



## **HALESWORTH PUBLIC MEETING**

A public meeting was held at United Reform Church, Halesworth on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2017 1900 hrs.

### **PRESENT:**

#### **Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner**

Tim Passmore (Police & Crime Commissioner), and Claire Swallow (Deputy CEO Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Virginia Taber (Correspondence and Support Officer)

#### **Suffolk Constabulary**

Sarsfield Donohoe (Chief Inspector East), Inspector Mark Jackson (Locality Inspector).

### **POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER OVERVIEW**

The PCC welcomed 14 members of the public to the meeting and made introductions. The PCC spoke briefly about the key elements of his role and current priorities. A copy of his handout will be attached to these notes for the record.

### **POLICING UPDATE**

Inspector Mark Jackson introduced himself and spoke about policing in the locality; a copy of his handout is available for the record.

### **QUESTIONS ASKED AND SUBJECTS DISCUSSED**

- *101 response*

Concern was expressed about delays in responding to 101. Tim explained that he had made a significant investment into improving an old system that needed updating. The new telephony system was expected to go live later this year. Recent information received about calls was that the average time for a call to be answered is 3.5 minutes. More staff had been recruited and trained to work in the Control room.

- *Anti-social behaviour*

Concerns were voiced that this was not being tackled since the hours of duty were changed for PCSO's. A review of PCSO'S shift pattern was actively been looked at. Inspector Jackson reassured the meeting that links with Halesworth were strong and his team were aware of community concerns.

- *Parking issues*

Concerns were expressed about parking and the fact that due to lack of enforcement vehicles were being parked all over the place. Tim explained that the transitioning of parking enforcement to Borough and District Councils was well underway and it is anticipated that Civilian Parking Enforcement (CPE) will be in force throughout the County within 18 months.

- *Visibility of Officers*

Concern was expressed about the lack of visibility of Police Officers. Tim explained that he was campaigning for a fairer deal for Suffolk to ensure that Suffolk received more funding in the police grant. Suffolk received 44 pence per day per head of population compared with Norfolk who receive 50 pence. This would equate to an extra £ 3 million pounds. Tim further told the meeting that he had met with the Policing Minister to press the case for Suffolk and was seeking support from all Suffolk MP'S to achieve this. A visibility plan from the Chief Constable was awaited by the PCC.

- *Lack of information*

A heavy reliance of communicating information via email and website excluded some parts of the community. Other forms of communication were available for example Police Connect which is a messaging service run by Suffolk Constabulary providing up to date information. Newsletters could also be printed off Suffolk Constabulary website and displayed on community notice boards, church notice boards and in the library. Tim also informed the meeting of a new initiative – Citizens in Policing – which would identify a link person in every community to act as a liaison between Suffolk Constabulary and the community.

- *Police Funding – Should the precept be increased?*

Tim told the meeting that he had increased the precept last year. He explained that he was campaigning for a fairer deal for Suffolk to ensure that Suffolk received more funding in the police grant. Suffolk received 44 pence per day per head of population compared with Norfolk who receive 50 pence. This would equate to an extra £3 million pounds. Tim further told the meeting that he had met with the Policing Minister to press the case for Suffolk and was seeking support from all Suffolk MP'S to achieve this. He would be meeting MPs in the autumn. He said that everyone needed to act together to get a better deal.

- *Enforcement of 20mph Zones.*

Inspector Jackson informed the meeting that although 20mph zones could be enforced, they were meant to be self-enforcing and introduced alongside other measures such as speed bumps.

***The PCC thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 20.15 hrs.***