#### Crowthorne Community Neighbourhood Action Group (CCNAG) notes

Meeting Monday 11 September 2023 at 7pm at Crowthorne Village Hall

Attendee	Organisation
Melanie Saville	Clerk to Crowthorne Parish Council (CPC)
Richard Price	Crowthorne resident – Wellington Chase
Lesley Foxwell	Wokingham Without Parish Cllr (WWPC)
PC 7551 Ryan Murphy	Thames Valley Police
PS 6154 Tin Wong	Thames Valley Police
Jacqueline Allen	Crowthorne resident – Buckler's Park
Jeff Allen	CPC Cllr
Moira McManus	Crowthorne resident – Wellington Chase
Cliff Thompson	Crowthorne Resident
Peter Wood	CPC Cllr
David Davies	Wokingham Borough Cllr
Nicholas Martin	Wokingham Without Parish Cllr (WWPC)
John Lindsay	Resident – south Crowthorne
Littleproud	Crowthorne Resident
Jordan Montgomery	Wokingham Borough Cllr (WBC)
Elizabeth Storm	CPC Cllr
Pauline Jordan	WWPC CIIr
Sue Beswick	Crowthorne resident – near train station
John McNab	Crowthorne Village Action Group (CVAG)
James Seymour	Crowthorne resident – near High Street
Gail Robertson	CPC Cllr
Vicky Kurlus	BFC
Diana Gray	Crowthorne resident – Brooker's Corner
Simon Sever	Crowthorne resident – Greystoke Court
Tina McKenzie-Boyle	CPC and BFC Cllr
Janet Rogers	WWPC CIIr

#### 1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from:

Andrew Grahame – Thames Valley Police Cllr Kandy Jefferies – Bracknell Forest Council

Debbie Gooch – WWPC Clerk

Gareth Mepham – The Wayz

Chris Long – WBC ASB Team

Phil Hart – Men's Shed

Carole Doran – CVAG

Cllr Nicholas Robertson - CPC

Cllr Simon Butterworth - CPC

Cllr Pauline Helliar – Symons – WBC

Valerie Stephens – Hopezone

Cllr Bob Wade - CPC

Ian McCleod - Crowthorne Rugby Club

Aaron Plume - WWPC Cllr

#### 2. Election of chairman and vice chairman for the CCNAG

Cllr Tina McKenzie-Boyle was elected as Chairman for the meeting.

Cllr Janet Rogers was elected as Vice-Chairman for the meeting.

3. <u>A) Talk and Q and A with Sgt Tin Wong and PC Ryan Murphy Bracknell South Neighbourhood Team (Apologies were received from Chief Inspector Andrew Grahame who had been deployed operationally at short notice)</u>

Sgt Tin Wong introduced himself and outlined his career history with TVP including on the ICR incident response team and 5 years as a sergeant at Loddon Valley.

Current Officer and new resources in the Bracknell South Neighbourhood Team include:-

1 Sergeant, 4 Police Officers and 1 PCSO. PS 6154 Tin WONG PC 7551 Ryan MURPHY PC 5726 Jon WILDRIDGE PC 2159 Neil CANNING PC 1305 Scott MCSWEENEY PCSO 6918 Abigail DOWSETT

Hopefully by the end of September, we will be getting PC 4754 Jasmine BREWSTER.

In October we will be getting PCSO 9538 Tracey KNIGHT from Sulhampstead training school.

Early next year we will then see the return of PCSO 9757 Ann-Marie from her secondment as a trainer from Sulhampstead.

The Bracknell South Neighbourhood team is based at Bracknell Police Station and covers the area south of the twin bridges roundabout.

There are various police points locally including in Sandhurst, Crowthorne (tri service station), Wokingham and Easthampstead.

Residents asked how often the Police are at their police points, including Crowthorne Tri Service Station. The Police Officers presents explained that modern day policing means they rarely need to be based at a desk in a Police station. The technology means they can work efficiently from Police cars using laptops and phones. Sgt Botwright always had a fixed time where the public could see him which ran at Crowthorne Library and was very well received by residents. The Police are happy to trial this and would re-evaluate this if the service was not well used.

