



Minutes

Agenda Item

1	<p>Welcome and apologies – Marcus Pickering, chair of the community association David Wells, Nik Johnson and Emma Stevens</p>	
2	<p>Policing on Love's Farm – community discussion about policing issues with Police Sergeant Adam Bagulay,</p> <p>Following an increase in reported and unreported incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour Love's Farm our local Police Sergeant Adam Bagulay joined the community to provide an update and respond to questions from residents.</p> <p>It was noted that police resource was much less for St Neots than 10 years ago. There is recognition that there is a need for officers to deal with issues in St Neots and Love's Farm however there are competing priorities. There is a limitation to what the policing resource can do. Love's Farm is not yet a priority although Sargent Bagulay continues to request Love's Farm to be a priority in Cambridgeshire.</p> <p>The community can help support Sargent Bagulay to get officers back into the community. Incident reporting is important to identify where resource can be allocated. - unless an incident is reported the police do not record the crime and therefore resources are not allocated.</p> <p>It was noted that Huntingdon District Council were meeting Cambridgeshire Constabulary about the local policing review. A town council meeting is also taking place in November. Without pressure from councillors and the community there is unlikely to be a change in policing resource.</p> <p>Ben Pitt, Town Councillor and Julie Wisson, Cambridge County Councillor, were in attendance. Marcus Pickering, chair of LFCA offered to talk to Police & Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire about the policing review and Ben to discuss with Town Council options for increasing resource for St Neots.</p> <p>The community were invited to ask Sargent Bagulay questions about local policing and concerns about policing and crime on Love's Farm.</p> <p>Action: note of the session, including actions will be sent to the community following the meeting and will be available on Ourlovesfarm.co.uk website. (Annex B to minutes)</p>	
Building great relationships in our community.		
3	<p>Committee Governance & AGM</p> <p>i) Notes of last meeting and update on actions not covered elsewhere on the agenda were received as an annex to the agenda.</p> <p>ii) Appointments of committee officer positions following election at AGM held on 12 September were noted as: Marcus Pickering – chair, Eleanor Gray – Secretary and Cameron Paul – Treasurer.</p> <p>iii) The community plan will be refreshed using responses to community survey 2018. Action: the community survey will be shared via the web, email and Facebook page. The AGM video will also be shared with the community.</p> <p>iv) There were no updates received from Town, District and County Councillors in attendance</p>	
4	<p>Working Groups action to note (no discussion/comments by exception)</p> <p>i) Events – Emma Lovelock advised the next event would be chocolate bingo on 24 October</p> <p>ii) Street reps – Action: Emma Stevens advised she would work with street reps to take forward the extension of the neighbourhood watch scheme as an action from the policing and crime discussion.</p>	
Developing and managing shared resources and spaces		
6	<p>Working Group action to note (no discussion/comments by exception):</p> <p>i) SMART – Helene Tame advised the community tidy up took place on Saturday 13 October and thanked those who took part.</p> <p>ii) Love's Farm Blooms – Phyllis Hooper advised there was an update in the newsletter, there was nothing actively taking place now however plans were being made to develop options for the north</p>	

