

EALING SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, 30th October 2019, at 7:00 pm, Committee Room 5, Perceval House.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Richard Chilton	Chair
Sara Kumar	Vice-Chair
James Guest	Ealing Ward Cluster Representative
Anu Khela	Community Member
Martin Mallam	Greenford Ward Cluster Representative
George Maxwell	Independent Custody Visitors' Panel
Andy Oliver	Community Member
Andrew Rollings	Ealing Business Improvement District
Jags Sanghera	Southall Ward Cluster Representative
Don Tanswell	Acton Ward Cluster Representative
Gita Langston	Community Member

COUNCILLORS

Councillor Joanna Camadoo-Rothwell	Portfolio Holder Community Safety and Inclusion
Councillor Seema Kumar	Opposition Spokesperson Council Services and Safer Communities

METROPOLITAN POLICE SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES

Leigh Ballard	Inspector
Richard Watkinson	Chief Inspector

IN ATTENDANCE — EALING COUNCIL OFFICERS

Mwim Chellah	Democratic Services Officer
Jess Murray	Head of Community Safety, Tenancies and Regulatory Operations

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed Members present, and noted apologies from those who had sent them in advance of the meeting. Apologies were received from Jamila Bibi-Sawar, Alan Murray, Rajat Nath and William Hardman.

Mohamed Ali, Beata Felinczak, Wendy Starkie and Sarah Constable were not present.

2. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

The Chair (Richard Chilton) informed the meeting that Sara Kumar was the only Member who had put herself forward to be the new chair of Ealing SNB. There had been no volunteers to be Vice-Chair or to deal with the projects.

Elected: Sara Kumar as Chair of the ESNB. (Sara Kumar took over chairing the meeting from this point.)

Vote of Thanks: that the Board's appreciation to Richard Chilton be noted for his work in chairing the Ealing SNB for the past four years.

3. Minutes of the Meeting Held on 24th July 2019

The Board considered the minutes of the meeting on 24th July 2019.

Approved: the minutes of the meeting on 24th July 2019.

4. Other Board Membership Issues and Roles

The Chair informed the meeting that Alan Murray had come to the end of his term of office. There were four Community Member vacancies to fill. The British Transport Police liaison role had been vacant since James Lawley-Barrett left the Board. Andy Oliver was a member of the Ealing SNB Appointment Sub-Committee. He was also Ealing SNB's representative on the MetCC Community Forum. His term of office had been extended until May 2020.

Resolved: that replacements for these roles be lined up at the earliest possible time.

5. Progress Update on Projects

The Chair informed the meeting that there had been substantial delays with MOPAC in agreement and funding of projects. However, a few SNBs had now had their funding agreed. MOPAC had clarified that projects not finished in this financial year could run into the next one, so long as they have started in this financial year.

Resolved: that Sara Kumar reports on ESNB projects, in particular, any proposals received but not pursued, with reasons for that, which projects had been submitted to MOPAC and approved, with values for them; which projects had been submitted to MOPAC and had been rejected outright; which projects had been submitted to MOPAC and not yet approved, with a value for these and an indication of the sticking point(s); how much, if anything, was left in the budget for projects; whether any money had yet been received from MOPAC; and whether Ealing Council was content for the ESNB to start spending on agreed projects, even if the money had not yet been transferred from MOPAC.

Requested: that a detailed report on projects from Sara Kumar be appended to the minutes.

6. Crime Hotspots

Received: a report from Inspector Ballard.

Noted: the investigation into the murder of Osvaldo Carvelho was ongoing with suspects expected to appear in court in the coming weeks. There had been issues in Acton, particularly on youth crime near the police station and on the South Acton Estate, as well as problems in Northolt including cross borough issues. Attacks on teenagers and issues with drug dealers and users in the central Ealing area was of concern. There was a lack of use of PSPO powers in the parks in Southall to deal with people sleeping and drinking in the parks.

7. Police Accessibility and Engagement

The Board expressed some concern about the ease of contacting the police and reporting problems, following the closure of most police front counters. The number of people reporting crimes at Police stations was small compared to reports being made by other channels, especially to 101 and 999 numbers. Therefore, the closures had not made much impact on the overall figures.

The digital means of reporting had been substantially expanded. The volumes of these reports had increased, thus significantly reducing the number of calls to 101 and 999 channels.

Resolved: that Andy Oliver provides some figures on this area, from his involvement with the Metropolitan Police Service Command and Control centre, at the next meeting.

Noted: there were still problems with police accessibility, especially for older residents and those “less tech-savvy”, as well as disabled persons and those for whom English was not their first language.

Received: a response from Inspector Ballard on ways the Police was improving accessibility and engagement with residents, especially those mentioned above.

Received: an update from Chief Inspector Watkinson that a new Police leadership team for Ealing Borough would be in place in the next coming weeks.

Vote of Thanks: that the Board’s appreciation to Superintendent Ricky Kandohla for his hard work in the borough be noted and conveyed to him.

8. Crime Reporting – Video Evidence

The Chair informed the meeting that there had been a problem with a local SNT discouraging residents from submitting photo and video evidence of an assault. That local issue had been addressed. However, there was still concern about how keen the police were to accept video evidence from phones and cameras (including cycle and car ones).

Noted: Inspector Ballard informed the Board that the Police accept and deal with all types of evidence from mobile phones, dash cameras, and cycle helmet cameras (often “Go Pros”). How the Police deal with them depends on if the recorder was a victim, witness or a suspect. Victim and witnesses digital equipment were voluntarily handed over and downloaded with the aid of the Police VIDO Unit (Visual Identification Download Office). A statement was, subsequently, obtained as part of their evidence, and not Police evidence. However, if it was from the suspect, the Police would seize the item under Police powers. They would, again, use the VIDO Unit to download the footage, which, consequently, became Police evidence.

9. ESNB Website

Received: a demonstration of the new ESNB website by Don Tanswell.

Noted: the work done by Don Tanswell on the website, and appreciation to him, be noted.

10. Any Other Business

Received: a suggestion on the creation of working groups within the ESNB.

Noted: that working groups be created to deal with specific issues.

Action: that these be presented at the next meeting, with guidance on format and size.

11. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the date of the next meeting would be on 15th January 2020.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

SARA KUMAR (CHAIR)