



BRAMSHOTT & LIPHOOK PARISH COUNCIL

**Mr A S R GROVES
CLERK**

**Tel: 01428 722988
Fax: 01428 727335
E-mail: blpc@zoom.co.uk**

**THE PARISH OFFICE
HASKELL CENTRE
MIDHURST ROAD
LIPHOOK
HAMPSHIRE GU30 7TN**

NOTES FROM A MEETING TO DISCUSS ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN LIPHOOK, HELD AT THE LIPHOOK MILLENNIUM HALL, LIPHOOK, AT 5.00 PM ON 13 OCTOBER 2005

In attendance: Mr S Coyte (Councillor, Bramshott & Liphook Parish Council - Chairman), Inspector G Thorne (Hampshire Constabulary), Mr N Marr (Liphook United Football Club), Mrs S Harris (Hampshire Library Service), Mrs J Painter (Liphook Bowling Club), Mr T Richardson, Ms K Land (Liphook Tennis Club), Rev S Coleman (Methodist Church), Mr S Vaughan, Mr D Foster (Bohunt School) Mr Elliot, and five police officers from the Sector Police Team. Mr A Groves (Clerk, Bramshott & Liphook Parish Council).

All present introduced themselves, and Inspector Thorne introduced the police team. The Chairman said that the aim of the meeting was to move forward together in tackling anti-social behaviour. He said that everyone had experienced problems and this had been discussed at the last Recreation Committee meeting when some ideas had been raised. He asked Inspector Thorne to give a police view.

Inspector Thorne said that anti-social behaviour had been a problem in the last four to five years, and was not unique to Liphook. Young people had less respect for people and property in recent years and knew their rights. These problems were widely recognised, and needed police and community action, such as School Citizenship and other initiatives. The Licensing Act had also had both a positive and negative impact. Inspector Thorne then described the sector policing arrangements which was all about getting officers back into the community. This would improve contact and exchange of information. There was a Sergeant, four officers and a Community Support Officer (CSO) for the sector, together with twenty-four hour response policing using about twenty five officers on a five shift system. Inspector Thorne said that it had only been in operation for six months and his officers were still getting to know the area and iron out problems. He described how the new computer system worked, which had been in operation since March. It was a single integrated system which recorded and tracked information. This information could then be used to target resources to hot spots such as the Recreation Ground in Liphook. Inspector Thorne stressed the need to report information. He said that in the last sixty days, only twenty occurrences had been reported in the Liphook area (less vehicles crimes).

Discussion followed on:

- Recording and Reporting. The lack of feedback when occurrences had been reported, and the need for information to be provided to the community about the reporting process. The need to reassure the community and restore confidence in the reporting process. How reports could be made, how the Force Enquiry Centre and the Telephone Response Unit operated. The importance of continuing to report all occurrences and how to inform the community about this.
- Special Constables. The need to recruit more specials, and their importance within the community.
- Police Post – Liphook Millennium Centre. Expansion of the opening times of the post, and how the facility had been intended to be used; not as a Police Station but a focus for the police within the community. Availability of other police resources such as CCTV, Mobile Police station and specialist vans.
- Incidents-Intelligence. The recent incident involving the seizure of a motorbike and the arrest of an individual by the Clerk and Mr Marr, and the provision of intelligence arising out of that incident. The lack of any response to an incident reported concerning damage on the Village Green. The need, and importance, of sharing and exchanging information between agencies within the community.
- Meetings with the Police. The need for more regular meetings between the police and Bohunt School and other groups in the community, and the experience in Liss of a Police Liaison Committee. Organising further meetings and setting up a committee in Liphook.
- Responsibilities. The role of Bohunt School and government initiatives such as “Politeness and Courtesy Days” in shaping the behaviour of young people. Parental responsibilities for learning about “right and wrong” and the impact when this did not happen.
- Measures. The use of advisory signage at the Recreation Grounds about drinking and anti-social behaviour and the problems of enforcement. General measures such as cutting the Tennis Club hedge, increasing and reducing lighting, and other crime reduction measures. Exclusion zones as used in other communities. The use of by-laws to prohibit the carriage of glass on the Recreation Ground, and the removal of people from the area if they used offensive language or were anti-social in their behaviour.

Decisions

- A recommendation would be made to the Recreation Committee of the Parish Council that a Police Liaison Committee should be set up, and meetings held every six months. There was a need for everyone to report all occurrences and share and exchange information.
- The police would liaise with the Clerk to the Council over the provision of an article to be published about reporting occurrences and policing. The police would provide advice over the use of any by laws the Parish Council might wish to adopt to reduce anti- social behaviour.