Crowthorne Community Neighbourhood Action Group (CCNAG) notes

Attendee	Organisation
Mel Saville	Clerk, CPC
Cllr Cliff Thompson	CPC
Cllr Richard Price	CPC
Debbie Gooch	Clerk, WWPC
Tricia Norris	CVAG
Natasja Donachie	WBC ASB Team
Chris Long	WBC ASB Team
Cllr Pauline Helliar-Symons	WBC
Cllr Aaron Plume	WWPC
Cllr Lesley Foxwell	WWPC
Colin Philpot	Neighbourhood Watch
Barry Bailey	Churches Together
Cllr Janet Rogers	WWPC
Diana Gray	Crowthorne resident
Sharon Gardner	HopeZone
John McNab	CVAC
John Lindsay	CVAG
Cllr Tina McKenzie-Boyle	CPC / BFBC
Ryan Murphy	TVP
Dan Surridge	TVP

Meeting Thursday 24th April 2023 at 7.30pm at Crowthorne Parish Hall, Crowthorne

1. <u>Apologies for absence</u>

Apologies for absence were received from:

Cllr Bob Wade – CPC/BFC Cllr Simon Sever – CPC Cllr Pauline Jordan – WWPC Patrick Kelleher – local resident

2. <u>Election of chairman and vice chairman for the CCNAG</u>

Cllr Janet Rogers was elected as Chairman for the meeting and thanked Mel Saville for organising the meeting and collating all the information.

3. <u>Approval of the minutes of 16th June 2022 meeting</u>

Minutes of the meeting on 16th June were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. <u>Matters arising from minutes of 16th June 2022 meeting</u> The matters arising were covered via updates from the various stakeholder's verbal and written reports this evening.

5. <u>Reports from stakeholders</u>

a) Bracknell Forest Borough Council

Bracknell Forest is supporting with tackling ASB matters via the ASB in Park Teams meeting which includes stakeholder representatives from Royal Berks Fire and Rescue, Thames Valley Police, various parish/town council officer teams in the BFC borough, youth workers from BFC, The Wayz and Sandhurst youth and BFC Community Safety Officer team. Input from BFC is included in various reports tabled this evening.

b) Wokingham Borough Council

A written report from WBC's anti-social behaviour (ASB) and environmental protection team had been pre-circulated and is appended to the minutes.

Chris Long from the ASB team advised that they work 7 days a week, including until 12am on Saturdays and 7pm on Sundays. The ASB team liaise and share information with the police and other outside agencies. By sharing information from mobile cameras, CCTV and general reporting and intelligence the team are proactive in their attempts to reduce anti-social behaviour.

The ASB team email inbox is also constantly monitored, enquiries will be responded to on the day they are sent generally <u>asb@wokingham.gov.uk.</u>

There was a discussion about what is and what is not classed as anti-social behaviour? The slide below from the ASB team presentation, provides an excellent summary:

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

What is ASB?

- Persistent, unnecessary or excessive noise , loud televisions and music
- Persistent alarms
- Fly tipping and littering
- Vandalism
- Abandoned Vehicles
- Dogs persistently barking
- Frequent loud parties
- Nuisance vehicle use, eg car meets, car repairs or sales
- · Pests causing a public nuisance
- Burning of rubbish (either trade or domestic bonfires)
- Breaches of waste management by commercial premises
- Fly posting and unauthorised advertising (eg banners and A Boards)

What isn't ASB?

- Children playing in the street or communal areas
- People gathering socially unless they are being intimidating
- · Being unable to park outside your own home
- · Parking in unrestricted areas
- Civil disputes between neighbours e.g., shared driveways
- Normal living noises such as opening and closing doors
- and flushing toilets
- Personal lifestyle differences
- DIY noise that is taking place at reasonable hours
- Gardening and mowing lawns

Those present were reminded that fly tipping should be reported to the borough councils and not the Police – TVP will not respond to reports of fly tipping.

The team were asked what they could do to prevent a horse and trap being driven at speed around Bigshotte Park– they responded that if it is reported by members of the public they can respond if possible. It was discussed that the presence of the Mens Shed may deter some antisocial behaviour in future.

