

The **POLICE AUTHORITY** met at **SHIRE HALL, WARWICK**, on the **18th November 2009**

Present:-

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

Independent Members:-

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

County Councillors:-

Carol Fox, Eithne Goode, Bob Hicks, Richard Hobbs, Frank McCarney, Phillip Morris-Jones and Izzi Seccombe

Police: -

Deputy Chief Constable Andy Parker, Assistant Chief Constable Lewis Benjamin, Richard Elkin, Chief Supt. Richard Sear, Supt. Andy Johnson, Supt Chris Ward, Supt Adrian McGee, Paul Mason-Brown and Marie Perry.

Police Authority: -

Sue Howl, Neil Gulliver, Sian Stroud, Tony Brown, Debbie Mullis, John McPhail and Steve Trigg.

1. Chair's Announcements

Ian Francis welcomed representatives from Warwickshire Youth Parliament and also Supt. Adrian McGee to his first meeting of the Authority.

2. General

(1) Apologies

were received from Martin Barry, Dorrette McAuslan, Keith Bristow, Bill Holland and Debbie Sansom.

(2) Declaration of Members' Personal and Prejudicial Interests

Richard Hobbs declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 12A as the County Council's Portfolio Holder for Community Safety.

(3) Minutes of the Meeting held on the 14th October 2009 and Matters Arising

(i) Minutes

Resolved:-

That the minutes of the Police Authority's meeting held on the 14th October 2009 be approved.

There were no matters arising.

[Clerk's note: Dorrette McAuslan submitted an email to the Assistant Chief Executive suggesting that the wording of the second sentence in the first paragraph of Minute 6 as follows:-

"She recognised the role played by John Burbeck in laying the foundation for change and the significant role played by Keith Bristow and his ACPO team, as well as the tremendous work undertaken by Mike Slemensek. [The Chair subsequently agreed to accept this amendment].

3. International Financial Reporting Standards

Marie Perry gave a short presentation on the implications of the new Standards for the Force and the Authority which are aimed at bringing public sector accounts into line with Central Government and the NHS.

4. Local Policing – Report of the Governance Stream Lead

was considered.

After John Vereker had introduced the report and had drawn Members' attention to a number of issues, Richard Hobbs suggested that reference to the Warwickshire Safer Communities Partnership should be included under the second bullet point of paragraph 1. This was accepted.

It was noted that there are still issues around the Authority being represented on the Local Criminal Justice Board. Lewis Benjamin commented that the Board had now agreed that an Authority representative could attend one meeting a year. It was thought that changes contained in the forthcoming White Paper would make police authority involvement in the Boards mandatory.

Appendix 1 – Progress Against Force Objectives

was noted.

The Authority then received a presentation by Chris Ward on the current situation with regard to Safer Neighbourhoods and the Force proposals to further develop this part of the service.

During the question time that followed the presentation, Chris Ward and Richard Sear dealt with Members' concerns around public confidence, response times by the Communications Centre and how the Force proposed to consult Hard to Reach Groups.

Appendix 2 – Family Centred Intervention

Andy Johnson presented the briefing paper and explained the aims of the Family Centred Intervention programme. The Public Service Board fully support the project. A Family Centred Intervention Board will be established to provide strategic direction and oversight.

Izzi Seccombe stated she was very supportive of the project having attended its launch in Nuneaton the previous day. Angela O'Boyle asked about the commitment required to support families but Andy Johnson assured her that this had been taken into account and it had been accepted that any support would need to be long term.

Appendix 3 – Report of the Community Engagement and Consultation Panel

was noted.

Appendix 4 – Report of the District Partnership Lead

After the Members had commented on their respective reports, the Chair congratulated them on the quality of the reports.

In response to a comment by Phillip Morris-Jones regarding the setting of dates for Community Forum meetings so they did not clash with other meetings, Neil Gulliver agreed to discuss this with the County Council officers.

Appendix 5 – Report of the Voluntary Services Lead

After comments by Phillip Morris-Jones, Richard Elkin confirmed that the “Plod, Plod, Plod” campaign was proving to be very successful and the Force had now been granted £11,000 from the Home Office to further develop this initiative.

Appendix 6 – A Framework for Delivering our Vision of Consultation and Community Engagement

Richard Hobbs introduced this report which was circulated at the meeting. After a brief discussion the Authority agreed to endorse the report.

5. Financial Management Report 2009/10

was considered.

Steve Nicklin introduced the report which had already been considered by the Resources Assurance Group at their meeting on the 16th November and Marie Perry drew Members' attention to a number of key issues within the report.

In response to a question by Eithne Goode regarding Section 106 Reserves, Richard Elkin stated that he would confirm whether or not all items in that Reserve were time limited.

It was then Resolved:-

That approval be given to the carry forward requests as set out in paragraphs 2.5.4, 2.8.4 and 2.9.2 of the report.

5A Annual Report 2008/09

The joint report by the Chief Executive and the Chief Constable was considered.

After Sue Howl had introduced the report, Richard Sear pointed out that the new style report would be circulated to a much wider audience and, in response to a question by Phil Robson, stressed that new style met all legal requirements and would not be supported by the production of a more detailed background report.

It was then Resolved:-

1) *That approval be given to the draft Annual Report 2008/09 as set out in Appendix A to the report.*

2) ***That the Chair be authorised to sign off the final version of the Annual Report.***

6. Chief Constable's Report

was considered.

In introducing the report, Andy Parker drew the following additional items to the Authority's attention:-

- The Force were represented at the Remembrance Service in London by Police Sergeant Darren Fretwell.
- Anne Marie Field from the Home Office would be re-visiting the Force shortly to look at their work with High Harm Causers.
- County IAG now has its own website.
- Suspect arrested in Japan for the murder of Lindsey Ann Hawker. DCI Wright continues to act as Liaison Officer to the family.
- Operation Laser – 2 large operations aimed at tackling the supply of Class A drugs had been very successful. 42 individuals had been arrested, 40 of which had been charged and 21 were remanded in custody by the courts.

The report was duly noted.

7. Report of the Chief Executive

was noted.

7A Urgent Business

None

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the full Authority would be on Friday 18th December 2009 at 10am. This meeting to be followed by Christmas lunch at 12.30pm.

9. Exclusion of Members of the Public

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.

10. Exempt Minutes of the Meeting held on the 14th October 2009 and Matters Arising

Resolved:-

That the exempt minutes of the Police Authority's meeting held on the 16th September 2009 be approved.

There were no matters arising.

11. Force Performance

The report by the Chief Constable was considered.

Andy Parker commented on the Force's overall performance and highlighted particular issues for Members' attention. He also responded to a number of questions from Members' on a range of issues around the Force's performance.

12. Operational Update

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

12A Fire and Rescue Service Review

The joint report by the Chief Executive and the Chief Constable, circulated at the meeting, was considered.

Eithne Goode and Richard Hobbs declared a personal interest and took no part in the discussion on this item.

The Authority then agreed to support the recommendations set out in the report.

13. Operation Westbere

The report by the Chief Constable was noted.

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Chair of the Authority

Meeting closed at 4.50pm