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**Fenland Councillor Brief**

**14th September 2020 via Microsoft Teams**

Acting Police and Crime Commissioner, Ray Bisby held a virtual briefing for Fenland councillors on Monday 14th September.

Mr Bisby began by welcoming those Councillors attending and outlined his confirmed period of office, now until May 2021, following the cancellation of Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) elections in May 2020 (due to the pandemic).

He offered a brief update on his Youth and Community Fund which is open to voluntary and community organisations who can apply for grants of up to £3,000 towards their project.

The Fund aims to support youth and community groups to deliver activities to;

* + Support preventative work and early intervention approaches to divert young people and vulnerable adults away from offending and re-offending;
  + Build relationships with young people improving engagement between young people, their communities, and organisations working in them.
  + Promote the involvement of young people in building community resilience to crime and vulnerability through active participation aimed at building better understanding of the needs of young people;
  + Work to reduce the vulnerability of young people and lessen the chance of them becoming a victim of crime.

Councillors were asked to share information about the Fund with parishioners. A link about the Fund can be found here: <https://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/get-involved/funding/>

**Community Road Safety schemes**

Alasdair Baker, (Partnerships & Communities Officer, OPCC) then provided an update on what councillors can do to build local community resilience and encourage local people to support community safety activities. He reminded councillors about the volunteer organisations set up across Cambridgeshire, namely Speedwatch, HGV Watch, and Neighbourhood Watch all of which continue to support partnership initiatives to keep residents safe. He also outlined the benefits of councillors and residents signing up to ECops to receive regular updates from the Constabulary and/or OPCC.

Councillors were signposted to the Force Watch Coordinator, Mike Brookes for more information.

Contact details: Mike Brookes, (Speedwatch, HGV Watch and Neighbourhood Watch), email: [speedwatch@cambs.pnn.police.uk](mailto:speedwatch@cambs.pnn.police.uk)

Speedwatch: <http://speedwatch.info/>

Neighbourhood Watch: <https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/>

To sign up for Ecops visit: <https://www.ecops.org.uk/>

Issues raised by councillors attending the meeting included: how local councillors can volunteer for HGV Watch, and whether the parameters for Speedwatch could be extended to 60mph.

The current decision is based on maintaining the safety of volunteers and the TriForce RPU (Roads Policing Unit) has resources to carry out speed enforcement work.

**Against Scams Partnership**

Elaine Matthews (Cambridgeshire County Council) then provided an update on the progress of the countywide Scams partnership, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership.

A copy of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership’s presentation can be found on this page.

More details can be found on the Partnership website which contains a range of downloadable assets: <https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/capasp/>

Fenland Community Safety partnership reminded councillors about two videos available on youtube advising local people how to keep themselves safe online. Councillors were asked to help promote the videos which can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/user/FenlandCouncil>

Issues raised by Councillors included what the proposed new police station in Milton, Cambridge means in terms of officer numbers and whether it will have an enquiry desk.

The proposed police station in Milton will contain enhanced and expanded custody facilities, which include the provision of 24 cells, the neighbourhood policing team for the Milton and local area, response policing teams, investigators, offender management teams, public protection officers and specialist teams for dealing with child and adult abuse.

The new city centre police station will provide a city base for the neighbourhood policing teams in Cambridge, as well as a public facing enquiry office.

Councillors also asked whether local people could be reassured that when they report people breaking COVID restriction rules, that enforcement does happen.

Inspector Lombardo from the Neighbourhood Policing Team reassured councillors that officers do follow national guidance and apply the 4 x Es (engage, explain, encourage, enforce) with enforcement used where necessary.

Finally, in response to a question about encouraging local residents to report concerns to 101, the OPCC/Constabulary Communications Teams agreed to provide content to support Parish Councils.

ENDS