



## Neighbourhood Watch Network Annual General Meeting Event

**held at 14.30 on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021  
by on-line Zoom Meeting due to Covid-19 restrictions**

### Minutes

1	<p><b>Introduction from the Chair – Ian Bretman</b></p> <p>Ian Bretman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced himself as the Chair of Trustees. He thanked the attendees for their hard work and efforts over another year overshadowed by the Covid pandemic. He was very pleased with the range and quality of the work across the organisation given the additional challenges.</p> <p>As this was the second ‘virtual’ AGM NWW had held, Ian reminded all how the Zoom meeting and Slido voting would work and the protocols that should be observed by meeting attendees.</p>
2	<p><b>5-Year Strategy Update – John Hayward-Cripps</b></p> <p>John Hayward-Cripps went through the three key strands of the 5 Year Strategy and updated the progress to date and the key milestones reached in 2020/21 and the next set that are due to be delivered in 2022.</p> <p>He detailed the work being undertaken as part of the 2022 40 Year Anniversary celebrations for Neighbourhood Watch including a conference, film, volunteer recognition awards and a special 40<sup>th</sup> logo.</p> <p>He outlined the new ways for people to engage with Neighbourhood watch including: Affiliate membership scheme for community groups; a Community Charter for businesses and organisations; Community Champions including Hate Crime Champions; and Partnerships</p> <p>Finally he detailed some examples of good practice from around the organisation including: Greenwich – joint community projects: Sandwell, West Midlands – 60% reduction in car crime; Keyham, Plymouth – support to community; and Northampton – Safer Streets funding</p> <p>He thanked the attendees for their work and the work of their coordinators over the year</p>
3	<p><b>Key note speech from John Azah OBE Director at Kingston Race and Equalities Council and Chair of the Metropolitan Police Service Independent Advisory Group</b></p> <p>John Azah spoke about the aims and objectives and functions of the Kingston Race and Equalities Council and his roles and experiences of championing engaging with diverse communities including various race and faith groups over many years in London. He spoke of the importance of engaging with individuals and groups where they were, giving up some of the power, acknowledging challenges and embracing real change.</p> <p>He spoke of the challenges of Neighbourhood Watch or any organisation who want to be representative of the whole community and the challenges he has faced by his own organisation in trying to involve and have dialogue with all the local communities.</p> <p>He spoke of the particular challenges of the police in engaging with all communities but also of the great benefits that can be had by including and engaging with all communities. He gave details of</p>

	<p>various events and projects that Kingston Race and Equalities Council had organised and the successes of these.</p> <p>He wished Neighbourhood Watch well in it's efforts to be more representative of all communities and offered to help where he could.</p> <p>Ian Bretman thanked John for his passion and knowledge on the subject and for supporting the AGM.</p>
4	<p><b>Presentation from the Home Office on the Beating Crime Plan and what Neighbourhood Watch can do to support the plan, resented by Lauren Bridges &amp; Hugo Brookes</b></p> <p>The Home Office presented an overview of the Beating Crime Plan including the three key areas of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cutting homicide, serious violence and neighbourhood crime – including a particular focus on ASB.</li> <li>2. Exposing and ending hidden harms and prosecuting perpetrators</li> <li>3. Building capability and capacity to deal with fraud and online crime</li> </ol> <p>With a targeted focus on People, Places, the Business of Crime, and Excellence in the Basics.</p> <p>The Home Office is working nationally and locally and will be running a set of workshops with the third sector as defined by victim demographics.</p> <p>The Home Office were asked questions over the Beating Crime Plan relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Given the breadth of the aims and what in particular Neighbourhood Watch should focus on? The Home office responded by stating that the focus should be on neighbourhood crimes such as Burglary, Theft, and theft from and of motor vehicles. However the Home Office would continue to work with Neighbourhood Watch to clarify and develop priorities.</li> <li>• Was it possible to get hard copy of the plan? It is not possible at present but copies could be printed from the government website.</li> </ul>
5	<p><b>Presentation on the Neighbourhood Watch Joint Projects with the Coop, presented by Emma Sweeny &amp; Ellie Makinson</b></p> <p>The Coop presenters thanked Neighbourhood Watch for the opportunity to speak at the AGM and for all the work over the year in the joint campaigns and projects. The joint Neighbour of the Year award has been another very successful project during the latter part of the year with over 800 nominations and the winner is due to be announced in a couple of days and be broadcast on TV. The coop rally enjoy working on this project with neighbourhood Watch as it is such a 'feel good' project with amazing people being nominated. The challenge each year is to decide who of all the nominees should be the regional and overall winners. Having a Community of the Year Award this year has enabled wider communities to be recognised rather than just individuals.</p> <p>Other projects the Coop is working with Neighbourhood Watch on this year include Student Watch and the Lookout magazine, developing support in stores for community groups (including Neighbourhood Watch), the annual burglary media day and infomercials in the ourwatch newsletter.</p> <p>The Coop thanked Neighbourhood Watch and looked forward to continuing to work with the organisation in the future.</p>
6	<p><b>Formal NWN AGM</b></p> <p>Ian Bretman outlined the formal part of the Annual General Meeting and asked attendees if there were any other matters to be discussed, as none had been provided in advance of the meeting. He explained voting would take place by voting-members only by using the Slido facility as in the previous year.</p>

