

Falkirk & District Community Safety Panel

Note of Meeting

Wednesday 2 March 2022

Brightons Community Hall, Falkirk

7.15pm – 8pm

1. Present

Moira Heeps	Chair/Falkirk & District Community Safety Panel
Stuart Caplan	Vice Chair/Mungahhead Road NHW
George Forster	Treasurer/Watson Street Area NHW
Tom McDougall	Minute Secretary
Gordon McCaig	Fire Service of Scotland

2. Apologies

Chris McNaught	Bo'ness NHW
Madelene Hunt	Bo'ness Community Safety Group
Stuart McAllister	Bo'ness Community Safety Group
PC Andrej Jovanov	Falkirk Council Community Liaison Officer (Police)

3. Welcome

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting. She thanked everyone for attending and introduced Gordon McCaig of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. The Chair also advised members she had been made aware that Sergeant Steven Lorimer was now with Community Policing Unit in Falkirk and she hoped he would be able to attend at a later date. She also indicated that, since there was not a quorum according to the Panel's constitution, only a note of the meeting could be taken. The Chair also recognised the difficulty affecting the attendance of some members and hoped that this would be resolved soon.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The notes of the meeting of 19 January were thereafter noted by those members present at this meeting.

5. Matters Arising

5.1 Gordon McCaig gave a brief insight into the workings of the community engagement section of the fire service and indicated that, due to covid, the work of this unit had tailed off and it was now targeting the vulnerable and disengaged children through good citizenship presentations to help reduce ASB and fire-raising which is on the increase with some success. The unit is also working with inmates at Polmont YOI and work in close partnership with school-based Police Officers and the Safer Street initiative based at Camelon and Tamfourhill education centre. Gordon also indicated that after Easter, the unit will be engaging in a partnership approach to a water safety initiative that is pencilled in for 25 July, which is the UN Prevention of Drowning Day. Lastly, there has been an increase in house fires for various reasons although there is a decrease in the severity of these fires.

5.2 Police Report

Although not present, Drew sent the following information to the Chair for inclusion in the meeting:

The FCSP is still operating albeit with a huge reduction in Falkirk Council Services and has become an administrative unit rather than being pro-active. There is still an intervention department within the police and Bryan Mackie is still leading the way.

There are now only 4 or 5 community wardens in the area and, due to their new funding stream, they only operate in Council housing estates until 8pm and at the latest. Looking forward, Drew considers that home safety will be a big focus as the working from home situation starts to filter back towards the workplace and suspects that this will also include a probable rise in garden crime as well.

5.3 Panel Finances

George indicated that the Panel's bank balance stood at £2,359.50p as of 27 January 2022.

7.4 AGM

The Chair reminded those present that the AGM is scheduled to take place on 18 May at a venue yet to be agreed although it is likely to be Brightons Community Hall.

Date of Future Meetings

The Chair thanked members for attending and indicated that the next meeting will be held at Brightons Community Hall on

Wednesday 13 April, 2022
Wednesday 18 May (AGM)

The meetings will start at 7.00pm

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Meeting

Wednesday 13 April, 2022

Brightons Community Hall, Falkirk

AGENDA

1 Present

2 Apologies

3 Welcome

4 Minutes of Meeting on 2 March 2022

5 Matters Arising

5.1 Bo'ness Community Safety Group (BCSG)

5.2 Panel Funding

5.3 Panel Initiatives

5.4 AGM

6. Treasurer's Report

7. AOB

8. Date of Next Meeting