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Minute of meeting of the Garioch and North Marr Community Safety Group held on Tuesday 7th February 2017 in Inverurie Academy, Jackson Street, Inverurie.

Present: Ron McKail, Brimmond Drive Neighbourhood Watch (Chair) (RMc);
 Alan Sibbald, Monymusk Neighbourhood Watch (Webmaster) (AS);
 Bob Ingram, Kemnay Community Council (BI);
 Alison McPherson, Community Health in Partnership Officer, Marr-Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action (AM)
 Annie Grant, Community Health in Partnership Officer, Garioch-Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action (AM)

In attendance: Kieran Russell, Police Scotland
 Bob Fowler, Inverurie and District Driving School Association (BF)
 Pam McElhinney, Secretary (PM)

Minutes	Action Po
<p>1. Welcome The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.</p>	
<p>2. Apologies Apologies had been received from Cheryl Smith, Gary Tolometti, Norman Wright and Tracy Skene</p>	
<p>3. Approval of Minutes of 13th December 2016 The minutes were taken to be an accurate record of proceedings.</p>	
<p>4. Matters Arising <u>GoodPoint Smoke Alarm Tester Sticks</u> Annie Grant (AG) presented a new product which she had presented to Graeme Laird F&RS. Statistics show that 85% of people put themselves at risk of injury from falls while testing their smoke alarms. Many people test their fire alarms whilst balancing on stools, wobbly chairs etc. and this scenario becomes even more unsafe for vulnerable people who use mobility aids such as walking sticks or frames.</p> <p>The smoke alarm tester consists of a long red plastic stick with a cartoon style white hand with the index finger pointing. The stick can be used to reach most smoke detectors and press the 'test' button while the user is stationary still on the ground. A message on the side reminds users to test their alarms regularly and there may be an option to have the CSG and SF&R logos printed alongside.</p> <p>With these given to clients (many older people and those with mobility issues) the SF&R hopes to reduce the number of falls in the home. The Fire & Rescue service could distribute these during the Home Fire Safety Visits and as part of community events.</p>	

<p>The group also considered if at the community safety events - members of the public could also donate towards these for the CSG at a cost of £2 each/for a donation. Which could then be used to buy more? AG will find out if this is an option.</p> <p>The sticks cost £2 each and 500 can be ordered for £1000 plus postage. Group members were all keen to support this initiative. AG has submitted a grant application form and it was agreed to check with the treasurer whether there were enough funds remaining, before confirming the project will be funded.</p> <p>Action: <i>GT to check funds and contact AG. If funds available, GT to place order (AG to send GT details of how to order at the discounted price)</i></p> <p><u>Speed Monitoring and Recording Device</u></p> <p>The device is currently still out of action and repair quotes from a few different companies have been arranged. The estimated cost is roughly £1000. It is still to be decided whether it will be the Community Safety Executive, the Garioch Community Planning Committee or the Community Safety Group that will cover the bill.</p> <p>Kieran Russell of Police Scotland told the group that while the device was still in working order, they had reduced the number of days it spent at each location from 12 to 7-10 as the demand had increased recently.</p> <p><u>Public Access Defibrillators (PADS)</u></p> <p><u>Alford (update from AS)</u> CPR training took place at on 1st Feb at Monymusk, next training is 11th Feb at Tullynessle.</p> <p><u>Insch (update from AM)</u> The Sandpiper Wildcat trust project went live on 1st Feb. Insch now have a team of Cardiac Responders ready to respond quickly to help at cardiac arrest emergencies in and around Insch.</p>	<p>GT AG</p>
<p>5. Chair's Report</p> <p><u>Credit/Debit Card Anti Fraud Protectors</u></p> <p>RMc showed the group a product which could help reduce fraud in the area. A scam, where a small portable card reader is waved near unsuspecting people's handbags and pockets allowing transactions to take place with the contactless function of the card, is on the rise.</p> <p>Aluminium sleeves that slip over a card can be used to block the signals of the scamming device and keep funds safe.</p> <p>200 of these sleeves can be bought for 20p each +VAT.</p> <p>A logo can be added for an extra charge. Stickers with the groups logo on it was another suggesting although more time-consuming. These card protector sleeves could be available in libraries for people to pick up and perhaps leave a small donation to the group.</p> <p>Group members were all in support of this project.</p> <p>Action: <i>RMc to order the protectors (without a logo)</i></p>	
<p>6. Police Report</p> <p>Kieran Russell (KR) of Grampian Police talked the group through a report</p>	

