

Neighbourhood Action Group

**Martins Heron, The Warren and
Harmanswater**

29 January 2008

Priority

- 1 – Speeding (BFBC Medium Term Objective Priorities 3 & 4)
- 2 – Environmental matters (BFBC Medium Term Objective Priority 2)

Attendance

PCSO Jasmine Arundathy, Ian Boswell (BFBC), Rebecca Foster (Neighbourhood Watch), Frank Goodall (BFBC), PC Jeff Hawley, Cllr Trevor Kensall (BFBC), NSO Angelina Martin, Lisa Oates (The Wayz), Cllr Shelagh Pile (Bracknell Town Council), Roger Whiteford-Mulkern (Martins Heron & The Warren Community Association)

Apologies

Dates of Future NAG

To be confirmed

Dates of Future Neighbourhood Forums

To be confirmed

Local Publications

Name:

Next publication deadline:

Contact:

Town and Country

July edition – Article
deadline 25th April

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1. Notes of Previous Meeting

Membership of NAG

Ranelagh School and local business would be invited to join the NAG. **Action: Angelina Martin**

The Licensees of the Horse and Groom and Newtown Pippin pubs would be invited to join the NAG. **Action: Trevor Kensall**

St Paul's Church would be invited to join the NAG. **Action: Rebecca Foster**

Youth Representation

The timing of NAGs made it difficult for young people to attend; however questions would be added to the annual youth service consultation and the responses would be reported back to the Group. **Action: Lisa Oates**

Harmanswater Traffic Calming

The traffic calming measures proposed for the Wellington Drive Harmanswater Road junction would be published for consultation shortly.

Inconsiderate and Illegal parking

The Parking and Waiting Order for Martins Heron and the Warren would take effect from 4 February 2008.

It was reported that the Highway Code stated that it was only advisory that that vehicles were not to be parked within 100 yards of a junction and consequently it was not illegal to park in the immediate vicinity of a junction. However a white van was regularly being parked in Uffington in such a way as to block sightlines and it was agreed that the owner of the vehicle would be identified and warned about the potential for causing an accident by the Police. **Action: Angelina Martin**

2. Environment Briefing

The NAG welcomed Frank Goodall, Environmental Protection Team Manager for the Borough Council. The NAG were provided with an overview of the work done by the various teams within the Council's Environment Department with a particular emphasis on those areas that had been raised as a concern in previous public consultation. It was noted that the Borough Council was currently being restructured and that until the new structure was finalised and agreed any general queries should be addressed to the Council's main number for redirection where appropriate.

3. Update on Priorities

Speeding

It was agreed that concerns about speeding would be looked at in more detail at the Group's next meeting.

It was noted that past requests for the installation of a VAS sign on Harmanswater Road had been refused as a result of analysis of the data obtained from Archer strips which had shown that average speeds were too low to warrant further action being taken. The Group felt that more information about traffic speeds in the area would be required before any further requests were made. It was agreed that the cost of installing a VAS sign would be identified. **Action: Trevor Kensall**

Environmental Issues

It was agreed that it would be necessary to identify the environmental issues that were causing concern in the neighbourhood and that CADIS hot spot maps would be a useful tool to assist with this process. **Action: Trevor Kensall/Gill Biddle**

4. Feedback from NAG Chairs Meeting

The meeting of the NAG Chairs held on 17 January 2008 had focused on the main issues surrounding speeding and parking in the Borough and had detailed the various approaches that could be taken to tackle these areas of concern. Each chairman had been asked to provide details of the main concerns in their neighbourhood and these would be mapped against a range of potential solutions by the Borough Council's Highways Section and would be looked at during future Chairs' meetings. It had been stressed that evidence would be required before any actions could be considered and that the NAGs would be a useful link in this process. In addition any ideas about how a problem might be tackled would be welcomed.

5. Any Other Business

Neighbourhood Forum

It was agreed that crime statistics and CADIS hot spot maps of environmental concerns would be made available at the next neighbourhood forum.

The possibility of holding two separate neighbourhood forums annually, one for Harmans Water, and one for Martins Heron & The Warren is being investigated, and an update would be given once arrangements had been finalised.

Crime Statistics

It was agreed that the fall in crime levels in the Borough should be celebrated and the possibility of including crime statistics and trends in the annual Council tax notification letters that were sent to every household. Due to the volume of enquiries that they received the Council's Finance Team always refused to include any additional information with the letter however, a proportion of the revenue received was spent by the police and it was felt that the inclusion of crime statistics would be useful information to give out. It was agreed that the suggestion would be put to the Finance Team. **Action: Ian Boswell**

Neighbourhood Action Group Event

The possibility of holding an event for all NAG members to share their experiences of being involved in neighbourhood action groups was raised and it was suggested that it might be possible to incorporate something into the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership's annual conference later in the year.

Installation of water Distribution System

Thames Water had started work on the installation of a new water distribution system however it was a condition of granting permission for the system's installation that any work would be suspended during the nesting season and as a result work would halt on the 15th May and was not expected to begin again until the end of May.

Expression of Thanks

Angelina Martin informed the Group that she would be transferring to take up a new post in Windsor and Maidenhead at the start of February. The Group expressed its thanks to Angelina for all the work she had done and wished her well for the future.