It was suggested that the ASB team email and telephone number were added to the parish council website for ease of access by the members of the public.

c) Neighbourhood Policing Teams – including personnel changes

Wokingham neighbourhood

The Police reported having lots of help from the ASB teams and parish councils. The police emphasised that if you witness a crime then report it online via the reporting tool or telephone 101 for non-emergencies and 999 for emergencies. The more reports they receive provide a picture of where emerging issues/hotspots are, and they can add them to their patrols.

The online reporting tool is straightforward to use. If an immediate response is required such as breaking and entering, then telephone 999.

The police advised that if an incident is reported via 101, they should receive a response in 2/3 days.

The police advised that they used "what three words" to locate reported incidents quickly and accurately. The app is available to download and when activated provides data that allows people to find the exact spot it is reported from.

The summary of what type of behaviour is considered ASB will be a good guide for the members of public.

It was suggested that a social media post could be created and circulated by the parish councils to detail all the ways that the police and other agencies can by contacted, telephone, email, online reporting and so on. Additionally, members of the public can contact their parish and borough councillors for advice on reporting and the relevant way to do it. The advised that their call centres do not hold all the relevant phone and contact details for numbers for all areas.

It was concluded that the public, councils, and police need to work together to help tackle anti-social behaviour. By reporting each incident, the police can be more targeted in their patrols based on detailed information.

Bracknell south neighbourhood (incl. Crowthorne)

Sgt Dan Surridge reported that a replacement Sgt Tin Wong will be joining the team in two weeks. There are 6 PC's and 1 PCSO which is a good-sized team compared to previous years. An extra two PCs are joining the team in November 2023 which will improve police visibility and activity in Bracknell Forest and Wokingham.

The police explained that they use the Fire Station at Crowthorne occasionally, but it was more proactive to be visible in the area. Technology enables them to complete their reporting via phones and laptops from the police car.

What were the police's plans to cover Bucklers Park? The police advised that the addition of the two new PCs at the end of the year would make it easier to cover the new estate. As far as they were aware no significant issues had been reported in that location, any new reports would be included in regular patrols. Once again reminding everyone that detailed reporting of incidents, number plates, with accurate information is very important is assisting the police.

Question – were the plastic cards with reporting information available? The police would find out if they were still being produced and report back.

d) Crowthorne Parish Council

A written report from CPC had been pre-circulated and is appended to the minutes. The Youth Service have been focussing on Morgan Rec and other hot spots like Chaucer Woods.

The youth workers attended the Annual Parish Meeting at Crowthorne Parish Council and reported that 95 engagements had taken place that may not have occurred if they had not been out on patrol. They can track vulnerable youths by being on patrol in parks and other areas that they may not have reached if they had been based in an office. The Youth Service workers have their pictures on the notice board at the Morgan Rec. so youths can verify that the adults they are interacting with are genuine. The Crowthorne Youth Project is funded by the various methods including the Community Safety Fund Grant and Safer Streets Fund.

The Youth Service are available during school hours too enabling youths access to support that they may not be receiving at home. Youth Line at Edgbarrow provide counselling and information is shared if those concerned are on the safeguarding list.

e) Wokingham Without Parish Council

WWPC provided a report which is appended to the minutes. There had been instances of fly tipping, including NOS cannisters/Fast Gas.

A concern had been raised about damage from catapults, the clerk would check the CCTV and share any relevant images if available.

6. <u>Update on youth activities (provided retrospectively due to an emergency</u> <u>support call on the evening of the NAG meeting)</u>

Report from Gareth Mepham – Wayz youth service - Our delivery occurs weekly, predominantly on a Friday, with the odd change to accommodate school strike days where YP have been out during those days. Typically, the work is carried out between 3-5,5-7,7-9pm.

During Dec-March, the presence of YP has been lower, expectedly due to the weather and darker evening.

A lot of the work initially has been around getting to know them the young people and vice-versa, but also around reflecting on the perception they have of other and those within the community have on them. Managing their own behaviours around safe and appropriate action. How this will impact not only other community members but also their own safety, belonging and opportunities. YP have shared their appreciation around having the chance to give feedback towards the new facilities. We have also talked about future opportunities in terms of activities and the youth bus.

Our teams have discussed considerations around accessing community spaces, expectation around behaviours, and how these can impact perceptions.

We have been working with the groups of young people around creating a summer programme with the opportunity of inputting a summer youth day within Crowthorne and have had conversations with the police around supporting this if it was to go ahead.

GM met with PC Ryan Murphy, with the intention to support each other, create direct communication and support community opportunity and engagement through some of the proposed events.

