

**NOTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING HELD AT SHIRE HALL, WOODBRIDGE ON
18TH JANUARY 2018 AT 6PM REGARDING RECENT CRIME IN THE TOWN**

The Town Mayor welcomed everyone for attending and introduced Inspector Andy Pursehouse who invited questions from the audience.

	NAME	
Q	Nigel Pryke	Do we need more CCTV in town?
A		It's a very useful tool and has given a lead in these spate of break-in's. There is a cost benefit & good quality CCTV makes a difference. Perhaps the community as a whole or the shops might wish to have such a system, or the community club together and have a strategic plan for the placing of camera.
Q	Nigel Pryke	Are there "boots on the ground" at nights?
A		Yes there are. Currently there are patrols 12:00-04:00
Q	David Mortimer	Roughly how much is a CCTV system?
A		An individual system in a shop might start at £200
Q	David Gitsham	Can CCTV be used as admissible evidence in a prosecution?
A		Yes
Q	Ugur Vita	Where were the Officers when the 4 shops were broken into last weekend? How long are the shift patterns?
A		More Officers can be pulled in from other areas to go out on Patrol. Insp. Pursehouse responds dynamically. Furthermore the crime analysts look at crime patterns
Q	Nick Cottam	Are the Officers on foot or in a car and is auto number plate recognition used?
A		Yes the auto number plate recognition system is used (Insp Pursehouse declined to say where cameras where), however the technology exists and all police cars have the necessary cameras. He said it was likely the culprits were coming in by car.
Q	Ugur Vita	The Market Hill needs lights on after midnight
A		SCC took the decision to turn off the lights at midnight.
A	Clare Perkins	Will ask SCC to keep the lights on longer but said the residents may not like it?
Q	James Lightfoot	If the Directors of Choose Woodbridge wish to help, what can they do?
A		CCTV is a useful tool. "Design Out Crime" Officers can assist in a community wide system. Furthermore individual premises can increase their security. Better lighting would help. Support for alarms-bulk buying and better communication between businesses and Police.
Q	James Lightfoot	If Choose Woodbridge undertake to be involved, can the Council support it?
A	Geoff Holdcroft	There is potential match-funding. He referred to Jason Berry at SCDC who could assist. There is other funding including Tim Passmore's funding stream, and funds promoting economic growth.

		However any such system would be “after the event” as the CCTV system would not be monitored.
Q	Geoff Holdcroft	What are the top 3 things to do?
A		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual premises to increase their security in terms of alarms, locks, CCTV, lighting, prevent access to the rear of the premises making it difficult to get in. • Visibility/Neighbourhood Watch • All parts of the community to come together
Q	David Mortimer	When people ring 101 to report a crime or a suspicious person does this call get to Woodbridge Officers?
A		It will do but information is needed in terms of description etc, car index plate etc. when making the call. It doesn't need to be an immediate response. However the more information fed in, the better the intelligence gathered.
Q	Sarah Moss	Had received a fraudulent £20 note and had tried to report this on 101, but in the end did report online. She was asked if there was CCTV in her premises and when she said no was told the case was closed- why?
A		The incident would have been logged but an officer can't be sent to every incident. Fraudulent notes are tracked and do have some success.
Q	Steve Mecrow	Are there any opportunities on social media, Facebook or WhatsApp where a crime can be reported and a photo uploaded?
A		There are direct uploads and there are plans for better technology but at the moment people are being asked to email their photos.
Q	Ugur Vata	Regarding the comments about crime analysts, are there any serious drugs issues in Woodbridge?
A		There is drug related crime. The Police do track local users and dealers and work with their partners. The analysts can link crimes to known criminals who have an “MO”
Q	Michael Grist	Who will take these ideas forward?
A	Clare Perkins	Clare will take this project forward
Q	Nick Cottam	Is the police station used at night?
A		Yes it is used as a base for response officers
Q	Clare Perkins	Will the forthcoming increase in funding by the Police result in more officers?
Y		Yes Mr Passmore is trying to obtain more officers but the inspector said he uses his officers as effectively as he can. He urged everyone to lobby Mr Passmore and the MP.
Q	Nigel Pryke	How many PCSOs are there now?
A		Three, who cover 47 parishes which is the wider SNT area
Q	Rob Williams	He has seen only one PCSO in the past year

A		They cover 47 parishes
Q	Nick Cottam	Do they have the power of arrest?
A		No, but they deal with parking, crime reports and on the proactive side, work with their partners
Q	Colin Hedgley	The inspector mentioned a “good number” of people. What is a “good number” on patrol at night and at what time do PCSOs shifts end?
A		A “good number” in Woodbridge is 2 or more. PCSOs cannot work past 6pm and more resources are needed.
Q	Chris Mapey	What is the preferred way of reporting crime, as a PCSO refused to take details?
A		The Inspector said he was disappointed that PCSOs didn’t take down crime details but commented that the easiest and quickest way to report crime was online.
Q	David Mortimer	Is there an App to report Crime?
A		Not yet. However 999 will work even when there is no mobile phone signal
Q	Chris Mapey	Commented that he was on the website at the point of asking his question and asked what category to use to report a suspicious person/vehicle as the website was not clear?
A		The suggestion was to use the Crime or ASB Incident button, but it would be best to call-in an incident using 101
Q	Nick Cottam	Commented that PCSOs need to be useful, take crime/notes etc provide feedback, and people need to know that
A		The Inspector said he would like to do more surgeries and use the mobile police station more. He does use his resources as effectively as he can. The balance is to weigh-up resources and time, and he does his best.
A	Geoff Holdcroft	People need to accept that certain crime is hidden from the public and the police must be left to prevent crime, gather intelligence, work with all of us etc to bring crime levels down. He said Woodbridge Town Council by co-funding a PCSO tried to do this
	David Mortimer	Suggested moving forward on a CCTV project involving Choose Woodbridge, the Town Council, the Police, the residents of Woodbridge and the voluntary organisations. He said he was prepared to move forward in this way and would suggest a future meeting date when everyone can get together again. It was agreed that the notes from this meeting would be placed on the Town Council website.

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and apologised that Councillor Page was not present, as her daughter was ill.

Inspector Pursehouse thanked everyone also and said this was the start of the conversation, not the end. He said everyone has access to this email address and encouraged people to contact him.