	<p>of the estate. Phyllis asked LFCA to explore options for tree for north of the estate, near the village green. She advised that lighting remained an issue for parts of the estate. Cllr David Wells said he had followed up on lighting and waiting for a response from Huntingdon District Council.</p> <p>iii) Finance – David Wells was thanked for his role as Treasurer and the chair asked members to welcome Cameron Paul as newly elected Treasurer. Cameron was meeting with David for handover of responsibilities.</p> <p>It was noted that following discussion with Marcus developers had agreed to make a donation to LFCA. He advised Gallagher’s Estates had agreed to give £2,000 to help with funding and wish to see the LFCA accounts and know what the funds will be spent on. Discussion took place on when to approach Urban and Civic and BPHA for funds – Marcus advised he was reluctant for the LFCA to go over £5,000 of funds in the bank in any given year as this required charitable status of LFCA to be registered. Any monies received would be in addition to £1,400 received from Town Council each year. It was agreed BPHA would be asked for funding towards Neighbourhood Watch scheme. Action: Request funds from BPHA and Urban and Civic</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>Community action area updates to note (no discussion/comments by exception):</p> <p>i) <u>Northern access update</u> Marcus Pickering advised he had yet again requested a meeting with Cllr Matthew Shutter on Northern access to reiterate residents’ concerns and confirmation of the scope of the feasibility study. So far requests had not resulted in a meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Julie Wisson advised she would attend a meeting on 1 November about consultation on closure of access. She said that work on the feasibility study was not finished the decision has not been made on the access route. It was not known who the meeting would be with or if a decision would be made on the access at that meetin on the 1 November. Julie agreed to keep the committee informed. She advised the decision lies with Matthew Shutter as chairman of the Highways and Infrastructure committee. Marcus said that Matthew had promised to come and meet the community but this has not happened yet.</p> <p>It was not clear to the LFCA members what the timeline for the decision was given the consultation closed in January 2018. There had been little community engagement despite representations at Town Council by residents, including John Gerrard. It was noted that requests to meet Cllr Shutter, chair of Highways and Infrastructure Committee had gone unacknowledged recently. Julie was asked to confirm, and supported the LFCA ask that the community should have a voice at any meeting a decision about the access was made at. She reiterated that no decisions should be made without community engagement.</p> <p>ii) <u>Parking Scheme for Love’s Farm</u> It was noted that Cambridgeshire County Council had yet to engage with the community following feedback on the draft parking proposals which were share with residents over the summer. CCC had been invited to present findings of the parking consultation to residents. It was noted that final plans were still being developed by CCC and a number of changes have been made following residents feedback and the survey responses. There were however limits to the changes because most of the proposals were based on safety and traffic law.</p> <p>It was thought that the launch of the formal consultation would be on the 24 October. LFCA had been asked to use the street reps network to deliver leaflets/letters to each resident on the estate advising of the consultation by CCC. It was agreed it was unrealistic for street reps to be asked to deliver leaflets in November. It was noted that given opposition to the consultation by some residents that the CCC should ensure that copies of the consultation were sent to each residential address to ensure due process was followed and avoid the risk of legal challenge on this basis. Action: LFCA to support CCC parking consultation by sharing information via Facebook, website, email and newsletter.</p> <p>It was thought that the results of the traffic consultation would go to the Highways and Infrastructure committee in January for decision. Results will go to January Highways committee.</p> <p>iii) <u>Wintringham School and Cambridge Road safe crossing points</u> Note Wintringham school temporary school opened for September intake and discussion is on going re safe access across Cambridge Road (Highways have visited the site now)</p> <p>Nik Johnson has meeting with Urban and Civic, master planners, and others to explore options to create a gateway to St Neots. It was noted that Mayor, Barry Chapman does not support traffic lights on Cambridge Road due to the risk of slowing traffic during peak times.</p>	<p>15 minutes</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>Farm House update News was received from Ben Pitt on behalf of the Farm House Trustees. It was noted that the community centre was celebrating it’s birthday. Events were also taking place including the Halloween disco which was sold out, craft beer and cheese night, half marathon after party and comedy night. The cinema film club was also holding events.</p>	<p>5 minutes</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>AOB – there was no AOB</p>	