7. Matters of concern raised to the NAG prior to the meeting

Speeding and parking issues at Brookers Corner were raised, the police advised that they have limited powers regarding parking issues. Speed watch information had been sent to the police via the TVP reporting tool. It was advised that if a 20-mph restriction was imposed it is not enforceable by the police.

Chaucer Woods – residents reported that fires had been deliberately started under the slide and they had been reported to TVP and CPC. Cars had been driving at speed in Fielding Gardens and one solution would be to make it into a no through road, the police would visit the site. The Crowthorne Clerk said they were aware of reports of alcohol and drug abuse in Chaucer Woods and hoped the police were receiving the reports.

Motorcycles have been seen using the footpaths and shortcuts through the woods. The police asked residents to report this because the motorcycles can be seized if they are caught.

Pinefields Close play park has been reopened and equipment cleaned from the grease smeared on it. A letter has been sent to residents about how to report it.

The Police confirmed they were patrolling Simons Wood after reports of NOS use in the car park. Wokingham Neighbourhood Team stated that if they say individuals using NOS gas they would be spoken to. New legislation is being brought in regarding the use of NOS gas.

8. <u>Matters of concern raised at the meeting</u>

Bucklers Park - Delivery drivers have been driving and parking dangerously around the estate and the police asked residents to report their company name and registration numbers. If pictures or video evidence is provided, the vehicles can be seized.

Prince Pub incident – the police advised that residents can be reassured that there is no further cause for concern.

Bigshotte Park – A resident was concerned about a pony and trap being driven at speed in Bigshotte Park, which is dangerous for children and dogwalkers. Over the last three years this has been reported by residents, including video and photograph

evidence. A kissing gate has been installed to prevent access, but it is possible to enter the park from other areas. The police advised they would investigate this because they were not aware of reports received, it was something that could be added to their patrols, if necessary, a Public Spaces Protection Order could be instigated in Bigshotte Park.

In summary, to help the police, residents must report incidents they witness with as much accurate information as possible.

9. Date of next meeting

To be agreed and circulated.

Janet Rogers was thanked for chairing the meeting at short notice.

WBC ASB Team

- The new WBC ASB team is now up and running. The team is able to provide support to Wokingham residents.
- They can be contacted on 0118 974 6000 or via email at asb@wokingham.gov.uk

The team's operating hours are: Monday to Thursday, 8am to 6pm Friday 8am to 12am (Saturday) Saturday 2pm to 12am (Sunday) Sunday 1pm to 9pm.

- The team can deal with issues such as:
 - o Noisy neighbours
 - o Construction noise and dirt
 - o Licensed premises issues
 - o Fly tipping
 - o Littering
 - o Abandoned cards
 - o Nuisance car use
 - o Bonfires
 - Unauthorised encampments
 - o Unauthorised advertising
 - o Waste
 - o Neighbourhood nuisance

Wokingham Borough Council Enforcement and Safety Service was introduced on the 1st April 2023

The service in its 1st year has been busy:

- 1. 1935 Reports of ASB
- 2. 1355 Reports of flytipping and investigated 1259.

- 3. 40 fixed penalty notices served and 12k in fines.
- 4. 124 stray dogs reunited.
- 5. Over 100 business premise inspection to check waste management procedures.
- 6. 2 joint operations with TVP , Commercial Vehicle Unit to check for waste carriers licences and other offences.
- 7. Noise abatement notices served on commercial premises.
- 8. Enforcement of Public Space Protection Order in relation to car meets. (See below)

Public Spaces Protection Order

Anti Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 s.59

Notice is hereby given that Wokingham Borough Council ("the Council") has made the following Public Spaces Protection Order under section 59 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Policing and Crime Act 2014 ("the Act"):

1. The land described in the schedule below ("the restricted areas") being land in the area of the Council is land to which the Anti-Social Behaviour Policing and Crime Act 2014 applies and will be protected by the making of this Order

2. The Order may be cited as the Car Cruising Public Spaces Protection Order ("the Order") and came into force on 29 September 2022 for a duration of 3 years

3. The effect of the Order is to impose the following conditions on the use of the land:

Conditions in the Order which are prohibitions:

In the restricted areas a person commits an offence if without reasonable excuse he or she continues to carry out activities from which they are prohibited namely:

