



Alresford and District Neighbourhood Watch Association



The Neighbourhood Watch Association held its 2016 AGM on the 22nd September and please find below a summary of the evening and an overview of the proceedings.

There were 21 attendees, including representatives from the Hampshire Constabulary and North Hampshire Magistrates in the Community. Following the Chairman's welcome to the visitors, Inspector Jon Turton gave an update on behalf of the local police. He confirmed the following:

- Sgt. Andy Fisher is moving to Southampton and will be replaced by Sgt Ivan Marshman in mid-October
- Recently there was criminal damage involving spray paint following a youths' party in Cheriton and there has been a rise in the theft of quad bikes plus damage to stables in the local area
- Poaching is increasing, although the police managed to seize 6 lurchers and a vehicle after a reindeer had been killed illegally
- 'Beauty Spot' thefts have also increased in places such as Sparsholt, Folly Mount and the Meon Valley

PCSO Amy Stevens then issued lists of crime statistics for the Winchester Rural Area and this was followed by a short Q&A session with Jon and Amy.

Following the Constabulary overview the next speaker was Amelia Ashton JP, who sits on the North Hampshire Bench. She explained that the origins of the Justice of the Peace role date back to the reign of Richard 1. The local courts are based in Aldershot and Basingstoke and on the North Hampshire Bench, in total, there are 51% women and 49% men. These days in a court the 'Bench' comprises three Magistrates and 100% of criminal offences start in magistrates courts, even indictable-only offences, including murder, manslaughter, rape and robbery, which are sent immediately to a Crown Court for trial. 98% of all cases remain in magistrates courts for trial, if appropriate, and sentencing, if appropriate.

Following this very informative presentation there was a short Q&A session with Amelia.

Next, the committee report was given by Frazer Budd and he highlighted the following:

- Neighbourhood Watch serves to provide the police with eyes and ears in the community and this role has evolved substantially with the introduction of electronic communications
- With respect to Alresford and its District, we are fortunate to live in a relatively low crime area although this can lead to police resources being focussed on other areas with greater need
- On some roads the NW signs require repair or refreshment and if anyone spots these can they please let the NWA know asap
- The committee is looking for Co-ordinators in Chiltern Court and Itchen Stoke, whilst there are some places vacant on this years' committee – volunteers are welcome and if you are interested please call Chris Day on 07721 564882.

After the committee report there was the Financial Report and then the re-election of the Committee. The meeting closed at 20.55.

If at any time, you believe that you have been a victim of fraud you can report it online: http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report_fraud or by telephone: 0300 123 2040

Please note: the Alert messaging service is not for reporting crimes or incidents - to report these please contact Hampshire Constabulary as shown below.

Alresford and District Neighbourhood Watch Association website-
www.neighbourhood.watch.alresford.org
e-mail – contact.adnwa@gmail.com

CRIME IN PROGRESS – RING 999
NON URGENT – RING 101