



MINUTES OF THE ASHTON PACT MEETING
Held at Ashton Methodist Church
On Thursday 7th November 2024
Commencing 6.30pm

Present

Chair: Bill Raines;

Minutes Secretary: Chris Cox

Preston City Councillors: Robert Boswell, Liz Atkins

Police Representatives: PCSOs Sharon Noble and June Anyon

Ashton residents: 9

Apologies:

Cllr Nweeda Khan

Cllr. James Hull

Address by PCSO Noble

PCSO Noble presented the crime figures for Ashton for the past 6 months

The police area is Pedders Lane to Stocks road and all the docks. Of note are

Burglaries	12	Just 1 was an actual break in. The two individuals were caught, prosecuted and jailed.
Criminal damage	22	
Vehicle Crime		This is high in Ashton and across Preston.

Vehicle nuisance, especially young people on scooters and electric bikes remains a problem for residents and the police. Officers are not allowed to give chase. So ... the police rely on members of the public telling them who the offenders are and where they keep their vehicles.

ACTION: Members of the public to provide information to the police

2 cannabis farms have been found and dismantled in Ashton in the past 6 months.

The Neighbourhood Team has been allocated a Taskforce for 3 months that is dedicated to addressing serious issues in relation to drugs.
Ashton now has a Community Beat Manager.

[Crime statistics for Lancashire can be viewed online here.](#)

[Crime Statistics for Ashton and the Docks can be viewed here](#)

[A map showing where crimes have been committed in Ashton can be viewed here](#)

Residents' Concerns:

- The assault of an Ashton resident on the Guild Wheel near the Cadet Hut on Strand Road. This area is under the Broadgate policing team.

ACTION: PCSO Noble to seek information on whether the offender has been apprehended.

- Antisocial behaviour by residents of the HMO at the bottom of Tulketh Road.

PCSO Noble is aware of the issues and has been making regular visits to the area. She encouraged residents to REPORT DRUG DEALING when seen.

ACTION: Residents

- Poor support of residents of the HMO by the CIC in charge of the premises
Cllr Atkins suggested that residents contact the council's Homeless Team if they have concerns for the welfare of someone who is homeless.

The following information in regard to the Council's responsibilities is taken from their website:

Our responsibilities - Homeless Reduction Act

The Homelessness Reduction Act covers what help we offer to people who are homeless or threatened with homelessness.

Under this Act we must:

- *carry out prevention and relief work for anyone who is threatened with homelessness within the next 56 days*

- *provide advice and carry out prevention work, so that ,wherever possible, people can be supported to remain in their current home*
- *offer everyone who is homeless or at risk of homelessness access to meaningful help, irrespective of their priority need status, as long as they are eligible for assistance*

ACTION: ES to ask representative from the council to attend the next PACT meeting to address residents' concerns over HMOs in Ashton

- The rundown state of Haslam Park Lodge
Cllr Boswell reassured residents that the council intended to get the house back on the market.
- An empty property on Victoria Parade attracting local children engaging in ASB

ACTION EA to seek info from the council regarding the status of the property in relation to its empty homes policy.

- The possibility of getting gates in the alley between Swansea and Douglas Street
It was suggested the Police & Crime Commissioner could be a source of funding.

ACTION: HS to survey neighbours and to contact the commissioner.

AOB:

- EA reported that Preston's Climate Action group is keen to attend an Ashton Pact meeting.

ACTION: EA to invite representatives.

- Those present agreed that a later start time of 7.00pm was desirable.
- It was also agreed that the January meeting be cancelled.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Thursday 5th December 2024