

**Minutes of the West Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership
Private Meeting**

**Highfield Community Centre
Tuesday, 25th June, 2013**

Political Members	Independent Members
Councillor Máire Hendron (Chair)	Ms. Breige Brownlee
Councillor Matt Garrett	Ms. Carol McCourt
Alderman Frank McCoubrey	Mrs. Bernie Reilly
Alderman Hugh Smyth	
Statutory Designated Organisations	
Sharon Beattie, NIHE	John McLaughlin, BELB
Carol Carville, PBNI	Inspector Christopher Robinson, PSNI
David Harbinson, NIFRS	Inspector Alan Swann, PSNI
Angela McKeown, BELB	T/Chief Inspector Mike White, PSNI
Aideen McLaughlin, YJA	Inspector Jocelyn Wise, PSNI
Attendee	
Ross Mullan, Blackmountain Action Group	
Malachy Turley, West Belfast 50+ Forum	
Staff Present	Apologies
Glenn Thomas, Safer City Co-ordinator	Councillor Tim Attwood
Katharine McCrum, Partnership Support Officer	Councillor Steven Corr
	Harry Connolly (Vice-Chair)

1. Welcome and Routine Matters

- i. The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting and noted the apologies provided.

2. Declarations of Interest

- i. The Chair asked Members to declare any material interests which they may have in relation to any item of business to be considered during the meeting.

3. Minutes

- i. The minutes of 28th May, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct with the proviso that Mr Malachy Turley's organisation be corrected to read 'West Belfast 50+ Forum.'

4. Presentation in relation to the Forthriver Innovation Centre

(Alice McGlone and Michelle Bagnall attended in connection with this item)

- i. Alice McGlone provided Members with an update on the development of the Forthriver Innovation Centre including a timetable for the various tenders, design and building process.
- ii. The Chair thanked Ms. McGlone for her presentation and stated her hopes for the community benefit that such a centre would bring.

5. Small Grants

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the PCSP Autumn Small Grants were currently open for applications with a closing date of 3rd July.
- ii. Members were advised that of the £30,000 allocated to Small Grants for 2013/2014, £29,385 had been allocated to the Summer round of applications leaving £615 available for applications to the Autumn Round.
- iii. Members agreed not to increase to allocation of funds towards Small Grants as this would have an adverse impact on other areas of spend within the 2013/2014 Action Plan.
- iv. In response to the Safer City Coordinator's request for Small Grants Panel Members, Councillor Matt Garrett, Ms. Carol McCourt, Mrs. Bernie Reilly and Ms. Breige Brownlee volunteered and Mr Harry Connolly was nominated in his absence.

6. Safer Neighbourhood Officers

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that 8 Safer Neighbourhood Officers (SNO's) had been in place since April, 2013, two of which were aligned with the West Belfast DPCSP who would in turn agree future deployments.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator agreed to circulate further details on the work of the SNO's via email.
- iii. Members welcomed the proactive nature of the SNO's but cautioned on the length of deployments stating that Officers should be flexible and utilised where needed. It was also felt that a communications strategy was needed as the role was not clear from a community perspective.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator agreed to feed this information back to the Safer City Manager, adding that risk assessments and feasibility studies were needed when deploying Officers to a new area.
- v. Members discussed the SNO's role alongside the community in the removal of graffiti however the Safer City Coordinator advised Members that while such initiatives could be looked as a DPCSP funded project with involvement from the SNO's, graffiti removal was a cleansing issue. Sharon Beattie stated that Housing Executive wardens could also link into this initiative and provide paint where necessary.
- vi. Members discussed the seizure of alcohol and public perception that on street drinking is often ignored.
- vii. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the SNO role included Joint Enforcement with PSNI Officers while Inspector Wise stated that Officers may be perceived as driving past one street drinking when on route to another incident.
- viii. A Member suggested that a leaflet on the role and remit of Safer Neighbourhood Officers (SNO's) would be useful in allowing communities to be better informed.

7. Date of Next Meeting

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the next meeting of the West Belfast DPCSP would be held on Thursday, 29th August in Farset International with a meeting of the Policing Committee at 5pm followed by a Private Meeting at 5.30pm.
- ii. Members were advised that during the Public Event which would follow, the BBC would be filming the PSNI speaker for a documentary however members of the public and DPCSP would not be shown. No objections were raised in relation to this.