

# **Southport HOMEWATCH Association**

Southport Police Station, Albert Road, Southport PR9 0LL Telephone: 0151 777 4019 (answerphone)
Email: contact@southporthomewatch.org.uk



### Notes of Dukes Ward Scheme Leader meeting 15th October 2025

#### 1. Attendees

Homewatch committee: Stuart Dunwoodie, Secretary Jacqueline Webb, Chair Police Officers:
PC Paul Greenwood
PC Leah Mitchell
PCSO Michelle Newman
PCSO Pip Saffer
PCSO Tom Clark

# 2. Topics covered with Police present Led by Police

- A. PC Greenwood and PCSO Newman outlined their responsibilities and highlighted their desire to have closer relationships between local residents, Homewatch and the Police.
- B. PCSO Newman led a discussion which covered the following topics:
  - a Views of the members regarding Police attendance
  - b Increased manpower in the town centre
  - c The importance of sharing information with the Police
- C. PC Greenwood advised that he will be changing roles shortly but he will be available to follow up any existing issues
- D. The problems surrounding Railway Terrace, Duke Street and Part Street were highlighted from the floor in relation to dealing drugs with bikes and cars circulating the area. The issue of antisocial behaviour was also raised. The PO's present suggested that if anything is seen 'live' then the public should make a 999 call.
- E. PC Greenwood stated that there had been some arrests following feedback from local residents and that plain clothes PO's were active.
- F. The PO's present reinforced the message that residents must never feel they are bothering the Police for they would rather hear about everything.

#### Led by Jacqueline

- G. Jacqueline spoke about the useful information available on the Police website and about the opportunity for members to take advantage of the Police surgeries held around Southport.
- H. She informed the meeting on the various methods of contacting the Police and referred them to the handout in their packs headed 'How to contact the Police'.
- I. She mentioned the newsletters highlighting local crime statistics and the Scheme Leaders present welcomed this information and stated that their members also found it very useful.

#### **Raised by Scheme Leaders**

- J. Railway Terrace, Duke St, Part St (see point D)
- K. One Scheme Leader highlighted the issue of posters he is seeing on lampposts in the area advertising cannabis. PO's present suggested this may be a scam and that it should be up to the Council to remove these posters.

- L. Scheme Leaders highlighted the perception that 'nothing seems to happen' and the PO's present reinforced the need to report everything. Only if it is reported will something change and the PO's message was report, report, report.
- M. Some negative comments from the floor were raised concerning the Council's apparent lethargy to resolving matters and the PO's present stated that if they are made aware of the problem they may be able to put some pressure on the Council.

# 3. General discussion after the Police left

- A. Jacqueline explained what was contained in the packs distributed to those Scheme Leaders present -
  - O Map and list showing schemes in the Dukes Ward
  - O Homewatch Group Guidelines (all Scheme Leaders should be aware of these)
  - O Running a Homewatch Group
  - O How to contact the Police
  - O Personal safety and security resources
  - O No Cold Calling and Homewatch window stickers
- B. Jacqueline stated that new Homewatch / No Cold calling stickers were available if required.
- C. If a scheme wants more street signs then they should make contact and that signs are free until such stocks deplete.
- D. An Age Concern booklet was distributed highlighting the need to be vigilant against scams.
- E. Jacqueline spoke about the desire to get Scheme Leaders conversing with each other so they don't feel isolated. She explained that, currently, if a Scheme Leader wishes to contact another Scheme Leader then because of data protection the request needs to go through Jacqueline.
- F. Jacqueline stated her intent to start up a WhatsApp group between Scheme Leaders in Dukes Ward and explained that one had been started for the Ainsdale Ward and that it had proved successful in terms of improving communication. She emphasised that the decision to start up a WhatsApp group would be up to the Scheme Leaders and that she would facilitate if required.

# 4. Police contact details:

#### PC Paul Greenwood

- Landline 0151 777 3439
- Email <u>1440@merseyside.police.uk</u>
- Moblile 07976 519168

#### **PCSO Michelle Newman**

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