**CLIFFE WOODS RESIDENTS MEETING**

Minutes of Meeting held at Cliffe Woods Community Centre

 Tuesday 4th November 2014

**Representatives Attending**

Mr Jerry Doyle - Chair (**JD**)

Mr Tom Mason - Conservative Councillor for Strood Rural Ward (**TM**)

Mr Chris Fribbins - Chair of Cliffe and Cliffe Woods Parish Council (**CF**)

Mr Tim Watson - Head of Cliffe Woods Primary School (**TW**)

Inspector Ada Leppard - Kent Police, responsible for Medway West Sector (**AL**)

Mrs Jill Dorey - Minute Secretary

**Apologies for absence**

PCSO Craig Messenger - Neighbourhood Officer for Strood Rural

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Agendas were provided to all attending (copy attached). Plus other useful materials (security advice etc.).

Approximately 200 residents attended the meeting.

**Welcome**

**JD** welcomed all attending, including visitors from Cliffe and Wainscott. Thanks were then given to those that had made the evening possible. Ian Downes for allowing free hire of the Hall. David Playford for the flyer design. Ted Ansell for printing the flyers. Nicola Youseman-Taylor, Helen Stringwool, David Playford & Steve Black, plus Jerry’s family members for delivering the flyers. Jill Dorey and Stephen Dorey for general support, providing refreshments and minute taking.

**JD** also thanked PCSO Craig Messenger, Cliffe Woods’s local neighbourhood officer, for meeting with him last Thursday and providing material for tonight. **JD** advised that Craig had agreed to carry out periodic visits around the school boundaries, AM and PM, to encourage safe and considerate parking. Unfortunately Craig couldn’t attend the meeting due to operational reasons relating to events happening the next evening.

If anyone wants to receive copies of the minutes, and future updates, they were asked to record their email address or home address on the lists circulating round the room on a clip board.

**Introductions**

**JD** then introduced the panel members and mentioned there would be additional speakers for specific agenda items. He explained why he was chairing the meeting i.e. having moved to Cliffe Woods from Bromley four years ago he wants Cliffe Woods to remain a safe and secure place to live.

**Purpose of the meeting**

**JD** reiterated the main purpose of the evening, assuring all that attended that anyone that had an opinion, concern, question or suggestion would be heard. It would be helpful, but not essential, if anyone speaking could provide for the minutes their name and road location if there were comfortable to do so.

**Recent Incident reports**

**Ted Ansell** advised that about 2 weeks ago 30 planted Laurel trees were stolen overnight from his front garden on the corner of Milton Avenue & View Road. Four hanging baskets were also taken. The crime was committed between 11pm & 5.00am. Very bold action as the road is well lit in this area and overlooked by numerous houses. Due to the size of the Laurels a truck or van of some sort must have been used.

**JD** then gave general details of other recent incidents where the individuals didn’t want to be named.

**Crime Statistics for our area extracted from the Kent Police website**

September 2013- August 2014

**Reported** crimes for Cliffe Woods

Anti-social behaviour 26

Criminal damage 13 (includes 5 relating to vehicle tyre damage)

Burglary 11

Vehicle Crime 12

Crimes of violence 11

Other thefts 5

Public order 1

Drugs 1

Others 2

Total 82

The crimes reported for the whole Strood Rural ward area numbered 1255 the same period. Therefore crimes in Cliffe Woods accounted for 6.53% of total reported crimes.

**Tom Mason**

**TM** introduced himself as a Medway Councillor for 45 years. Apologised for his voice as he is recovering from a stroke. Stressed he is always available to help with any complaints. Explained the Council is responsible for many areas (Planning, Highways, Recreation, Crime etc.) Said he was surprised to hear about the amount of anti-social behaviour. Surely we must know who they are? If you do know REPORT IT to the Police. Then the Police can target. Tends to be half a dozen people responsible for all anti-social crimes. **TM** then stressed he is standing for election next year despite rumours to the contrary (standing as an Independent).

**Central Village CCTV (plus signs)**

**Tony Cornwell** (Future Tech Security) joined the panel for this discussion. Tony has been in the security business for 16/17 years and was willing to answer any relevant questions.