<p>showing the number of crimes in each area from 1st Dec – 31st Jan. There were a high number of Road Traffic Offences in the Huntly area. Some of these were for antisocial driving in the town centre. Antisocial driving has also been an issue in Inverurie, especially around the Burn Lane area. 20 incidents of vandalism were reported in the Inverurie area, as well as 22 drug offences. There were a few people charged for carrying a knife in Westhill.</p> <p>KR was asked to explain the new rules for ‘stopping and searching’. If people are found to have knives on them, without a valid excuse, they can be detained overnight.</p> <p>BF asked if police could check the Victoria Road area in Inverurie (near the academy and swimming pool) for parking on yellow lines. There have been many cars parked there around 3-4pm and he thinks some police presence for a few days will help deter illegal parking. KR agreed to pass this to PC Steven Middleton who is the contact for the Community Police Team in Inverurie</p>	
<p>7. Fire and Rescue Report A report from the F&R service covering the Marr area was shared with the group by email.</p>	
<p>8. Community Safety Network Update A CSN meeting took place and the funding Service Level Agreement was discussed. Groups have made aware that they are not covered by the council’s public liability insurance policy as they previously thought. Several insurance companies have been contacted to obtain quotes and the lowest price was £106 from the Highland Council Insurance department.</p>	
<p>9. Community Safety Executive Update Budgets were discussed and it was confirmed the group will receive funding of £1750 per area (minus unspent funds from last year). It is not certain whether Pass Plus will be funded in the future by the CSE. A charity called Foyer (based in Aberdeen) might be able to administer funds for the project.</p>	
<p>10. Community Planning Update – Garioch There was no update from GCP.</p>	
<p>11. Community Planning Update – Marr AS attended the MCP meeting. The Marr CP group were invited to the Fire Station at Alford where they watched a presentation by the Sandpiper Wildcat Trust. They are looking to recruit more cardiac responders in the area.</p> <p>A Crash Live event has been organised for Banchory Academy. It is for S4 pupils only (no parents). This year group are age 15/16 and will be starting to think about learning to drive the following year. S5 and S6 pupils get to attend Safe Drive Stay Alive however some S4 pupils will be leaving school in the summer and will not see SDSA.</p>	
<p>12. Treasurer’s Report A treasurer’s report for the month of January was discussed. £1000 had be sent to the Kemnay Community Council to be spend on the resilience plan after a funding application was received by the group in</p>	

December.
Next year (April-March) the same budget will be received (£1750 per area).
Proposed projects to be funded in February or March are GoodPoint Smoke Alarm Testers (£1000), Anti Fraud Card Protectors (£50) and we are likely to spend £106 on insurance.

13. Website Report

A website report for the month of January was discussed. It showed that there had been 8,005 visits to the website which equated to an average of 258 visits per day. Over the past twelve-month period (Feb 2016 to Jan 2017 inclusive) the website received a total of 91,401 visits.

The homepage has been reorganised and some older material removed. New material added included a link to Floodline information and several Absafe bulletins.

14. Pass Plus

The funds for Pass Plus in the Buchan area (£1050 to cover 7 pupils receiving £150 towards their course) ran out. This was discussed at the CS Network meeting where it was decided to use the unspent North Marr Pass Plus funds to cover Buchan applications until more funds are received in April.
PM asked the secretaries of each of the CSGs how Pass Plus is administered. 1 group do require signatures, 1 group do not require signatures, 1 secretary was new to post and did not know, 1 secretary is yet to reply.
Since the results were mixed, the group decided to remove the requirement for a signature, thus allowing more forms to be accepted by email.

A discussion took place regarding fairly low enquiry numbers considering the funding is £150 and nearly covers the full cost of the course.

BF noted that many pupils cannot see the benefits of the Pass Plus course, so some driving instructors write to the parents of the pupil after they have passed the driving test to encourage more young drivers to sit the course.

Pass Plus future budgets will be discussed at next Community Safety Executive meeting.

15. Correspondence

Several of items of correspondence had been circulated to members since the previous meeting including:

Absafe Community Bulletin – Issue 160 &165
Pass Plus – Feedback from recent graduate
Invitation to Burns Night Event (town twinning Inverurie with a French town)
Invitation to E-cigarette Conference Event in Inverurie
Neighbourhood Watch – Info about Roller Banners and other products for sale
Fraud Warning – Amazon Scam

16. Any Other Competent Business

The below was emailed by NW in advance of the meeting. Apologies PM forgot to read it to the group at the meeting

Insch – Need for Community Resilliance Plan

A fire that caused damaged to a block of flats in the village and led to the evacuation of the flats for a period, has highlighted the need for an official and published plan of resilience for such events. Fortunately no one injured and residents managed to make alternative arrangements for accommodation. The Leisure Centre was able to accommodate in the short term. Previously such issues would have seen residents decanted to Carriages Hotel (now closed). This issue will be addressed as part of the Community Action Plan Review this year

17. Dates of future meetings

GT can no longer to attend on Tuesdays. He suggested Monday instead and all members present agreed that the 2nd Monday of the month would be suitable. The meeting will still be held at 7-9pm at Inverurie Academy.

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on:

Monday 13th March 2017 *TBC*

Subsequent meetings are to be held on:

Monday 8th May 2017

Monday 26th June 2017 (AGM)

Monday 11th September 2017

Monday 13th November 2017

Monday 11th December 2017