A member of the public asked if it would be possible for the Police to offer a service where the public could pop in to see them once a month – the Neighbourhood Team though this would be possible. The service could be promoted on social media. Cllr Wood suggested that as Crowthorne Parish Council has a monthly surgery at Crowthorne Library a police officer would be welcome to

come along. PC Murphy was very receptive of the idea and said he would be happy to attend.

The police were asked about the coverage of the two Police Neighbourhood teams that cover the wider Crowthorne urban area.

The Wokingham side of Crowthorne is led by Sgt Paul Bentley.

The Bracknell South and Wokingham neighbourhood teams work on opposing shifts – this enables them to have greater coverage.

The structure for dividing up the police teams is due to change and Crowthorne and Sandhurst are expected to get their own PC – Ryan Murphy.

The Bracknell South team are aware of anti-social behaviour issues in Crowthorne (ASB).

A resident asked if the police were aware of and actively tackling the complaints about scooter/moped and exhaust noise. Particular areas of concern are Lower Broadmoor Road, Crowthorne Rugby Club, the Crowthorne to Sandhurst Road and the car park bays on Lower Broadmoor Road. The Police explained that they had run an operation over the weekend and there was no one at or in the vicinity of the Morgan Recreation Ground. PC Murphy stated that he visits the Rugby Club at one point during most of his shifts. The Meadows and the Crowthorne Rugby Club had been visited at about midnight over the weekend and there were no concerns. The Police cannot be in trouble spots all of the time.

The Rugby Club do have cameras on the end of the club house which cover the car park. They are looking at installing additional cameras. Another query arose from this about whether it would be possible to have the car park locked – taking this forward is all down to ownership of the land.

Motorbikes are tested for their noise levels during MOTs but cars are not.

A discussion ensued about whether cameras used in other areas that can measure noise and speed could be used in Crowthorne. Further discussion revealed that these cameras are not police devices. They have been installed by Chelsea Council. TVP do not have equipment to measure noise.

Where police perceive excessive noise they can issue a ticket which requires the vehicles to be taken to an MOT test centre for the problem to be tested and investigated. The police do not have the equipment to test vehicles at the road side.

A resident asked if when the Police do patrol in cars, the cars are marked Police cars. The Police had been in marked cars at the weekend but on another occasion when they were in unmarked cars they did catch someone. There is a concern from the public that the police would be more likely to catch people if they were in unmarked cars as anyone who is committing ASB or crime will disappear when they see a marked police car. The Police did note that wherever they tackle issues in one trouble spot it tends to disperse the problem behaviour to another place.

With regards to concerns about speeding, a resident asked if the Police could use speed guns. PC Murphy explained that the issue with speed gun deployment at the moment is that there are no officers trained to use them. PC Murphy agreed to follow this query up again. The speed guns, when used are located in areas where accidents are known to happen.

The Police are targeting people who they see driving anti socially.

The loop the drivers who are causing concern seem to use is the Meadows, Yorktown Road and Lower Broadmoor Road. The section on Forester's Way is 60mph so the vehicles can legally drive along that section fast. The Police did state that vehicles may be perceived to sound louder at night.

With regards to noisy exhausts, the police stated that some after market exhausts are legal. The police do have the power to act where the is ASB from vehicle noise however and will do so if they see it.

# A CIIr asked to what extend the Police have a strategic plan to do with crime/ASB and to what extend is it reactive i.e. based on incident data and intel?

The Police made it clear that their message from the last NAG still holds true and that people must report crime/ASB via the online portal or 111 – this information is the most effective way for the Police to ensure resources are deployed effectively.

A resident raised a concern about a recent incident in the area near the train station in Crowthorne when a car windscreen was deliberately smashed by motorcyclists. The Police explained that if the crime is happening there and then, call 999. If the matter is non urgent then call 101 which is the Police non emergency number.

# A CPC Member raised the issue of the ASB which has been happening on Wellington Chase with houses targeted by youths throwing things at them and damaging doors/property.

The Police were noted to have been very visible since the matters were reported to them. A short report with thoughts of local residents on how to seek a positive outcome was read out including ideas of how to engage local youths.