**JD** put forward for discussion a suggestion that maybe the time had come for more CCTV in the village. Perhaps at the only four entrance and exit points to the village as indicated on the map on the back of the agenda. i.e. both ends of View Road and the Town Road ends of Tennyson Avenue and Milton Avenue. However there are costs and legalities to consider. JD passed to Chris Fribbins to advise on the background on the existing CCTV in the village

**CF** advised there is one CCTV in Cliffe Woods at the back of the car park covering the entry and exits but can be panned by the operator to cover more if needed. Introduced when anti-social behaviour in the car park increased and complaints were received from residents living nearby. It links by wireless broadband to a central monitoring point in Strood where the camera is controlled by the operator. The Parish Council have requested monitoring of the exit and entry barriers following damage in the past (story about a police van getting jammed under the barrier then relayed!). Chris asked that any damage to the barriers be reported to the Parish Council ASAP.

**CF** then gave a general overview of the Parish councils set up and responsibilities mentioning there are currently three vacancies for Parish Councillors to cover Cliffe Woods. The Parish Council did experiment by employing a security patrol many years ago however it worked out too costly and was not kept up. The Parish Council liaise regularly with the Police Liaison however these meetings have not always been as productive as hoped. That said the introduction of a PCSO for our area is new and the PCSO is invited to all parish council meetings, this is a more positive step. **CF** mentioned that Crime was worse in Cliffe than Cliffe Woods.

**CF** then advised that the PC will support financially any Neighbourhood Watch schemes that are established, however he wasn’t sure if any currently exist in Cliffe Woods.

**CF** summarised. PC try to keep an eye on what is happening but need the community’s involvement. We need to keep a lid on the problems as they occur. Cliffe Woods is an amazing place to live and the more you learn the more you like it.

**AL** advised she has been responsible for policing our area for the last 18months. Medway is split into three areas West, Central & East. Cliffe Woods is in the West Area which is the biggest size wise with the population very spread out.

On a daily basis her job is to review what crime has been reported and look for patterns and trends.

She stressed THE **POLICE NEED US TO CALL IN CRIMES.** Patrols are prioritised based on crimes reported. In the last three months there have been reported pockets of vehicle crime across Cliffe Woods however in general the number of crimes is very low. ARE ALL CRIMES REPORTED?

CCTV at pinch points in the village would be helpful and the police would be supportive of any additional CCTV added.

**JD** AdvisedDecember2010 to November 2011 that 80 crimes were committed in our area. In a 12 month period recently 82 were committed. Crime levels haven’t increase. We have instead perhaps become more aware of the crimes being committed due to social network sites such as Facebook.

If you compare the crimes in our area to other sectors where 1085 crimes committed, we still live in a safe village.

Then JD reiterated that this evening is to discuss ways to contain or reduce crime levels.

**REPORT. REPORT. REPORT.**

***Philip Stanley*** *asked what the costs would be for central village CCTV, who would pay and where they would it be sited?*

**TM** responded stating Medway Council could finance CCTV however there was a defined budget and requests were considered based on priority. **Action logged.**

**CF** advised there are currently four CCTV cameras installed in Cliffe to protect Parish Council Assets. The Parish Council did ask for a Hawkeye camera to be located in hotspots in the areas not covered by CCTV however other areas in Medway took priority. The Parish Council has visited the CCTV Control Centre in Strood and discovered the bus shelter and toilets in Cliffe were also covered on a temporary basis by a Hawkeye camera.

**AL** advised that house CCTV can be very useful to the Police. In the past neighbours CCTV has been used to spot criminals leaving the scene. She felt Cliffe Woods would not be a priority for the Hawkeye camera due to low crime levels.

**JD** mentioned PSCO has advised that the CCTV in the Cliffe Woods car park has been used to aid with crime prevention. E.G. Two cars have recently been confiscated.

**Attendee** from Cliffe stated he has cameras on his house that recorded damage being done to neighbours car. The images of the faces were clear however the Police had advised that without a witness statement the case would not be able to go to court. i.e. the CCTV footage alone was not enough.

**JD** agreed CCTV alone cannot always be used in court.

***JD*** *then asked* ***AL*** *if you need to advertise that you have CCTV in order for it to be used in court?*

**AL** responded that it is not necessary to advertise you have CCTV on your premises.

***Attendee*** *I have CCTV that I installed myself and I am happy to make it available to the PC if this would be of use. Could this be the way forward?*

**Ian Downes** advised that viewing and sharing CCTV images has legal implications. The Cliffe Woods Community Hall had four 24 hour CCTV cameras installed to comply with licencing regulations. The images must be away from public view and operators have to be CRB checked.

