

MINUTES

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| Meeting Title: | PACT meeting |
| Date: | 08.01.26 |
| Time: | 18:30 – 20:00 |
| Location: | Highfield Church, Portswood |

Attendees:

50 x residents

2 x Southampton of University representatives

Staff:

Francesca Prior – SCC

Malkeat Singh – SCC

Tim Nelson – SCC

Leader of the Council Cllr Winning - SCC

District Commander Alexander Charge - Police

PC Adam O'Neil – Police

Acting Inspector Yozanne Richards – Police

Acting Inspector Phil Price – Police

3 x PC – Police

Ward Councillors

Cllr Anne Marie Finn - SCC

Cllr Barbour - SCC

Cllr Savage -SCC

Apologies:

Cllr Toqeer

6 x members of HRA

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| | Introductions No recording of the meeting Sign in sheet going round Confidentiality – not mentioning peoples names/ addresses can pass details onto the Police after. Respect / one person speaking at a time This meeting has had set questions sent in my Members of the Public, | |

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| | <p>there will be a short time allowed at the end for AOB, this is a community meeting and should stay focused on the community issues.</p> <p>Updates from previous meeting:</p> <p>MALKEAT – ACTION – To invite Southampton University to attend the next meeting. – Complete</p> <p>CLLR FINN – ACTION – take this to Cllr Frampton – opening the community rooms especially in Ventnor court – Spoke to Housing Mgr and the rooms are now open.</p> <p>Public Space Protection Orders update. The PSPO is now live, and the signs are up. The PSPO needs to be extended after 3 years, so Nov 2028 and can then be extended for a further 2 years pending data and seeing if the PSPO is being effective in reducing the ASB it is set up to reduce. It covers street drinking, drug taking, psychoactive substances and aggressive begging. The objective of the PSPO is to give Police and SCC's community safety officers additional powers to stop these behaviours. SCC officers and Police will be recording the use of powers used and collating data to ensure it is being effective.</p> <p>PSPO - We won't be recording use specifically (although there will always be some form of record where we have interactions with the public. We don't have a form or specific process around this.</p> <p>MOP – How will this be enforced? POLICE – Police Officers will be issuing tickets and recording the use of this.</p> <p>PSPO details can be found here: PSPO Portswood</p> | |
| | <p>Police</p> <p>Round up of Stats: Since the last meeting in Sept: POLICE Overall crime stats until end Dec overall crime is dropping sitting at 144 crimes. Spike in Nov of Shoplifting and some work has been down with the retailers, and this spike has reduced Currently burglaries is the current spike and the police will be working on this. Before Christmas there was a spike theft from motor vehicles.</p> <p>QUESTION MOP I would like to add that the problem with scooters / bikes on the pavements is not just Voi as many illegal scooters and high-powered delivery bikes use the pavements. POLICE – Use of illegal bikes and scooters and it does pose a danger, if people are unaware and are using responsibly then the Police approach using education. The high-powered bikes and scooters are the worry; Sgt Ponder is looking at using Smart water spray as a new approach. UV light is used to see if smart water was used. Challenging thing is to get people off the scooters; this can cause injury so there is a real</p> | |

balance between actions being safe. Days of action can be looked at and having a day of focus.

QUESTION MOP Many of the shops and businesses are concerned about the break in's and experiencing very high levels of shop lifting – what is being done by the Police to address these issues.

POLICE Shoplifting is a continuing issue, looking at Portswood alone, has had 85 reporting since middle of Sept. The incidents where positive actioned such as summons, charged currently 48 and 7 still under investigation. Police do take shoplifting seriously and will continue to work on. Some shops have been hit harder than others and have worked with them with things such as product placement. There has never been a policy within Hampshire Constabulary to not investigate if the value is under £100. Don't always deploy directly to store, but all the packs and there is evidence is supplied there is prosecution. For every crime reported it is investigated if there is the evidence.

Where there is evidence, we seek to prosecute, (we don't always for various reasons, for example where the evidence is insufficient to prove the offence.

