



You may be aware of an incident that occurred in Whittlesey yesterday. I have received an information update from our local police to make us aware of what happened.

A teenager had a mental health episode and was attended by paramedics but caused them some issues. The paramedics called for police backup which arrived very quickly. The officers were then assaulted and pressed their emergency alert which calls for everyone in the vicinity to come and help. This led to the huge response we saw as colleagues came to help. I think there were something like 25 emergency vehicles including ambulances, vans and cars. This response might have caused some concern amongst residents but at no time were the public at risk and there are not expected to be any on-going issues. The incident was sorted.

Yesterday was another example of the risks taken by the police on our behalf and how we are continuing to improve our partnership with the local Neighbourhood Team. I hope when we do have a meeting I will be able to share more of what is being done to make NW more relevant and successful in Whittlesey.

What does yesterday tell us?

- The local police will communicate with our Neighbourhood Team if a serious incident occurs so that we can re-assure anyone who is worried and allow us to share accurate information to avoid misleading and ill-informed concerns. This shows that we have a level of trust with the local police and that our partnership with the police is becoming more effective and growing stronger.
- That although people worry that the police station was closed it makes no difference to the ability of the police to respond to incidents in Whittlesey.
- That having a rapidly mobile police presence enables large scale response where it is needed.
- Not seeing the police does not mean they are not there!

I have met with our new Sergeant and our local officers both are fully committed to Neighbourhood Policing and want to work with NW to improve community engagement. Gary (our police officer) has already been in contact with the newly formed Phoenix youth group in Whittlesey and will be involved as it grows. NW is also represented on the management committee.

Looking to the future I have discussed the need for recruiting more members with the new Fenland inspector and both the North and South Fenland sergeants will support us in setting up new schemes and finding members as part of our 40th Year anniversary year – note the revised logo below.

The 40th Year Anniversary of Neighbourhood Watch is something that NW HQ is leading. A timetable of National Events will be provided soon. We have held back until the Covid situation eases and the weather improves.

Message Sent By

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