- 1. Being the driver of or being carried in (or on) a motor vehicle in circumstances where the following activities ("the prohibited activities") take place
 - a. causing danger or risk of injury to road users (including pedestrians)
 - b. causing damage or risk of damage to property
 - c. aggressive acceleration or braking or racing
 - d. carrying out manoeuvres such as (but not limited to) skidding, handbrake turns, drifting
 - e. creating noise through excessive engine revving, sounding horns or playing music
 - f. using foul or abusive language
 - g. using threatening or intimidating behaviour
 - h. causing obstruction (whether moving or stationary).
- 2. Promoting, organising or publicising (including but not limited to via email, the internet, social media, or via any publication or broadcast medium) any event where the prohibited activities take place

3. Attending an event as defined in clause 2 above either as a vehicle owner or spectator where the prohibited activities take place

A person who fails without reasonable excuse to comply with conditions 1-3 above, commits an offence under section 67 of the Act and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale or fixed penalty notice of a maximum £100.

Schedule of the restricted areas

"The restricted areas " means all land owned, maintained or managed by the Council and any other place to which the public has access as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission.



Anti-Social Behaviour Team



Team Structure

- Head of Service Ed Shaylor
- Service Manager Gina Frost
- ASB Officer senior Chris Long, James Phillips, and Tau Chamboko
- ASB Officer Jadon Sanders, Natasja-Faith Donachie, Ann Roberts, Louise Squires, and Georgia Sampson
- Animal Warden Caroline Parker



Crowthorne Community NAG notes 24 April 2023

Private: Information that contains a small amount of sensitive data which is essential to communicate with an individual but doesn't require to be sent via secure methods

What we will deliver as a team:

Investigate:

- Fly tipping
- Noise nuisance
- Public Nuisance
- Bonfires
- Vermin
- S34 Duty of care (business and residential)
- Fly posting, graffiti
- Abandoned Vehicles
- Stray Animals

Proactive Work:

- S34 duty of care visits businesses
- S34 duty of care landlords/residents
- Trade waste vehicle stop checks
- CCTV
- Signage
- Education (events and social media)
- Interdepartmental working
- Accurate reporting
- Multi-agency working



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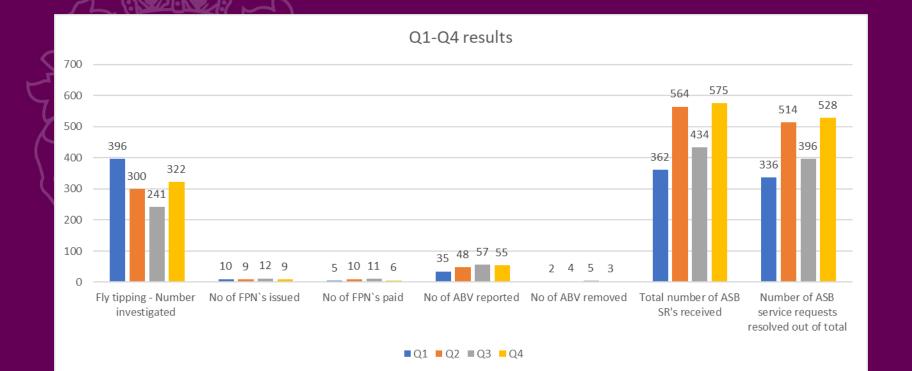
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Results this year...



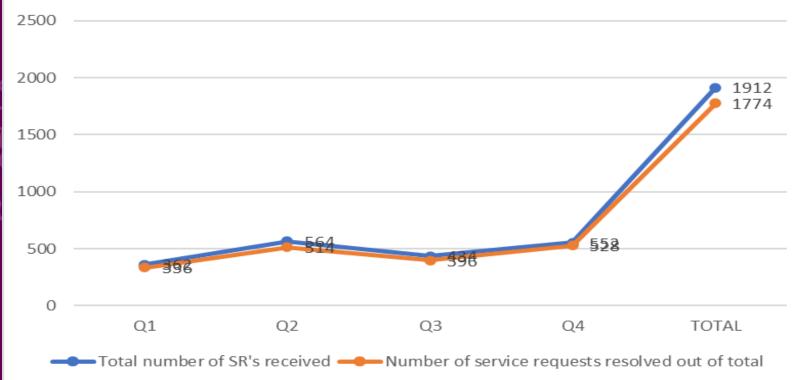
WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

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ASB Results this year...