**CF** Parish Council are still on a learning curve re CCTV. Monitoring CCTV images constantly would not be practical.

**Attendee** Surely if we are going to use the cameras just to look back when there has been a crime then this wouldn’t be an issue.

**JD** I believe using CCTV to record where possible is still worthwhile.

**CF** Surveillance must be intelligence led. We can’t monitor all the cameras however we could look back for hotspots. There is no magic policing that would pick up everything that happens in Cliffe Woods.

**AL** advised that the first thing the police ask when a crime is committed is ‘Is there any CCTV evidence? The police rely on residents to give them intelligence as they could never pick everything up. 999 calls are always prioritised.

**TW** then advised that the CCTV in the Cliffe Woods car park links to the Strood hub via the School server. The server was switched off for repair and the link lost. Worryingly this was not spotted by the CCTV centre in Strood for five months!

**Vince Maple (Labour Party)** stressed that everyone must report crimes. Residents are getting frustrated and must phone through their concerns to the police (101 or 999). CCTV is complex, not perfect**.**

***Attendee*** *stated they felt people only reported physical crime?*

***Attendee*** *queried if evidence on CCTV is admissible. What can you film?*

**Tony Cornwell** replied CCTV is not covered by the data protection act as long as it is situated on your premises and films activity on your land. If your CCTV covers your neighbour’s property too then you will need their permission. CCTV is a deterrent it won’t stop the criminal activity completely.

***Attendee*** *asked have any other communities had CCTV installed at pinch points?*

**AL** replied she wasn’t aware of any. However stressed we have low crime levels. **WE MUST REPORT ALL CRIMES.**

**JD** Crime levels are low we are unlikely to get any central funding for CCTV at pinch points. Therefore we should bank the idea and re consider on a self-funded basis should crime levels rise. All at meeting agreed.

***Attendee*** *asked were all the recent vehicle crimes reported to the police?*

**AL** advised only five reported recently.

**Attendee** stressed to all WE MUST REPORT ALL CRIMES otherwise the situation could get worse and we won’t get the police support we are due.

***Attendee*** *advised Higham Station car park has been a hotspot for crime for years. Crimes reported numerous times however nothing seems to happen. Why?*

**AL** advised this is not her area.

**CF** advised lighting is to be installed soon however the car park may then become a pay car park. The land is privately owned which complicates security.

**CF** stressed that central monitoring of CCTV cameras is not an option. However Cliffe Woods could hold a central register of which residents have their own CCTV and their location in the village. Then if a crime is committed it would be easy to see which residents nearby have CCTV. **Action logged.**

***Attendee*** *asked if CCTV could be installed overlooking he play parks to help protect children from abduction?*

**CF** replied that the PC are already looking to do this in Cliffe as they have responsibility for the area. However in Cliffe Woods responsibility lies with Medway Council.

**Neighbourhood Watch**

**JD** advised that in order to establish a Neighbourhood Watch scheme you need one coordinator for each road. Cliffe Woods currently only has one Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and that is located in Mortimer’s Avenue.

**AL** said Neighbourhood Watch is excellent and she would always encourage. As a community you need to help yourself and this is a good way forward.

**CF** stated that the police will also advise the Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator of any issues that occur thus allowing residents to be forewarned. Neighbourhood Watch is for two way communication and currently there is no one for the Police to feed information too. The PC had a policy of helping Neighbourhood Watches and will consider financial assistance for administration costs etc.

**Jo (Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator for Mortimers Avenue)** stressed it is REALLY IMPORTANT TO PHONE IN ALL CRIMES. A recent crime in Mortimers Avenue where 14 houses were affected, only 4 homes reported the crime. Being a Neighbourhood Watch coordinator is not an arduous task. Joan then said she was surprised that the central Neighbourhood Watch coordinator had not been invited to the meeting.

**JD** stated he felt we should actively encourage more Neighbourhood Watch’s to be established in Cliffe Woods. **Action logged.**

**Attendee (Trustee for Street Cops Trust)** Street Cops raise monies for various projects. Cliffe and Cliffe Woods have never made an application for funding to Street Cops. If monies are needed for a community project we were encouraged to apply. Street Cops have links with the PCSO in our area.

**CF** Stressed that not all Anti-Social behaviour is down to the youth of the village. The PC is working with local youth in the villages through the PC’s Youth Clubs and are trying to encourage a Youth Parish Committee.

