham Ms J Hillyard R Shimmin	Chairman Sub for Ms S Thorne
	Officer:	Stuart Oliver Insp. J Hitch Sgt. M Pugh	Deputy Town Clerk Bedfordshire Police Bedfordshire Police
Also in attendance:	Cllr:	J Carroll	

CC530 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs M Kennedy, R Scott and Ms S Thorne.

CC531 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

None.

CC532 MINUTES

Resolved: To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on the 16th September 2015 and for these to be signed by the Chairman.

CC533 POLICE REPORT

It was reported that overall crime for July and August 2015 was 6% down on the same period last year.

September 2015 had seen a large reduction in domestic burglary, but criminal damage had gone up. It was reported that vans were being targeted during the night for theft of tools. Violence against the person offences were also up, although it was felt that this was due to the way in which such incidents were being recorded, plus abusive remarks and threats put out on social media, if reported to the Police, came within this category.

The Police emphasised the importance of Op Hana to them and the public in general. Although CCTV cameras may well record evidence, they are no substitute for officers attended reported incidents.

It was reported that additional funding had been found to enable the increase in the employment of Operation Meteor. This would happen 4 times per month in the longer light months and 2 times per month in the winter.

CC534 CONSIDERATION OF FUTURE ACTIONS

The Police were informed that superbikes had been racing at Porz Avenue between 3.00 and 5.00pm last Sunday. There were also problems with nuisance youths at Hinton Walk.

Members asked for the Op Hana report in future to give more detail about the patrols, such as length of time, where and the incidents dealt with.

Members asked if a visit to the Control Centre at Kempston could be arranged. Insp Hitch agreed to arrange this. There was also a request for Cllrs to shadow a PC / PCSO on patrol. This would be looked into and reported back at the next meeting.

Resolved: To continue Operation Hana on the same basis.

CC535 NUISANCE MOTORBIKES T & F GROUP

It was reported that at the Nuisance Motorbikes T & F Group meeting held on the 15th September 2015, it was agreed that 2 Cllrs from the CCWG should be invited to attend future T & F Group meetings. The next meeting was scheduled for the 3rd November 2015 at 7.30pm. Members were asked to decide who the representatives from CCWG would be.

Resolved: That the 2 representatives from the CCWG would be Cllrs Ms J Hillyard and K Wattingham.

CC536 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Resolved: To hold the next meeting on Wednesday 11th November 2015 at 3.00pm.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 3.13pm

Dated this day of 2015

Chairman