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Some examples of what we have achieved so far...

ASB – Criminal damage

Cantley Park - We had numerous complaints about ASB at Cantley Park, the ASB team installed CCTV to try and identify the culprits. The level ASB continued to increase and become more severe but the ASB team with the help of TVP identified the 3 main offenders and worked with the community safety team to put together a strategy on how to deal with them.

> The youth justice team became involved and worked with the families to identify ways to deter the individuals from re offending. 2 of the young people have engaged with the youth team and have been working with the KICKS project. Unfortunately 1 of the individuals came with more complex issues and has not engaged which has led to further incidents in anther location. This individual is now subject to criminal charges and is being dealt with by TVP.

> > **WOKINGHAM** BOROUGH COUNCIL

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Community

The ASB team worked with the businesses in Ashridge Road to get the car park cleared of fly tipping.







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Fly tipping

The ASB team have investigated 308 fly tips so far this year





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Multi-agency Operations

- We undertook some joint working with TVP, HMRC and Licensing in 2022
- 2 operations were completed, one in July 2022 and one in October 2023
- 3 Fixed Penalty Notices were issued, one S34 duty of care follow up, and 17 records updated.







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To finish with a good news story...

ANIMAL WARDEN

A young Working Cocker Spaniel was recently found as a stray in the borough, the dog was only around 8 to 10 weeks old, someone had tried to illegally dock her tail by tying a band tightly around her tail. The Animal Warden, who works closely with several rescues, arranged for the lovely (since named Pippa) to go off to an independent, breed specific rescue, Pippa has since found a wonderful new home with an experienced and loving family, she now shares her home with another Cocker Spaniel and an adopted mum who enjoys agility and scent work.





Crowthorne Community NAG notes 24 April 2023

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- On the same day the lovely little Pippa went off to rescue to begin her new and happy life, our Animal Warden was able to track down the owner of another stray dog that was found in the borough and reunite them with their 9-year-old dog, the elderly dog had been stolen from a property in Wales 3 years ago.
 - In a surprise turn of events the owner was already in the area collecting another one of his stolen dogs that was handed in to a local veterinary surgery, the vets scanned the dog and called the owner directly.
- It was a very happy reunion.



Crowthorne Community NAG notes 24 April 2023



Questions



Crowthorne Community NAG notes 24 April 2023

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Crowthorne Parish Council (CPC)

Report to Crowthorne Community Neighbourhood Action Group (CCNAG) 24 April 2023

Road safety

- 1. <u>Road markings</u> Issues with road safety and parking in the Brookers Corner/Upper Broadmoor Road area, with a request for new road marking to prevent parking, have been reported to TVP and an update is awaited.
- Pavement edge bollards Wellington Road The parking bollards funded by CIL have been installed but two have been damaged by vehicles. The bollards have displaced parking and vehicles are now parking further along Wellington Road.
- 3. <u>Motor cycle and electric scooter usage</u> Although there have been a few further reports of dangerous use of electric scooters, this type of behaviour seems to have abated.
- <u>Speed watch</u> some additional residents have signed up to the Speedwatch scheme.

Anti-social behaviour

- <u>CCTV</u> following the installation of additional CCTV and ANPR at the Morgan Recreation Ground and car park there has been a reduction in anti social behaviour. It Is not yet known if this is as a result of the deterrent effect of the cameras or a seasonal downturn in such behaviour.
- 2. <u>Anti-social behaviour and criminal damage</u> The Clerk has been appointed to an Anti-Social Behaviour in Parks Stakeholders' Group and liaises with other stakeholders (Bracknell Forest Council Officers, Neighbourhood Policing Team, Royal Berks Fire and Rescue, Park Rangers, other council clerks and youth workers) on effective strategies to combat ASB. It was noted at the most recent meeting of the group that there has been a period of relative calm with very little ASB – although this could be seasonal, the numbers of ASB and criminal damage do appear to have reduced year on year.

The gate from Coleridge Close to the Morgan rec. had been boarded over at the request of environmental health/public protection partnership to prevent youths from gathering outside the homes of the vulnerable residents, but has been damaged. CPC is working with Silva Homes and TVP on determining how this situation should be resolved.

The situation with engine type grease being repeatedly smeared on play equipment at Pinefields Close is being followed up by Silva Homes and the Police Neighbourhood Team. The park has been cleaned after each act of criminal damage.