**JD** added ‘Never blame the youths always the parents’.

**Increase Police Presence Day and Night PCSO/Patrols**

**AL** advised cuts in funding have stretched the police. Resulting in a need to be smarter with resourcing, targeting areas of high crime, and giving priority to 999 calls. Increase patrols would only be given to areas of high crime. Cliffe Woods has low crime figures. We do however have a dedicated PCSO. **AL** said she would love to advise us that we will get extra patrols but we will not.

***Attendee*** *asked do the police get paid bonuses by insurance companies for arrests based on the fact that insurance claims will be lower?*

**AL** responded no.

***Attendee*** *asked what powers of arrest we have as a member of the public?*

**AL** responded that best advice was to phone in the crime via 101 or 999 and give a good description of the suspect. If you do follow, or try to apprehend, continue to give the operator a commentary of your whereabouts.

***Attendee*** *asked can you make a citizen’s arrest?*

**AL** responded yes but you can only use reasonable force. You must decide what reasonable force means based on the circumstances.

**JD** summarised. Cliffe Woods will not get an increase Police presence as the number of crimes committed is low compared to other areas in Medway. **WE MUST REPORT ALL CRIMES TO THE POLICE.**

**CF** Parish councillor for 30 years. Panda cars took over from beat cops in the 60’s so that they could be called to other areas quickly when required as they would not be able to on foot patrol.. Operational changes happen. PCSO’s are there to help people in the community.

**Attendee from Cliffe** commented I have lived in Cliffe for years. When we had a policeman living in the village it didn’t reduce crime it just made the criminals more crafty!

**Anti-Social Behaviour.**

**JD** advised that anti-social behaviour accounts for 25% of all reported crime in the village. i.e. 26 out of 82 of reported crimes. Not all anti-social behaviour is from youngsters. We need to address, as this accounts for a large part of the crime in the village. The percentage is even greater if you also consider the 13 reported criminal damage incidents to be linked to anti-social behaviour.

**Attendee** stated that some people causing the issues are not from the village. Also the drugs issue seems to be occurring again with men parked up in cars in unusual places late at night.

**AL** stated these occurrences must be reported to the Police. If something doesn’t look right report it, getting the car registration if possible. Craig (PCSO) will look into it. Someone has already passed details of such an event to **AL** tonight.

**Attendee (Brewer Road)** stated he had suffered large amounts of anti-social behaviour from youth recently affecting his property. Elderly relatives in the house were scared. The Police shouldn’t have to get involved the parents should sort their children out.

**Attendee** mentioned he had witnessed damage to a bus shelter. It was reported and the police arrived promptly in 20mins. However the youths involved didn’t seem to care.

**CF** stated that the vast majority of our youth are great. Howeverunfortunately in some cases we need to rely on the police follow up and our network of CCTV.

**AL** advised that if the Police are called action is always taken however not every case ends up in court. Craig (PCSO) knows the individuals causing most issues. Certain individuals have a designated policer officer assigned to them

**JD** said to win the crime against youths you need to win over the parents.

***Attendee*** *asked are the police working with local schools?*

**AL** advised yes.

**Attendee** asked if a child has committed a crime how many chances are they given?

**AL** replied each situation is different. She also added that the Police always encourage victims to come forward no matter who has committed the crime.

***Attendee*** *asked do the police still recruit volunteer Special Constables? Also could you work in your own neighbourhood?*

**AL** advised they do and anyone interested should apply. However many special constables choose not to work in their own area for obvious reasons.

**Social Media Alerts (to inform residents of potential issues)**

**JD** stated that recently Facebook had become a media for sharing potential issues in the village quickly across a wide audience. E.g. the recent theft of plants and hanging baskets, vehicle thefts and one from a mother concerned her daughter was being followed. **JD** suggested that we should have a dedicated Facebook site just for sharing ‘Alerts’ related to potential criminal activity in the village.

**Dean Hicks** who hosts the Facebook Group ‘Cliffe Woods Group’ joined the panel.

**Dean Hicks** advised that the ‘Cliffe Woods Group’ was originally started to find a missing dog. Within seconds people were at their windows looking for the dog and many went out were out searching for the dog in deep snow. The dog eventually found its way home on its own however the Facebook Group continued.

The content on the site is time consuming and hard to govern. Upsets and arguments are a downfall. Posts are deleted if they contain bad language or the content is deemed unsuitable.

