

The **POLICE AUTHORITY** met at **SHIRE HALL, WARWICK**, on the **14<sup>th</sup> October 2009**

**Present:-**

Ian Francis (Independent Member) (**Chair**)  
Phil Robson (Independent Member) (**Vice Chair**)  
John Vereker (County Councillor) (**Vice Chair**) (**In the Chair**)

**Independent Members:-**

Mike Edwards, Dorrette McAuslan, Bob Malloy, Steve Nicklin, Angela O'Boyle and Clive Parsons

**County Councillors:-**

Carol Fox, Eithne Goode, Bob Hicks, Richard Hobbs and Izzi Seccombe

**Police: -**

Chief Constable Keith Bristow, Deputy Chief Constable Andy Parker, Assistant Chief Constable Lewis Benjamin, Assistant Chief Constable Bill Holland, Richard Elkin, Chief Supt. Richard Sear, Paul Mason-Brown, Insp Mike Slemensek, Inspector Gill Young and Debbie Sansom

**Police Authority: -**

Sue Howl, Neil Gulliver, Oliver Winters and Sian Stroud

**In attendance:-**

Vaughan Jones (UNISON). Nick Gower-Johnson (the County Council's County Localities and Communities Manager) attended for Agenda Item 2.

**1. Chair's Announcements**

John Vereker welcomed back Ian Francis and informed the Authority that, at the request of Ian Francis, he would be acting as Chair for the meeting.

**2. Community Forums**

Nick Gower-Johnson provided a brief update on the background and purpose of the Community Forums and the role of the Police Authority Members who attend these meetings. He pointed out that the role included community engagement, gathering local intelligence, taking forward the Policing Pledge, public confidence and promoting the Authority and its role.

During the question and answer session the following points were noted:-

- There seemed to be some inconsistency at Forum meetings, particularly around the availability of private meetings with Police Officers prior to the start of the public meeting.
- Need to ensure that the staff responsible for managing the Forum meetings are aware of the Police Authority representatives and their attendance is recorded.

- Concerns expressed about the effectiveness of the meetings held in North Warwickshire. Nick Gower-Johnson confirmed that this issue was under review.

### **3. General**

#### **(1) Apologies**

were received from Martin Barry, Phillip Morris-Jones and Frank McCarney.

The Chair reminded the Authority that Martin Barry was very ill and it was agreed that the Chief Executive should write to him on behalf of the Authority to wish him a speedy recovery.

#### **(2) Declaration of Members' Personal and Prejudicial Interests**

Richard Hobbs declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 16 as the County Council's Portfolio Holder for Community Safety.

#### **(3) Minutes of the Meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> September 2009 and Matters Arising**

##### **(i) Minutes**

Resolved:-

***That the minutes of the Police Authority's meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> September 2009 be approved.***

##### **(ii) Matters Arising**

###### **Minute 4 – Governance Plan**

Phil Robson confirmed that the alterations suggested at the Authority's last meeting had now been incorporated in the Plan. A new section relating to consultation would be added and the Plan would then be circulated to all Members.

###### **Minute 5 – Report of the Audit Committee**

The Chair asked that the Authority's congratulations for achieving the excellent PURE score should be extended to all Officers involved within the Force and Tony Brown on behalf of the Authority.

### **4. Report of the Audit Committee**

was considered.

Resolved:-

***That approval be given to the Police Authority's 2009/10 Risk Register.***

### **5. Resources – Report by the Governance Stream Lead**

was considered.

Steve Nicklin introduced the report and commented that the timing of this report did not allow the budget monitoring report to be available. That report would now be considered

at the Authority's November meeting. He had asked Neil Gulliver to review the programme of meeting dates to resolve this problem.

Steve Nicklin also briefly commented on the ongoing work of the Financial Management Project Steering Group.

### **Appendix 1 – Report by the Lead for Diversity & Equality and Staff Development**

The report by Dorrette McAuslan was noted.

#### **HR Issues**

Eithne Goode gave a brief update on the review of secretarial support within the Force and the establishment of a Steering Group on Equal Pay. She added that there were concerns about sickness levels both for police officers and staff and she understood that this was being reviewed. She also referred to the work of the Bonus Panel and agreed to bring a report on its work to the Authority's January 2010 meeting.

### **Appendix 2 – Resources Directorate Quarterly Report**

was considered.

In presenting the report, Richard Elkin confirmed that Paul Mason-Brown had been appointed as Deputy Director of Resources, Jenny Ingram was now Head of Learning and Development and Wayne Parkes was now responsible for IT matters.

### **Appendix 3 – HR Key Performance Indicators**

were noted.

## **6. Responding to MacPherson: The Warwickshire Way**

Dorrette McAuslan presented the report which reviewed the achievements attained by the Force, with the full support of the Authority over the past 10 years, in response to the MacPherson Report into the death of Stephen Lawrence. She recognised the significant role played by Keith Bristow and his ACPO team as well as the tremendous work undertaken by Mike Slemensek. She hoped that the Authority would support the report which would be widely circulated and agree to an event being organised to allow all officers the opportunity to acknowledge their own achievements.

