

# Nottinghamshire Police

## Rushcliffe South Priority Setting Meeting

- **Chairman: John Crosby (Langar cum Barnstone PC)**
- **Police Representatives: Sergeant David Hodson**
- **Minutes: Bob Clarke (Orston NHW)**
- **Venue: The Community Hall, Barnstone**

### Minutes of Meeting – 24<sup>th</sup> April 2025

**Attendees;** Anthony Gee (R.O.T. NHW), Andrew Shelton (Bingham TC), Wayne Stapleton (Bingham TC), Tina Combella (Neville & Langar), Bev Bingham and Eileen Smith (Shelford PC), Deb Pennington (Flintham PC), Pam Wregg and Alan Wilson (Cropwell Bishop PC), Rowan Bird (Bingham TC & RBC), Sue Clegg and Anne McLeod (R.O.T. PC), Winifred Pell (Staunton Group NHW), David Griffin (R.O.T. NHW)

**Apologies:** Karen Griffin (R.O.T. NHW), Marion Blake (Newton), Jacqui Turrell and David Cartledge (Flintham), Francis Purdue-Horan (Notts. CC) and Neil Clarke (Notts CC)

### Local crime levels and trends

The chairman asked delegates to briefly report to the meeting any specific issues affecting their localities.

- Bob Clarke (**Orston**) – Shed break-ins. A sit on mower stolen from an isolated barn
- Rowan Bird (**Bingham**) – Motor cycle and bike thefts. Speeding
- Anne McLeod (**R.O.T.**) – Burglary. Shop-lifting. Drug dealing leading to ASB. Vandalism to play area which will cost thousands of pounds to repair
- Sue Clegg (**R.O.T.**) – Deception theft from woman on the street. Expensive watch stolen
- Alan Wilson/Pam Wregg (**Cropwell Bishop**) – ASB involving youths on bikes wearing balaclavas. Speeding on Nottingham Road
- David Griffin (**R.O.T.**) – Door step selling from rogue traders offering roof and driveway cleaning
- Winifred Pell (**Flawborough**) – Machine tools stolen from isolated shed. Suspicious individual apparently checking out properties and vehicles
- Deb Pennington (**Flintham**) – Bench vandalised on Spring Lane
- Andrew Shelton (Bingham) – Speeding, A52 to Grantham Road

Bob Clarke asked what progress had been made on a couple of issues raised at the January meeting where specific actions had been proposed, i.e.

- a. **Shop-lifting in Bingham** - Because of conflicting perceptions as to what action had been taken by the police in visiting stores it had been agreed PC Caroline Voce and Stephen Perkins (Bingham TC) would arrange joint visits to store managers.

As neither Caroline nor Stephen attended this latest PS Meeting Bob Clarke contacted Caroline, post meeting, and received the following feedback. *“Shop visits were conducted the*

*day after the meeting. Unfortunately we have not been able to conduct jointly with Stephen, although PC Alfie Russell has emailed him directly so he is updated.*

*In short, it appears Boots in particular were not reporting incidents via the correct means to us. This has now been rectified and we are working more closely with the store manager. Both myself and Alfie have dealt with offenders who have subsequently been charged to court."*

- b. **Fox hunting** – *"Hounds out of control and straying onto residential properties and children's' play areas. Tenants are also illegally allowing release of dogs on Crown land and the hunts have crossed council land.*

*PS Hodson recommended signage on restricted land and a letters to the hunts with maps specifying clearly showing no-go areas. PS Hodson and Stephen Perkins are to discuss this in detail and try and devise an effective strategy".*

PS Hodson said he was awaiting maps from councils. The problem is with South Notts Hunt and its lack of control of the hounds. The next 'hunt meet' is not until September.

- c. **CCTV (Bingham)** – *There had been discussion as to the quality of downloaded images.*

PS Hodson explained possible reasons why downloaded, as opposed to live images, are downgraded and these included 'not zoomed in at optimum range' and 'amount of stored information'. However, the information is still useful as it gives exact timing of an incident facilitating checks with other CCTV cameras.

Also, if a crime is reported as in progress the control room can take control of the camera and zoom in.

## **Recent police activity**

PS Hodson said that at a meeting of all Rushcliffe South, led by Inspector Tim Cuthbert, three priorities had been agreed effective between April and June, i.e.

1. Burglary
2. Shop theft
3. Drug supply and associated ASB

### Burglary

PS Hodson said burglary/theft carried out in the county and regionally fell into 3 distinctive groups:

1. In R.O.T and Colston Bassett high value items targeted such as jewellery
2. High performance cars targeted across the region. "Modus operandi" used was breaking into houses for car keys. However, there has been a dramatic drop in incidents following an individual's arrest.
3. Upstairs thefts from domestic properties. Man arrested after falling from window.

### Key safes

There have also been incidents of domestic key security boxes being targeted. The individual involved has been arrested. PS Hodson advised that key security boxes be strategically placed out of sight as the cheaper models can quite easily be attacked successfully. Also, they can indicate a vulnerable person lives here.

Police approved key safes are those "Approved By Design" and built to a police preferred specification.

### Shop thefts

PS Hodson said the incidents of shop thefts has increased significantly in part due to a better relationships with shops leading to increased reporting, particularly on the Trent Bridge beat in West Bridgeford.

Thieves drive to a particular area and target certain shops then leave via A1 and A46. Information is shared with other forces using, for example, Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR).

### Drugs and ASB

An individual was arrested after an alert from a pedestrian. He recognised the smell of cannabis and spotted other signs the house was being used for growing cannabis. If you are suspicious report it. Also, local police receive tip-offs from Border Force who intercept imported parcels and pass on the addresses.

### Speeding

PS Hodson said the police speed camera van was a Nottingham resource. Its use is based on data and complaints and the Inspector can request its use in our area. He added that all officers in West Bridgeford had been trained in the use of the hand held speed gun. Requests can be made to the beat manager.

### Shed break-ins

Break-ins to outbuildings have targeted bikes. PS Hodson said that the 'rule of thumb' regarding bike security was to spend at least 10% of the bikes value on security.

### Crime figures

David Griffin (R.O.T) asked PS Hodson to consider sending out to us a summary of reported crime details as in the past, particularly now police staffing levels have increased. These were both informative and useful.

### Domestic abuse

Anne McLeod (R.O.T) expressed the opinion that parish councils should support initiatives to mitigate the problem of domestic abuse. Andrew Shelton shared information on a poster used in Bingham. It was agreed a scanned copy be sent out with the minutes of the meeting.

*(More information of the "Operation Portum Safe Spaces Scheme" can be found in the PSM Group minutes of October 2024. Also, post meeting, Andrew sent the following contact information for any council wishing to set up such a scheme. The phone number is 0115 962 3237 [Equation]. Andrew believes Safe Spaces is part of the ASK for ANGELA Campaign for which Equation may be able to help.)*

### **Actions/priorities for next three months**

On the basis of these discussions the following Group priorities for the next 3 months were proposed and agreed:

1. Burglary/Shed break-ins
2. Speeding
3. Anti-social behaviour/Vandalism

### **Date/venue of next meeting**

**Monday 7th July 2025.** Venue: The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham NG13 8AI