QUESTION MOP Are there plans to address an increase of patrols around the Portswood High Street area?

POLICE – Officers do log patrols in the Portswood area, it is regularly patrolled, as much as the team can do.

MOP – Raised the CCTV, and can they be monitored?

POLICE – We work closely with the CCTV and when there is a live incident it is used in real time. If there was an incident, then the evidence is required we work with CCTV to have access to the evidence required. There is the Local Policing App, which captures data for patrols, expected patrols Op Sentinel, Portswood is included in this Op.

QUESTION MOP There is an increase in drug dealing on Priory Hard, what can be done to actively stop this.

POLICE – It is a location we are aware of, tackling drug related harm is intelligence led, there is under reporting is an issue. It comes down to reporting

Cllr Finn – if people don't want to report what can they do,

POLICE Report everything to 101, this feeds into intelligence and crime intelligence.

POLICE – 101 calls are now answered a lot quicker or you can report online [Contact us | Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary](#), don't be put off not knowing what heading it should be under, just report it and it can be put under the correct heading later by the Police. Reporting is key, Police and SCC work together all the time.

QUESTION CLLR Savage - The latest PSPO and confirmation that the police will take action on grounds of street drinking, drug use and aggressive begging, and whether they will have an increased presence in the area. Is the latter element covered by PSPOs when street attached walk into takeaways aggressively asking staff for free takeaway food. This was reported to me by some high street staff at the weekend.

POLICE – It could be covered by the PSPO, It could be seen as

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| | <p>aggressive begging if people are being intimidating in their behaviour. PSPO is part of a toolbox, with homelessness we need to find them somewhere to live, and access to support services.</p> <p>QUESTION Cllr Savage Many of the shops that are victims of shoplifting have video footage and still images captured of regular offenders. Can they display the images on their premises to be viewed by their own staff to deter further thefts, and what will the police be doing to crack down on shoplifting at highly targeted shops like Boots Chemist, Tidal Vape. T-Rex Supermarket and Pound Land, amongst others.</p> <p>POLICE Yes this can be done as long as it is just for the staff.</p> <p>CLLR what are you doing for the businesses that are habitually being targeted.</p> <p>POLICE Using at Criminal Behaviour Orders, and a breach of this is a criminal offence and courts are taking this very seriously.</p> | |
| 3. | <p>Community concerns</p> <p>QUESTION how illegal parking on the Broadway (on yellow lines and especially at night) is being enforced?</p> <p>FRANCESCA - Westridge road off the Broadway is also a problem we have served 793 Fixed Penalty notices since April 2025 mostly double yellow lines and loading ban</p> <p>QUESTION MOP Businesses are reporting lots of homeless in the shop doorways, what can be done about this?</p> <p>FRANCESCA responded that Police, Homelessness and Community Safety held an action day to address this on the 22nd Dec, it was successful and enabled people to have access to services should they want them. It has been agreed that this would be repeated regularly. In the afternoon Malkeat the community engagement officer for Portswood and the Cllrs held a street meet and engaged with many businesses and members of the public.</p> <p>AOB</p> <p>Is there anything else anyone would like to raise or discuss.</p> <p>MOP – Respects the right for peaceful protest but what can be done?</p> <p>POLICE – Police do Police the protests and there is reviews completed Planning meeting, review meetings and managed by a commander</p> <p>MOP – Alex Winning, what powers do you have to extract surgically those few hundred into a remote and humane area away from here. What powers do you have?</p> <p>DISTRICT COMMANDER ALEXANDER CHARGE – None</p> <p>Mop – Who does hold such power?</p> <p>CLLR WINNING LEADER OF SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL – It sits with the Home Office.</p> <p>ACTIONS</p> | |

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| | No actions were taken from this meeting due to the meeting being interrupted and the flow of the meeting didn't allow for further discussion. | |
| | Date of the next meeting: Monday 20 April / 6.30 – 8.00pm / Bellamy Court, Pettinger Gardens, SouthamptonSO17 2WN | |