# A query was raised by a member of the public about the legalities of CCTV and doorbell cameras which is capture footage on the highways (beyond the boundary of their own property).

The Police confirmed that they would not be concerned about this unless the cameras and footage constituted 'harassment' from their use and positioning. If footage is captured of any crime, please do fill a form in on the Police website and inform the Police. If necessary the Police will send you a link to upload your footage.

Sgt Wong and PC Murphy were thanked for attending the meeting to speak and assured the NAG members that they very much hoped Chief Inspector Andrew Grahame would attend and speak at the next NAG meeting.

3. <u>B) Bracknell Forest Council – Cllr Kandy Jefferies BFC Executive Member</u> for Culture, Delivery and Public Protection

Cllr Jefferies sent his apologies due to a diary clash, in order to attend a Bracknell Labour Group meeting. His guest speak slot will be reissued for a future Crowthorne Community NAG meeting.

#### 4. Approval of minutes of 24 April 2023 meeting

Minutes of the meeting on 24 April were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

#### 5. Matters arising from the minutes of the 24 April 2023 meeting

A local resident expressed her thanks for the new bus gate at Broadmoor which has noticeably reduced through traffic from large vehicles and staff vehicles to the hospital site. All vehicles must now enter the site via Joshua Jebb Way.

#### 6. Reports from stakeholders

#### a) Bracknell Forest Borough Council

The following report had been submitted in advance by the Community Safety Team at BFC.

#### **ASB** in Parks and Open Spaces Meeting

The ASB in Parks and Open Spaces Meeting continues to meet 4-weekly from March through to September each year. The group meet once again in October to discuss Halloween and Bonfire Night, and again in early December to discuss Christmas and New Year's planning.

This multi-agency group discuss ASB hot spot locations in the borough's parks and open spaces. It has a wide and growing membership which has extended this year to include partners and members from TVP South Neighbourhood Team representing Bracknell, Crowthorne and Sandhurst, Berkshire Youth and The Wayz and the Public Protection Partnership (PPP) Team for Trading Standards.

The slightly inclement spring weather resulted in a decrease in the number of reports of ASB seen by the group. Whilst it was anticipated that the school summer break would see an increase in young people enjoying our parks and open spaces much more, the low-level reports of ASB theme has continued. Most local young people show a level of respect to others and their surroundings. However, there will always be a minority who are set on causing ASB and spoil the enjoyment of others in our lovely open spaces.

The group have open communication channels where they share new information quickly.

Partners can respond to these reports as they take place, depending on shift patterns and resources, and aim to provide advice and deter these activities from continuing.

The South NHPT have been carrying our patrols in some of the ASB hot spot areas, including Sandhurst Memorial Park and Morgan Recreation Ground. The team reported children of all ages playing football together and other residents using the new perimeter walking track. This highlights that the regeneration of the

Morgan Recreational Ground is already having a positive impact on the people who wish to use the facilities. The future planned works will continue to positively develop and grow the area for everyone in the community to come and enjoy.

#### b) Wokingham Borough Council

WBC's ASB Team submitted the report below:-



### Team Structure

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

### What we will deliver as a team:

### Investigate:

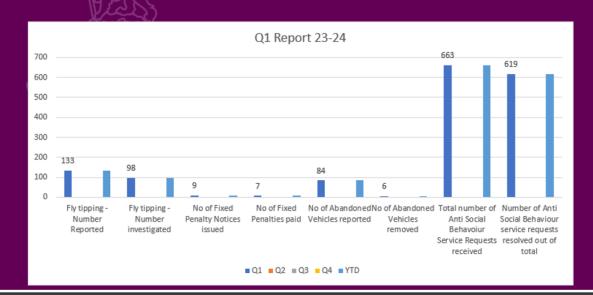
- Fly tipping
- Noise nuisance
- Public Nuisance
- Bonfires
- Vermin
- S34 Duty of care (business and residential)
- Fly posting, graffiti
- Abandoned Vehicles
- Stray Animals

#### **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



## Results this year...





## Community

The ASB team continue to investigate and where evidence is secured prosecute waste offence including abandoned vehicles.(Old Wokingham Road)





## **Multi-agency Operations**

- On Thursday 15th June, Wokingham Borough Council's Safety and Enforcement Team in partnership with officers from, Thames Valley
  Police and the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency conducted a commercial vehicle stop check operation at The Pinewood Centre
  Wokingham
- The teams stopped and checked 78 vehicles and identified a number of offences relating to waste duty of care regulations and vehicle roadworthiness.