Mike Slemensek added that the Authority's Stop and Search campaign had been very successful under the guidance of the Force Stop and Search Steering Group, chaired by the Assistant Chief Constable.

Ian Francis congratulated Dorrette McAuslan and Mike Slemensek for a superb report of which they should be immensely proud, a view shared by all Authority Members. Keith Bristow supported those comments and reminded the Authority of the role played by John Burbeck in getting this work underway when he was Chief Constable. He reminded the meeting however that they must not become complacent as there was still a great deal of work to be done.

Dorrette McAuslan responded by saying that she would continue to drive this work forward with the help of Mike Slemensek and the Diversity and Equality Panel and an Action Plan would be developed.

The Chair then summed up the debate by congratulating the authors of the report, endorsing the suggestion that an event should be organised for the workforce in the near future and that a letter of thanks should be sent to John Burbeck. This was agreed.

## **7. Police Authority Website**

The report by the Assistant Chief Executive was considered.

After Neil Gulliver had introduced the report, Clive Parsons added that he had met with Sasha Taylor from the Force and was very enthusiastic about the new site and was confident that it would be much more interactive with the public. He added however that it needed a commitment from all Members and Officers of the Authority to contribute to the site and that there would be a particular onus on the District Leads to do so.

It was then Resolved:-

***That the proposal to develop a new Police Authority website be endorsed to include all the options outlined in the Assistant Chief Executive's report.***

## **7A. Warwickshire Sustainable Community Strategy**

The briefing paper together with the Strategy document circulated at the meeting were considered.

Resolved:-

***That the Warwickshire Sustainable Community Strategy be endorsed.***

## **8. Report of the Chief Constable**

was considered together with the update report circulated at the meeting.

### **(1) Senior Police National Assessment Centre (PNAC)**

The Authority placed on record their congratulations to Chief Supt. Neil Brunton for successfully passing PNAC which would allow him to take the Senior Command Course.

### **(2) Lifetime Achievement Award**

The Authority placed on record their congratulations to PC Craig Fellowes on receiving a National Lifetime Achievement Award for his efforts to tackle wildlife crime.

### **(3) Domestic Abuse Reduces in Warwickshire**

### **(4) Rape Awareness Seminar**

### **(5) Successful Disclosure Pilot to Continue**

### **(6) National Crime Mapping Website Launched**

### **(7) Use of Resources Praise from Audit Commission**

### **(8) Special Constabulary Recruitment Campaign**

### **(9) Bulldog Bash Community Meeting**

### **(10) Topping Out Ceremony – Warwickshire Justice Centre, Leamington Spa**

### **(11) Purchase of Body Worn Video Devices (Head Cameras)**

These paragraphs were noted together with the update report.

Andy Parker added that a public campaign had started that day on crime reduction in the county aimed at getting the message across to the public that crime had reduced in the county. He added that it was proposed to launch further campaigns in conjunction with our partners.

## **9. Report of the Chief Executive**

was considered.

**(1) Meetings between Warwickshire Police Authority Members and Warwickshire County Council/Cabinet**

**(2) West Midlands Regional Group of Police Authority Chairs, Vice Chairs and Chief Executives**

**(3) Workshop on Police Authority Inspection**

**(4) Policing Pledge**

These paragraphs were noted.

**(5) Governance and PURE (Police Use of Resources) Group**

Resolved:-

***That the draft terms of reference for the Governance and PURE Group be endorsed.***

## **10. Urgent Business**

None.

## **11. Date of Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting of the full Authority would be on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2009 at 2.15pm.

## **12. Exclusion of Members of the Public**

Resolved:-

***That the members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the following agenda items on the grounds that their presence would involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 3, 4 and 7 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.***

It was then agreed to deal with Agenda Item 16.

## **16. The Future of the Fire and Rescue Service**

After introductory comments by Keith Bristow, Gill Young gave Members a briefing on the operational implications for the Force arising from the proposed re-structuring of the Fire and Rescue Service.

## **13. Exempt Minutes of the Meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> September 2009 and Matters Arising**

Following comments by Phil Robson, it was agreed that the following words should be inserted under Minute 10:-

“At the Chair’s invitation, Robin Verso remained in the meeting for the consideration of Agenda Items 11 to 14”.

It was then Resolved :-

***That the exempt minutes of the Police Authority’s meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> September 2009 as amended be approved.***

There were no matters arising.

**14. Force Performance**

The report by the Chief Constable was considered together with the performance dashboard circulated at the meeting.

**15. Operational Update**

The report by the Chief Constable was considered and also received a verbal report on a number of additional items.

**16. The Future of the Fire and Rescue Service**

This item was dealt with earlier.

At this juncture, the County Council Members and Officers left the meeting.

Phil Robson took the Chair for Agenda Item 17.

**17. Operation Westbere**

The report by the Chief Constable was noted.

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**Chair of the Authority**

The meeting closed at 5.45pm