Requests to join from spammers is a constant issue with 20+ such requests declined each week. Dean has to vet the profile of every request to join to make sure they are a resident of Cliffe Woods or a nearby resident. If you have been declined it may be you have moved into the village and not updated your profile. Please message Dean if this is the case.

The Cliffe Woods Kent Facebook Group currently has 900+ members. It is deemed a Family Site and content restricted accordingly.

**CF** advised there are three Facebook Groups relevant for Cliffe Woods Residents. i.e. Cliffe Kent, Cliffe Woods Kent, and The Cliffe and Cliffe Woods Village Appreciation Group.

**JD** again muted his idea that we should have a dedicated Facebook site just for sharing ‘Alerts’ to potential criminal activity in the village.

**AL** emphasised that any form of social media alert should not replace reporting crimes to the Police.

***Attendee*** *then asked if there could also be email alerts sent for those that either didn’t want to use Facebook?*

**JD** felt that if Neighbourhood Watch gets re-launched across the village they could perhaps arrange co-ordinate email alerts.

**CF** advised that the Parish Council had proposed something similar recently. Recipients email addresses would be hidden on the email distribution group. The Parish Council are happy to hold the central database of email addresses if required.

**JD** stressed the need to use social media alerts as well as email alerts as Social media is instantaneous.

***Attendee*** *asked how many residents there are in Cliffe Woods?*

**CF** advised 7500 residents across both Cliffe & Cliffe Woods. Estimating 60% live in Cliffe Woods. Therefore Cliffe Woods has approximately 4500 residents.

**Attendee** advised that if we want to send emails to large number of recipients at a time we will need to purchase a commercial licence. Cost approximately £82 per annum to send to 2500 recipients in one email.

**JD** suggested we could look to Street Cops for funding if this option is taken up.

**Dean Hicks** advised that managing the new Cliffe Woods Alert Facebook Group will be a time consuming task.

**Action logged.** Dean Hicks, Chris Fribbins and Jerry Doyle to meet to discuss taking forward new Cliffe Alert Facebook Group and Email Alerts.

**Driving Speeds in the Village and Parking around School Boundaries**

**JD** highlighted the parking issues outside the primary School. Irresponsible parking right on the junction and on pavements results in children and Mums with prams having to walk in the road and between cars. How long before a serious accident occurs? What happens if a fire engine can’t get through?

**TW** advised that not a week goes by when he isn’t approached by 2/3 concerned parents or school neighbours highlighting their concerns about the parking outside the school. Every month a comment is made in the school contact letter asking parents to be considerate when parking. However sadly those that park irresponsibly just do not care.

**JD** stated that unless we engage with these people it’s just a question of when not if a serious accident occurs.

**CF** Car Parking outside schools is always a problem. Some schools in Medway have a worse problem as the roads are not as wide as ours. The issue being that without enforcement requests are ignored.

**TM** suggested that if he is contacted regarding the problems he cansee if road markings could be introduced on the corners of the junction and/or a fixed or mobile camera installed. Action logged.

**Attendee** suggested that most of the Cliffe Woods children and parents could walk.

**TW** advised that only 2/3rds of children at the school are currently from Cliffe Woods. However many of the parking issues are due to Cliffe Woods residents not those that have to drive to drop children off.

**TW** also advised that the school did trial for a number of months last year opening the gates to allow drivers to drop children off within the school entrance. However parents were driving too fast and the risks to children walking to school were too great. Hence the gates are now shut again.

**Attendee** mentioned that there are also issues at the top end of View Road by the nursery where cars parked collecting from the nursery cause drivers to use the other side of the road on a blind bend.

**JD** along with many attendees agreed that they avoided using this part of the road where ever possible.

**CF** stated that the Parish Council is consulted on all planning permissions and had raised parking as a concern when planning permission was proposed for the nursery. However Medway Councils planning rules did not allow them to turn down the application for this reason alone.

**Attendee** mentioned that use of the disabled bays in the car park is often abused.

**CF** stated that unfortunately the bays are not a legal requirement they are just advisory.

**Attendee** mentioned that he wanted to park his car off the road but obtaining permission for a dropped curb was a long process.

**Open Forum**

***Stephen Dorey*** *asked does Medway Council have plans to switch of street lighting overnight (already happening in other areas of Kent)?*

**CF** replied that Medway is a Unitary Authority, totally independent to Kent County Council and currently has no plans to reduce street lighting at night.