9 Fixed Penalty Notices for £300,were issued to unlicensed commercial waste carriers. 13 vehicles were issued Prohibition Notices for defects including being overloaded, defective tyres and a leaking fuel tank. 2 vehicles were found to have no MOT and 1 driver was uninsured.







Cllr Jordan Montgomery reported that there had been a small fire in the park at Bigshotte and broken glass. Loddon Valley Police had agreed to increase patrols in the area and Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue have agreed to put up signage

warning people of the dangers of lighting fires but the sign have not yet been installed.

Cllr David Davies updated the Nag that the Men's Shed building is expected to open on Bigshotte park. It is hoped that the presence of adults in the park will deter ASB. WBC's ASB Team are very responsive. If residents have any concerns, please let Cllrs know.

#### c) Neighbourhood Policing Team

The Bracknell South Neighbourhood Team update was provided in the update from Sgt Wong and PC Murphy.

#### d) Crowthorne Parish Council

The report below was submitted by CPC:-

#### **Road safety**

- Puffin crossing Sandhurst Road Crowthorne Edgbarrow
   BFC has installed a new puffin crossing on Sandhurst Road to improve safety for students walking to Edgbarrow.
- 2. <u>Pavement edge bollards Wellington Road</u> –The parking bollards funded by CIL have been installed but two have been damaged by vehicles CPC have reported the issue to BFC Highways. The bollards have displaced parking and vehicles are now parking further along Wellington Road.
- 3. Motor cycle and electric scooter usage There have been a few incidents with park users using electric scooters in the park without permission. When this has been spotted a member of CPC staff has reminded the individuals that this is not permitted. The No Motorcycles sign on the barrier between the high Street and Morgan Centre car park has been removed. BFC has been requested to replace this.
- 4. <u>Bus gate Broadmoor</u> CPC has received the following update from Broadmoor:-



It is hoped that this change will alleviate complaints of dangerous/inconsiderate driving and parking issues in the vicinity of the hospital. Staff at Broadmoor have been reminded that they are not to park on in the vicinity of the bus gate if driving and parking and must instead enter via the new access on Joshua Jebb Way and park in the hospital car park.

5. <u>City Fibre works</u> – numerous reports have been received from local residents and shopkeepers about inconsiderate road works over the summer period. City Fibre are the predominate contractor complained about., CPC have followed up the complaints with BFC. The BFC Highways Officer has visited the site on Crowthorne High Street and restricted the hours the contractors are able to work.

Various shop and business owners on the High Street have also written to the Highways team to raise concerns about what they perceive to be poorly coordinated work programming – CPC have not seen the letter or the reply but have seen various social media posts to this effect.

#### **Anti-social behaviour**

 CCTV – CPC continue to assist Police with the provision of CCTV footage when requested. CPC's staff also review footage where there have been reports of ASB in the park/buildings or where a crime has been committed that the Police request CCTV footage for. TVP use the footage to supports in determining any further action required and in some cases to request IDs from stakeholders such a local schools.

CPC's CCTV coverage and lighting has been extended over the summer holidays to include the newly regenerated games area on the east of the Morgan rec. The new cameras capture extremely high definition footage. 2. Anti-social behaviour and criminal damage - The Clerk continues to attend the 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. Unfortunately, after a period of declining ASB, there has been a recent increase in such behaviour.

