



Sussex Neighbourhood Watch Federation

Registered Charity no. 1059756

Annual General Meeting held at 1930 on 19th October 2011

at

Sussex Police Headquarters, Malling House, Church Lane, Lewes BN7 2DZ.

MINUTES

1. Attendance

There were present:

Executive Committee:

Brenda Whitmell, Chairman,
Robin Matthews, Vice Chairman East Sussex/Acting Treasurer,
John Holman, Vice Chairman West Sussex,
Ann Goodridge, Secretary
Robin Hargraves, Sales Officer
Mark Rendall, ex officio, Sussex Police,

and 37 other members whose names are recorded by the Secretary.

Guests:

Kathy Gore, High Sheriff of East Sussex, David Tupper, High Sheriff of West Sussex and Mrs Hilary Tupper, James Cheshire, Sussex Air Ambulance, and C.I. Julia Pope, Neighbourhood Policing.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from 29 members, whose names are recorded by the Secretary.

3. Confirmation and signature of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 11th October 2010

The Minutes of the AGM held on 11th October 2010 were agreed as accurate.

Vote carried by a show of hands.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 11th October 2010

There were no matters arising.

5. Presentation by CI Julia Pope

CI Julia Pope gave a short talk about the future of Sussex Police and the fact that they are facing challenging times with public sector funding cuts. There is a need to make sure the service they give remains the same, together with the need to work together with the Community, i.e. Neighbourhood Watch. An important relationship commitment by the police is to introduce Community Engagement Officers (CEO) within each NPT district. She related an incident concerning Eastbourne NHW which resulted in several arrests. CI Pope then thanked Robin Matthews for his hard work and effort on behalf of NHW, presenting him with a certificate. Brenda was also thanked for her hard work over the years with NHW, and she was presented with a bouquet of flowers. This was followed by a short question and answer session.

6. Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that this had been a difficult year but a number of volunteers had recently come forward and were prepared to assist in the running of the Federation. The Chairman and Vice Chairman/Treasurer Robin Matthews are retiring, and consequently there will also be a change in the Trustees.

Sadly the Chairman reported the death earlier this year of Ted Gibbons, a Federation Vice Chairman and Trustee, who has made an invaluable contribution to NHW over many years.

Sussex Police have not awarded us a grant for the second year, but the Federation has purchased various items wholesale which have been made available to local Associations to retail for fund raising purposes. The police have kindly transported these items to help minimise costs.

A Service Level Agreement between the Federation and Sussex Police has been prepared and will be signed this evening.

A revised Constitution has also been drafted, as will be discussed below.

The Federation website has been recently updated and members are encouraged to review it at www.sussexnwfed.org.uk.

The Federation continues to facilitate the provision of free Public Liability insurance to registered and authorised NHW movements in Sussex. Details are available on our website.

In conclusion, the Chairman thanked everybody who had worked with her over the years, and in particular Robin Matthews, Ann Goodridge and Mark Rendall. His NHW database now covers 5,800 schemes in Sussex. She said that her 21 years in NHW had been a most rewarding experience.

7. Treasurer's Report and presentation of the Audited Accounts

Robin Matthews reported on the Accounts which were circulated. There were some typographical errors, and when these have been corrected a copy will be sent to the Charity Commission. Robin Hargraves commented that a future physical check on the stock and an assessment of its saleability would be conducted.

Proposer: John Holman
Secunder: Anthony Downs
Vote carried by a show of hands.

8. Proposal to amend the Constitution

The Chairman noted that it is good practice to periodically review the Constitution to ensure that it is appropriate for our needs. The Executive Committee had therefore reviewed the Constitution, and recommended that the previously circulated Draft Constitution be adopted as the new Constitution as from 19th October 2011. John Holman explained the reasons for the revisions. One member thought that section 2 was verbose, and he was not happy with the whole of this section. John replied that the Committee is trying to update the Constitution, and realises that it's not perfect. A working party will be arranged to conduct a more detailed review. Anyone who is prepared to be a member of the working party should contact an Executive Officer.

It was proposed that the Draft Constitution be adopted. Vote carried on a show of hands by more than 75% majority of those present, as required by present Constitution item 13.1.

9. Confirmation of the composition of the General Committee

John Holman explained that up to two representatives from each Police Sector or District of Sussex comprise the General Committee, and invited members present to come forward, or pass the word to members who may wish to join the Committee. Jan Newens (Eastbourne) is stepping down. Phil Carpenter is resigning.

10. Election of Executive Committee members

The Chairman reported that the following nominations had been received, and the nominees were duly elected:

Chairman	John Wright	Proposer:	Robin Hargraves
		Seconder:	John Holman
Deputy	Derek Pratt	Proposer:	Geoff Coe
		Seconder:	John Rogers
Vice Chairman (East)	Mike Hewens	Proposer:	Alf Pulfer
		Seconder:	Charles McIlwrick
Vice Chairman (West)	John Holman	Proposer:	Brian Aldred
		Seconder:	Robin Hargraves
Vice Chairman (B&H)	Peter Brookshaw	Proposer:	Linda Hood
		Seconder:	Brian Aldred
Secretary	Ann Goodridge	Proposer:	John Holman
		Seconder:	Robin Hargraves
Treasurer	John Holman	Proposer:	Derek Pratt
		Seconder:	Peter Brookshaw
Sales Officer	Robin Hargraves	Proposer:	John Holman
		Seconder:	Keith Whitlock

11. Appointment of Auditor or Independent Examiner

The 2010-2011 Accounts have been reviewed and certified by Charles Mcilwrick, who is retiring. Jon Vinsome offered himself for election.

Proposer: John Holman
Seconder: Robin Hargraves.
Vote carried by a show of hands.

12. Any other business

John Wright made a short speech thanking Brenda for her 21 years service with NHW and presented her with a Certificate to commemorate this. He then thanked Robin for his support as Vice Chairman and Treasurer, and also presented him with a Certificate.

There followed a presentation by James Cheshire of Sussex Air Ambulance. A raffle was held, raising £124.00 which was presented to him.

The Meeting closed at 2145.