

Falkirk & District Community Safety Panel

Minutes of Meeting

Monday 10th April 2023

Morrison's Supermarket Community Room, Falkirk

6.30pm – 7.45pm

1. Present

Moira Heeps	Chair/Falkirk & District Community Safety Panel
George Forster	Treasurer/Watson Street Area NHW
Stuart Caplan	Vice Chair/Mungahhead Road NHW
Chris McNaught	Bo'ness NHW
Deborah Ogg	Falkirk & District Community Safety Panel
Diane Stewart	Falkirk & District Community Safety Panel
PC Andrej Jovanov	Falkirk Council Community Liaison Officer (Police)
PC Graham Pairman	Police Community Officer
PC Hasan Aslam	Police Community Officer
Tom McDougall	Minute Secretary

2. Apologies

Stuart McAllister	Bo'ness Community Safety Group
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3. Welcome:

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and again expressed her thanks to the management of Morrison's Supermarket for allowing members to meet in their community room on the premises. She also welcomed Diane Stewart to her very last meeting of the Panel before she leaves for a new life with her husband in Spain having been a Panel member for more than ten years. The Chair paid credit to the commitment and dedication that Diane had shown to the group over the years, indicating that she would be a great loss to the Panel and wished her well for the future. This sentiment was reiterated by all members present. The Chair also indicated that the Community Inspector in Falkirk had retired but had been replaced and that Chief Inspector Alex Patrick was the new Falkirk new Area Commander. She also indicated that PC Graham Pairman was scheduled to attend the meeting later.

4. Minutes of Meeting 2 April, 2024:

The minutes of the meeting of 2 April 2024 were thereafter approved by George Forster and seconded by Stuart Caplan. One amendment to these minutes was to be made to include Deborah Ogg as attending the meeting.

5. Matters Arising:

5.1 Police Report

Dru advised members that anti-social behaviour was still prevalent locally and although bag dipping had occurred in the town centre, the number of reports had recently dropped possibly due to the proactive use of the town's retail radio link. There has also been a number of bikes stolen especially the electric type and fire raising has given cause for concern especially in derelict buildings in Airth and Carronvale. Dru indicated that housebreaking in the area is very low although there has been spate of sheds being forced open and the contents stolen. Dru asked members if they could be proactive and remind their local communities to be vigilant at all times and report any suspicious activity to the Police.

The Chair thanked Dru for his input and at this juncture PC Graham Pairman and PC Hasan Aslam joined the meeting.

Both PC Pairman and PC Aslam explained their role within the Police and Falkirk Town Centre in particular and it was very evident from their input that they both relished the challenge they had to prevent and reduce crime locally. However, they did say that they had not been aware of the activities of the Panel, but expressed a keenness to address this and indicated that they looked forward to creating a meaningful working relationship with the members. Both Officers indicated that they were keen to be part of the group but their attendance at future meetings would be dictated by resource implications. Dru agreed to notify them of the dates of upcoming meetings. These comments were warmly welcomed by members.

5.3 Panel Funding

The Chair intimated that she had nothing to report.

5.4 Panel Initiatives

No report.

6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that the funds available currently stand at £954.03p. The Treasurer and Vice Chair both indicated that OSCR had been in touch with them to suggest where subtle improvements could be made in regard to new members understanding their role within the group. After discussion, Tom McDougall agreed to look at the introduction of a 'guide for new volunteers' and will report back to the next meeting.

7. AOB:

NHW Signs etc:

Chris McNaught indicated that she was in possession of a number of NHW and No Cold Calling signs which she would keen to hand over so that others could use them. Tom McDougall indicated that he would contact Keith Jack at NHW Scotland regarding the signs and would report back.

QR Codes:

Following a discussion regarding crime prevention advice and the Panel's website at www.saferfalkirk.org Dru suggested that it might be an idea for the Panel to have QR codes that can take visitors to the site directly to the area that relates to a particular subject. Members agreed that this would be worthwhile considering and Stuart Caplan agreed to examine the validity of such a move. Dru also agreed to make an approach to Police Scotland to see if the cost of the development of the QR codes could be absorbed locally.

Date of Future Meetings

The Chair thanked members for attending and indicated that the next meeting is due to take place on:

Tuesday, 1 October, 2024

at the Community Room at Morrison's Superstore, Falkirk between 6.30pm and 8.pm.

Falkirk & District Community Safety Panel

Meeting

Tuesday, 1 October, 2024

The Community Room, Morrison's Superstore, Falkirk

AGENDA

1 Present

2 Apologies

3 Welcome

4 Minutes of Meeting 20 August 2024

5 Matters Arising

5.1 Police report

5.2 Panel Funding

5.3 Panel Initiatives

6. Treasurer's Report

7. AOB

8. Date of Next Meeting