The matters below have been raised with the Police neighbourhood teams and it is hoped updates will be presented at the NAG meeting in September:-

#### Morgan Recreation Ground

- Youths verbally abusing exercise track users and using Fast Gas in broad daylight despite being spoken to by adult park users
- Youths playing loud and obscene rap music despite being requested not to by members of CPC staff and members of the public.
- Underage drinking, vomiting and obscene gestures by school year 9/10 youths during the day in school holidays.
- Report of damaged fence to neighbour's property and youths on the storage container roof.
- Deliberate fires lit in bin by dome shelter, and a section of the new exercise track 'lit' with accelerants.
- Hate crime sticker posted on park gate by 'British Movement' stop building mosques in Britain

#### Walter recreation Ground and Circle Hill Woods

- Youths gathering at the bench on Walter Rec. adjacent to the neighbour's fence smashing glass and smoking cannabis.
- Several fly tips removed from site by paid contractors

#### Buckler's Park

- Numerous reports of noisy mopeds being driven around the estate at 2-3am – one rider wears a helmet with 'bunny ears' and changes it for a purple dinosaur helmet.

#### Hardy Green/Chaucer Road

- Reports on social media from residents that their houses have had food and drink thrown at them by groups of youths (some reports suggest that it is the homes of elderly/vulnerable that are being targeted).

#### Lower Broadmoor Road

 Reports of youths riding mopeds with very noisy exhausts – racing up and down Lower Broadmoor Road – this is so loud that residents on Addiscombe Road and Blake Close also report being troubled by it (this is also occurring on the Sandhurst bypass and Cheviot Road Little Sandhurst)

#### Rugby Club

- Reports of youth playing music, racing in their cars, beeping, skidding, smashing bottles, shouting. Hit and killed two fox cubs and one adult fox. Neighbours woken up early hours again by the 'stupid loud cars and screeching'.

In all cases where matters are reports in or come to the attention of the Parish Office, residents were urged to reports matters on 101 or the TVP portal if non urgent or via 999 if of a serious and urgent nature.

CPC ran an Equality Impact Assessment survey on proposals to permanently close the gate/informal access to the Morgan Rec. from the sheltered bungalows on Coleridge Close and to install an alternative accessible entrance and path early in the summer – the results are overwhelming in support of the closure of the informal access and the provision of an alternative accessible route into the park to ensure that ASB /youths cannot travel directly from the park and cause ASB impacting the vulnerable residents nearby. CPC are now awaiting a response from SILVA Homes on how the closure can be implemented as the previous boarding was pulled down.

#### **Policing**

- 1. <u>Neighbourhood policing</u> –It is hoped that an update from Police will be provided at the NAG meeting.
- 2. <u>Arson/deliberate fire starting in woodlands</u>—there have been reports of deliberately lit fires at Circle Hill woods and Crowthorne Woods early on in th summer, as well as the deliberately lit fires at the Morgan Rec.

RBFRS attend the ASB in parks teams meetings with TVP and CPC and the matters are followed up in that forum.

RBFRS attended the Crowthorne Summer of Fun event and some of the Churches Together events at the Morgan Rec. over the summer. It is hoped that this engagement, and raising the profile of the firefighting crews, will help to deter youths from lighting fires. CPC continue to share the RBFRS social media posts.

3. Drug dealing – the Mango Tree development site

The drug dealing/use problems, and ASB, on the old Mango Tree site have been resolved as the site has now changed hands. The new developer, Collaboration Homes Ltd, worked quickly, following requests by CPC, to secure the site boundaries and remove the hazards from site.

4. Theft of defibrillator – outside the Colour Palette

The public access defibrillator at the Colour Palette has been replaced by the Crowthorne Community First Responders following the theft of the old one, and a new defibrillator cabinet installed at the Morgan Rec. fer the old one broke. Both units now have new and unique access codes to prevent theft of the appliances.

#### Youth work

1. <u>The Wayz detached youth service</u> – It is hoped that The Wayz will submit a report to the NAG. They have continued their visits to Crowthorne's park and open spaces on Friday evenings and also have undertaken some Tuesday afternoon sessions over the summer period.

The Wayz youth workers and minibus also attended the Summer of Fun event on 15 August, located next to the TVP vehicles and personnel, to try and encourage multi stakeholder engagement with young people. The Wayz are always very proactive in following up any reports of ASB etc in the parks, deploying their teams where needed and assisting with engagement and follow up with vulnerable youths.