***Attendee*** *asked if the exit and entrance signs for the car park should be improved before a serious accident occurs?*

**CF** replied that the current signage he believed was fairly clear however did recognised that when the exit barrier was open to allow high vehicles in the signs were not as apparent. Collapsible plates had been considered but would be very nosy for residents living nearby.

***Attendee*** *asked for speed humps for Merryboys Road where speeding cars in an issue?*

**TM** suggested that contact is made with him and he will see if this suggestion can be progressed. **Action logged.**

***Attendee*** *suggested additional mirrors needed on Town Road to assist turning out on to the main road?*

**CF** advised that the Highways Authority would need to be contacted.

**Meeting Summary**

**JD** thanked everyone for coming (attendees and Panel) and hoped all had found the meeting informative.

Cliffe Woods is a great place to live and generally crime levels are low. However if we don’t take action and do something this could easily change.

One big message from tonight:-

**WHATEVER THE CRIME IS REPORT IT**

One final reminder there are vacancies on both the Cliffe Woods Parish Council and the Community Centre Committee contact details as below if you are interested

Cliffe Woods Parish Council (Three vacancies) – Applications needed to be in by 6/11/14

Community Centre Committee – contact Ian Downes tel. 01474 824367

**Actions Agreed**

**CCTV**

* CCTV can be funded by Medway Council. They have a set budget and requests are granted based on priority. People of the Parish to put in a request. **To be actioned by JD, CF & TM.**
* If no central funding available for CCTV for pinch points idea will be banked. If crime levels rise we will revisit on a self-funded basis.
* A central data base to be held of all residents that have private CCTV and their location in the village. Register to be made available to the police if required. **To be actions by JD & CF.**

**Neighbourhood Watch**

* More Neighbourhood Watch Schemes to be established in the village. **To be actioned by JD, CF & PCSO Craig Messenger.**
* A central register of all Schemes to be held to be held showing road and co-ordinator. Details readily available to all village residents. **To be actioned by CF & Parish Council.**

**Driving Speeds in the Village and Parking Around School Boundaries**

* Contact to be made with Tom Mason to see if 1) road markings could be introduced on the corners of the junction (Milton Avenue/View Road) and/or a fixed or mobile camera installed 2) Potential speed awareness display signs for Merryboys Road & View Road (locations to be agreed). **To be actioned by JD, CF & TM.**
* Speed humps suggested for Merryboys Road. Contact to be made with Tom Mason to see if this suggestion can be progressed. **To be actioned by JD, CF & TM (action deferred until speed awareness display signs trialled).**

**Other**

* Visible signs in the village advertising Neighbourhood Watch Schemes and CCTB operate in this village. **To be actioned by new Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators?**
* New Cliffe Alert Facebook Group to be established dedicated to alerting residents quickly. To potential and actual crimes being committed. **To be actioned by Dean Hicks supported by CF and JD**
* Crimes committed in the village to be reviewed over the next six months and a further Village Meeting scheduled in April 2015 if deemed to be required. **To be actioned by JD & CF.**
* Updates on actions taken will be circulated by all agreed forms of media. **To be actioned by JD, Dean Hicks & CF**

The meeting closed at approximately 10.15pm

**CONTACT DETAILS**

PCSO Craig Messenger 58779 - Neighbourhood Officer for Strood Rural

Email - craig.messenger@kent.pnn.police.uk

Tel - 07528 989198

Tony Cornwell FutureTech Security

[www.futuretechsecurity.co.uk](http://www.futuretechsecurity.co.uk)

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Tel – 07427 688891

**Full Summary from Chairperson Jerry Doyle.**

Due to the late finish of the meetings Jerry’s summary, delivered at the meeting, had to be cut short. Here is the full version.

“Cliffe Woods is a great place to live and generally crime levels are low. However if we don’t take action and do something this could easily change.

If we are serious about trying to reduce and prevent crime, and ensure our village is a safe place to live, then it is unrealistic to expect the Police, Medway Council, the Parish Council or Cliffe Woods Primary School to do this without the full support of all the residents of Cliffe Woods.

Self-help is definitely the way forward. We may need to invest our time and possibly money in order to achieve these goals if no financial support is available from Medway Council, The Parish Council or other sources (e.g. for central village CCTV at entry and exit points to the village).

We also have to accept that on the balance of probability the majority of reported crime in the village is carried out by persons who live and reside in the village”.

**Jerry Doyle**

**Chairperson**