Actions from previous meetings and updates

	Action	Update	LFCA lead
1.	David Wells to ask HDC to consider Fox Brook Bridge lighting via Chris Stopford.	Cllr Wells to report back	David Wells
2.	Marcus to update on policing and crime at next meeting including taking forward actions around expanding the neighbourhood watch scheme. Sargent Bagulay to be invited to future meetings	Agenda for November. Q&A on the website. Group set up to work on neighbourhood watch	Marcus Pickering
3.	CCC to be invited to present parking consultation results to LFCA and community meeting (date tbc)	Consultation out – closes 30 November. CCC have not taken up offer to engage	David Wells
4.	Ben to share community survey to ask for views from residents about how we can all work together to improve things – launched at AGM	To be discussed at November meeting	Ben Pitt
5.	<p>a) Julie Wisson to share scope of northern access feasibility study and confirm next steps following consultation on northern access closing on 26/1.</p> <p>b) Residents to be encouraged to complain to East of England Ambulance service if they have concerns about traffic blocking the roads on the estate or the northern access gate not being used to access them in an emergency. Examples of impact of northern access being closed to be shared with Cllr Julie Wisson, Cllr Mathew Shuter, Head of Highways and Infrastructure Committee and Graham Hughes, Chair of Economy and Growth Committee at Cambridgeshire County Council.</p> <p>c) Committee officers and residents to be invited to attend the Highways and Infrastructure meeting</p> <p>d) Petition for the feasibility study to be undertaken by CCC to explore reasons for/against not just costs for Northern Access</p> <p>e) Marcus Pickering to request meeting with Cllr Matthew Shuter to discuss Northern Access, to take him up on his offer to discuss with residents and visit the site.</p>	<p><u>Agenda:</u> Update at September meeting on a) and d)</p> <p>Email circulated via street reps. New examples requested to go direct to Cllr Wisson</p> <p>On going – John Gerrard presented to Town Council</p> <p><u>Agenda:</u> Update needed on attending next meeting</p> <p>Await further contact with MS</p> <p>Marcus to get in touch with MS again</p>	<p>Julie Wisson</p> <p>Eleanor Gray/Emma Steven's</p> <p>Julie Wisson</p> <p>Marcus Pickering</p> <p>Marcus Pickering</p>
6.	Share list with Gallagher lights not sure about. Form on website to identify location of lights Marcus to get in touch with Breheny (contractors) re lack of visibility at junction of Stone Hill and Pirate Ship.	<p>On going – noted HDC rolling plan to replace</p> <p>Included in Street reps update</p>	<p>Emma Stevens/Ellie Gray</p> <p>Marcus Pickering</p>
7.	Marcus and Cameron to follow up with BPHA, Gallaghers and U&C re funding contribution to LFCA.	On going	Marucs/Cameron
8.	Ben Pitt to update on Cambridge Road crossing development Stephen Ferguson to discuss with Town Council options for bus bay on Cambridge Road. Barry Chapman to update LFCA following conversations with Graham Bull District Council Leader on 23 July to discuss Cambridge Road and Ben Pitt to share info with Barry Chapman on meeting with HDC and CCC Highways	<u>Update at January meeting</u>	Ben Pitt
9.	Love's Farm Blooms a) David Wells to provide update on Blooms finance b) Community Christmas tree funding to be investigated	<p>Future agenda item</p> <p>Future agenda item</p>	<p>David Wells</p> <p>Phyllis Hooper</p>
10.	Love's Farm community association becoming a Parish Council to be discussed at a future meeting based on information Julie Wisson provides	Future agenda item	Julie Wisson/ Helene Tame
11.	Views on LFCA support of Round House School fireworks – future agenda item.	Future agenda item.	Marcus Pickering
12.	Views on website development to be sought including editor for content	Request at November meeting	Marcus Pickering

Annex 2: Police & Crime Update - 19 October 2018

The Love's Farm community met with St Neots Police Sergeant Adam Bagulay for an update on policing issues in our area. The bottom line is that the police are significantly stretched and we need residents to respond to help our community.

We need to lobby for more Police resources

The key message from the meeting was that police resources are unbelievably scarce. St Neots and surrounding villages is served only by ONE police sergeant and THREE full time (and one part time) PCSOs. We need to apply pressure wherever we can to ensure more resources are allocated to St Neots and Love's Farm. We would urge residents to write to:

- Jason Ablewhite - Police & Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire. pcc@cambs.pnn.police.uk
- Jonathan Djanogly - Our MP. jonathan.djanogly.mp@parliament.uk
- Our local councillors - [Contact details](#)

Be vigilant and take simple precautions

A significant proportion of recently reported crime has been simply opportunistic. Don't make it easy for criminals! Be vigilant and help your neighbours by keeping an eye out for each other.

- Ensure doors, windows, garages and sheds are secure
- Light your property at night indoors and out and consider security systems
- Keep valuables out of sight and mark belongings including bikes, scooters and prams
- Tell your neighbours if you are going away for a time

[Immobilise](#) is a free national facility that allows you to record your personal property and belongings. In the event that a registered item is lost or stolen, they can easily be returned to you if any of the items are recovered by an officer.

Report, report, report!

It's tempting to think that because the police are so busy there's no point in reporting minor crimes. Nothing could be further from the truth! Whilst it's true that the police might not have time to investigate or follow up, the reports are used to build a picture and to allocate resources. If nothing is reported, the assumption is that everything is fine.