TVP has removed the Morgan Rec. from its priorities list due to lower incidences of ASB and criminal damage.

There has been a report of drug/alcohol use at Chaucer Woods by a local resident. This report was shared with the Neighbourhood Team and an update is awaited.

Policing

- <u>Neighbourhood policing</u> –It is hoped that an update from Police will be included in the report from the Bracknell South Neighbourhood Team. Sgt Surridge is moving to another role in May and Bracknell South Geographic Neighbourhood Team will have a new Sergeant appointed.
- 2. <u>Arson/deliberate fire starting in woodlands</u>—there have not been any reports of deliberately lit fires in any of the parks and open spaces Crowthorne Parish Council manages (Morgan Rec. Circle Hill and the Walter Rec.) over the autumn, winter and spring periods. A resident has indicated that there may have been a deliberately lit fire in the toddler park at Chaucer Woods. This was included in the advance queries to the Bracknell South Neighbourhood Team for the meeting on 24 April.

Royal Berks Fire and Rescue are launching a Canine Firewatch scheme to encourage dog walkers to be observant on their walks and report in any signs of fire as dog owners are out walking in vulnerable areas throughout the summer months and are more likely to observe any issues.

3. Drug dealing - the Mango Tree development site

A post it note was found displayed on the noticeboard by the Fire Station advertising 'weed' for sale from the disused cabin by the Drs surgery. This has been reported to the Police. A report will also be made to Planning Enforcement for the site to be secured as it is hazardous and unfenced in many places.

4. Theft of defibrillator - outside the Colour Palette

One of the public access defibrillators which was purchased with funding raised by the Community First Responders (and owned by their organisation), and for which CPC provides the pads and batteries, was stolen from outside the Colour Palette Salon. It is not known how the perpetrator had the access code as emergency call handlers had not received any calls for help in the area. A local resident organised a Crowd Funder to replace the defibrillator and the parish Council and Community First Responders are looking into insurance arrangements for these valuable life saving assets. If CPC is to insure the public access defibrillaotrs, they will have to be formally loaned or leased to CPC.

Youth work

 <u>The Wayz detached youth service</u> – The launch of the detached youth work service by The Wayz (funded by the Community Safety Fund) which covers Crowthorne's park and open spaces has been well received by local youths after launching in November/December 2022. As well as engaging with the youths in local parks and open spaces, the Neighbourhood Police team have indicated that they will make any community based resolutions for youths conditional on youth engaging with the youth service.

Gareth Mepham from The Wayz spoke about the youth service at the Crowthorne Annual Parish Meeting and in particular the high levels of youth engagement at the detached youth work visits to the Morgan Rec.

- 2. <u>D of E Scheme volunteering</u> CPC continues to assist Edgbarrow with the provision of volunteering opportunities for 'litter pickers' under the voluntary element of the D of E Scheme. Each participant volunteers for an hour per week for a 3 month period.
- 3. <u>Provision of regenerated games area, equipment and a walking running track</u> CPC has awarded contracts for the regeneration of the old basketball court at the far end of the Morgan Rec. and the installation of a new walking/running track around the football pitch. These recreational facilities are primarily aimed at older youths and adults. The games area provisions include low level bollard lighting and additional CCTV cameras to deter anti-social behaviour and criminal damage – such a scheme having been successful in the car park area of the Rec. Similar facilities installed in other areas of the country have led to a decrease in anti-social behaviour.

NAG report – Wokingham Without Parish Council

Fly tipping

- Levels of fly tipping at Pinewood have reduced, though we are still seeing occasional incidents.
- Nos gas cannisters have been dumped around Pinewood and St Sebastian's Hall.

WBC Anti-Social Behaviour Team

- The team is able to provide support to Wokingham residents.
- They can be contacted on 0118 974 6000 or via email at asb@wokingham.gov.uk

The team's operating hours are: Monday to Thursday, 8am to 6pm Friday 8am to 2am (Saturday) Saturday 10am to 2am (Sunday) Sunday 1pm to 9pm.

The team can deal with issues such as:

- Noisy neighbours
- o Construction noise and dirt
- o Licensed premises issues
- o Fly tipping
- o Littering
- o Abandoned cards
- o Nuisance car use
- o Bonfires
- o Unauthorised encampments
- o Unauthorised advertising
- o Waste
- o Neighbourhood nuisance