7.1	<p><b>Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020</b></p> <p>These were approved by a show of hands.</p>
7.2	<p><b>Any matters arising from the Minutes</b></p> <p>There were none.</p>
7.3	<p><b>Overview from the Chair, and to receive the Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st March 2021</b></p> <p>Ian Bretman gave a report on behalf of the Board of Trustees which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asking all current trustees present at the meeting to introduce themselves.</li> <li>• He thanked trustees and all members for their work over the year.</li> <li>• He acknowledged the sad death of Terry Rickards (Vice Chair of West Sussex Neighbourhood watch Federation) who was a staunch and tireless advocate and volunteer for Neighbourhood Watch and passed the organisations condolences and thoughts to his family.</li> <li>• Ian then introduced the Annual Report and gave a summary of its highlights.</li> <li>• He then reminded everyone that NWN trustees are accountable to associations and that his focus is to strengthen the way the board works, and will be looking to increase the size of the Board during the next year after completing a skills audit.</li> </ul> <p>There were no questions about the overview.</p>
7.4	<p><b>To receive the audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2021</b></p> <p>Kardaya Rooprai presented the financial statements and gave a summary of their highlights.</p>
7.5	<p><b>Retirement of longest serving Trustees</b></p> <p>In accordance with NWN's constitution, the one third of Trustees must retire at the AGM. In line with this, Kirsty McHugh retired from the Board. Ian Bretman thanked her for work over many years and wished her well for the future.</p>
7.6	<p><b>Retirement of longest serving Trustees then re-election to the Board</b></p> <p>In accordance with NWN's constitution, the one third of Trustees must retire at the AGM. In line with this, Peter Buchanan retired and was re-elected for another term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Peter Buchanan (25 votes for, none against)</li> </ul>
6.7	<p><b>Update on the appointment of Auditor for 2021-2022 - Kardaya Rooprai.</b></p> <p>Kardaya Rooprai reported that NWN had successfully undertaken an independent examination by Sayers Vincent, a large accounting firm with a specialist charity department. This was explained at the 2020 AGM and had indeed provided a better value for money and a higher level of expertise over the year. He reported that the organisation would continue to undertake an independent examination next year unless the income of the charity increased to a point which precluded this.</p>

7	<p><b>General Question and Answer session for the Board and Central Support Team</b></p> <p>After the formal business of the AGM was concluded, general questions and comments were invited from members which were answered by the Board and central Support Team.</p> <p><i>What is the relationship between Police Independent Advisory Groups (IAG's) and Neighbourhood Watch? While there is no formal link between IAG's and Neighbourhood Watch in several police force areas members or chairs of the IAG's are also members/leads of Neighbourhood Watch. Additionally there is little liaison or consistency between IAG's with some very involved with their local police others kept at arm's length.</i></p> <p><i>A member questioned John Azah on the use of the term 'Chinese and SE Asian Community' as a group in his presentation. It was believed John was referring to the challenges the Kingston Race and Equalities Council had experienced in liaising with individuals and groups from the 'Chinese and SE Asian Community' locally, rather than the 'Chinese and SE Asian Community' being a single community.</i></p>
8.	<p><b>Close</b></p> <p>Ian Bretman closed the meeting by thanking everyone for attending and for all the work local Associations and coordinators have been doing through the year.</p> <p>He thanked John Hayward-Cripps and the Central Support Team for continuing to deliver a very wide range of work in another challenging year and wished everyone well for the holiday.</p> <p>The meeting concluded at 4:30pm</p>

### AGM Attendees:

Ian Bretman – Chair of Trustees, Kardaya Rooprai – Treasurer, Kirsty McHugh – Trustee, Mohamed Hammeda – Trustee, Peter Buchanan – Trustee, Rebecca Bryant – Trustee, Sue Pillar-Lea – Vice-Chair of Trustees

Alan Earle, Angela Barnetson, Anna James, Bob Coombs, Bob Gooch, Carole Atkinson, Chris Pyemont, Colin Cartwright, Colleen Atkins, Derek Bateman, Graham Boyle, Grant Murrell, Jim Proctor, Joe Murray, Johanna Kaschke, John Bruce, John Lennard, Julia Griffiths, Julie Fairman, Katy Saunders, Keith Batchelor, Kym Hadley, Lucy Carew, Lynn Farrar, Lynne Fairclough, Martin Stillwell, Megan Thomas, Michael Winter, Michella Williams, Mike Fox, Oscar Lugve, Pat Halliday, Paul Sunners, Paul Voden, Peter Evans, Peter Rolington, Phil Sullivan, Rashmee Roshan-lall, Ray Boyle, Robin Sutton, Roy Marks, Selvin Reid, Stan Jones, Winston Gordon,

Ellie Makinson – Coop, Emma Sweeny – Coop, Hugo Brookes – Home Office, John Azah OBE – Kingston Race and Equalities Council, Katherine Jones – Home Office, Lauren Bridges – Home Office

Amy Mawby – Staff, Cheryl Spruce – Staff, Deborah Waller – Staff, Jayne Pascoe – Staff, Jennifer Powell – Staff, John Hayward-Cripps – CEO, Kathleen Cunningham – Staff