- Reports can be made online at <https://www.cambs.police.uk/report/Report> It only takes a few minutes and you don't need to wait on the phone.
- You can call **101** for non-emergency reports.
- You should always call **999** when it is an emergency, such as when a crime is in progress, someone suspected of a crime is nearby, when there is danger to life or when violence is being used or threatened.
- If you want to give some information about a crime, but need or want to remain anonymous, you can contact CrimeStoppers - <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/> - 0800 555 111

Detailed Q&A

Here's a more detailed run-down of the questions answered at the meeting:

Since the summer crime seems to have increased. Are we being affected by issues such as County Lines?

Over the past year there has actually been a decrease in the number of violent crimes. However, there has been an increase in thefts from motor vehicles and thefts of pedal cycles. Many of these have been opportunist thefts of unsecured items.

'County Lines' is when organised gangs identify drug users in towns and use them to run drugs into a community. Towns such as St Neots with direct train lines from cities are often targeted. It's a problem not just in Cambridgeshire but everywhere. This town is not any worse than other areas.

How do we compare to other areas?

The crime statistics vary considerably by month. Love's Farm is generally no worse than anywhere else in the county. There are pockets of crime which officers could get on top of but with resource limitations the response is usually reactive.

What resource do you have to tackle crime on the estate?

There is one full time police officer and 4 PSCOs, one of whom is part-time, to police St Neots and the villages in the surrounding area. This represents a population of over 40,000 people. There is a limit to how responsive the team can be given the geography they cover.

There is recognition that Love's Farm needs more police resource however St Neots and Love's Farm will be competing for this with other police teams across the county.

The community can highlight concerns, report incidents and antisocial behaviour to help the County Police Force identify what resource is needed and where it needs to be. This will help reallocate resource if it is a priority.

Where is the funding we pay as taxpayers going if we are not seeing responses to cars being stolen or investigated for over three days? It is not reassuring to see crime not being responded to. Unfortunately this is a result of the reduction in resources and is not an exception for this area, or the rest of the country at this time.

What can we do as a community to reduce crime? What can I do myself?

Love's Farm Community Association run a 'Street Reps' scheme to bring together streets and develop a sense of community – most streets have a Facebook page which residents can join to access information about their street and what's going on in the community.

Neighbourhood Watch has been set up in one area of Love's Farm. We are looking at how we can facilitate this across the whole development. Please get in touch with your Street Rep if you would like to get involved.

You can also help reduce crime by:

- Ensuring doors, windows, garages and sheds are secure
- Light your property at night indoors and out and consider security systems
- Keep valuables out of sight and mark belongings including bikes, scooters and prams
- Tell your neighbours if you are going away for a time

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Why should I report incidents? How do I do this? Can I do it anonymously?

Incident reporting is important to help the police identify where resource can be allocated and build intelligence. Reports of incidents are not always answered but unless an incident is reported to the police they cannot act. Reporting is important to help build a picture of crime. Even if a person is not seen the incident, the location and what happened is logged.

You can call 999 if a crime is happening or 101 if a crime or incident has occurred.

You can log crime that has happened, incidents, car theft, suspicious activity and traffic incidents via Cambridgeshire Constabulary's website: <https://www.cambs.police.uk/report/Report-Shared/Report-a-crime> or via social media including Facebook: <https://www.cambs.police.uk/information-and-services/About-us/Social-media>

If you would prefer to report incidents or crime anonymously you can call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

You can also request that a police officer does not visit your address to take statements or follow up on an incident reported if you feel this would put you in danger or difficulty.

How can we get more police resources to help Love's Farm community tackle crime?

Resources are stretched. Get in touch with your town, district and county councillors to highlight your concerns about local policing. Without pressure from councillors there is unlikely to be a change in policing resource. Without a community speaking with one voice the community will only receive reactive policing.

Direct your concerns to councillors as they can hold police to account. You can access our councillors contact details [here](#).

You can also contact our MP Jonathan Djanogly (<https://www.jonathandjanogly.com/>) or the Police and Crime Commissioner Jason Ablewhite (<http://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/>)

What is the community association going to do?

We will continue to have community meetings. It is helpful to be able to say to our police force and councillors that the community is engaged and wants to tackle this issue. Meetings with the community demonstrate that there are issues in the community and the community cares and is

asking for resources to address issues in their community. The Community Association will continue to work with the police and councillors to highlight issues and request additional resource. We are also working to establish Neighbourhood Watch across our community.