- 2. <u>D of E Scheme volunteering</u> CPC has received a request from D of E candidate at Edgbarrow to hide a Geocache at the Morgan Rec. CPC is looking into this request with its insurers. Initiatives such as these are a great way to encourage responsible use of parks and open spaces.
- 3. Provision of regenerated games area, equipment and a walking running track The installation of the new exercise track and regeneration of the games area at the Morgan Rec. concluded during the school summer holidays. The formal opening event takes places at 3.45pm on Friday 8 September all local residents and stakeholders are invited to attend. The new facilities are already being used by a broad spectrum of ages and demographics.
- e) Wokingham Without Parish Council WWPC submitted the following report:-

#### Fly tipping

 Levels of fly tipping at Pinewood have reduced, though we are still seeing occasional incidents.

#### Vandalism and theft at the Pinewood Centre

- The miniature railway's track cameras were pushed over, and posts broken
- Broken Windows caused by catapults using ball bearings
- ASB team are working with the Miniature Railway Society to see if the culprits can be identified.
- Stolen tree a tree that was planted in memorial, has been stolen from the site

#### **Wokingham Borough Council Anti-Social Behaviour Team**

- The team can 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
- Construction noise and dirt
- o Licensed premises issues
- Fly tipping
- Littering

- Abandoned cards
- Nuisance car use
- Bonfires
- Unauthorised encampments
- Unauthorised advertising
- Waste
- Neighbourhood nuisance

#### 7. <u>Update on youth activities</u>

The following written report was submitted for the meeting by Gareth Mepham from The Wayz:

The Wayz Youth Work team have continued to deliver detached work across Crowthorne. With the lighter days and improved weather over recent months, there has been some great engagements. Young people have discussed and shared views about the new facilities coming at The Morgan Rec, along with conversations around school, public perceptions, community behaviour and responsibilities and holiday plans.

Our team have covered a range of locations, with Morgan Rec being the most popular.

Over the summer we are in Crowthorne every Tuesday afternoon 4-5.30pm to run some sports and games and Friday night 6.30pm onwards to deliver detached. The weather has not always been great these summer holidays but we are still managing to support and collaborate with young people through the holidays and make plans for positive opportunities.

We attended and supported the Summer of Fun event which proved to be hugely successful, our team delivered Graffiti Paint to over **70 YP** during the day. We also visited the Crowthorne community event at the Rugby Club.

Over the summer holidays we delivered **24 hours of** detached youth work and saw over **100 engagements** and witness some positive youth behaviours within the Morgan Rec area along with some concerns around language, volume which was challenged.

It has been really positive working with CPC as a new partner to 'Create Opportunities for Youth Development", and we look forward to the Summer of Fun Event too. Feel free to come down and meet our team or ask any questions to <a href="mailto:gareth@thewayzyouth.co.uk">gareth@thewayzyouth.co.uk</a>

A discussion ensued with those attending the meeting noting that Youthline offer counselling services for young people to talk about their problems.

There was concern that young people do not have the outlet to let off steam as there are no youth clubs, so they go to parks and create their own activities. Attendance at groups needs to be encouraged. We should care for the young with extra curricular activities.

It was suggested that the BFC Executive Member for Young People should be invited to come to a Nag meeting, with Cllr Kandy Jefferies, to speak about their plans and hear about the issues Crowthorne is experiencing.

It would be helpful to get the new facilities on Buckler's Park (basketball court and tennis courts) open as these areas have been shut all summer. There used to be a youth club at the Edgbarrow Sixth Form Centre but that has closed now. The only BFC youth clubs in the borough are in Bracknell not in the outlying parishes and towns.

If ring leaders in a group of troublemakers can be identified then the group needs to be pulled apart.

#### 8. Matters of concern raised to the NAG prior to the meeting

The matters of concern raised before the meeting to the Police had been responded to in the update and Q and A. by Sgt Wong and PC Murphy.

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

A resident raised a concern about the dangerous turn/exit into Wellington Sports Club on Wellington Business Park. It would be helpful to have a sign warning traffic to slow down.

A resident reported that there had been a container broken into and tolls stolen on Buckler's Park.

#### 10. Next meeting date

The date of the next meeting is to be confirmed when availability for both TVP neighbourhood teams, parish/borough Cllrs and meeting room space is known.