

Minutes of Fitzrovia Business Watch Meeting

Date: 19th June 2018

Attendees: Dave Fereday (TFP), Nancy Rogers (TFP), Kevin Orrow (MPS), Steve Stupart (MPS), James Meredith (Greggs), Khandoixer Kabir (Robert Dyas), Alton Jarvis (Derwent London), Pietro Francesco Monaco (McDonalds), Kalu Ukpai (McDonalds), Paul Edun (TFP), Farid Aliev (TFP), Wojciech Wojteczek (TFP)

Apologies: Niccolo Consigli (MyBloomsbury), J.P Osborn (Heals)

Introductions

All attendees introduced themselves and the businesses they represented. Dave Fereday thanked the MPS representatives for attending.

Police Update

Kevin advised that Bloomsbury Ward is the number one crime hotspot for motorbike and personal property theft. Table surfing is on the increase. In relation to Moped enabled theft those carrying this offence seem to have moved to bicycles and are increasingly using weapons. Begging and rough sleeping continues to be a problem as does shoplifting, he reiterated the need for crimes to be reported, in particular when carried out by repeat offenders. If the suspect is captured on CCTV he asked that he be sent images to assist him in obtaining Community Protection Notices and Criminal Behaviour Orders, images can be sent to him at the following email addresses:

Kevin.Orrow@met.pnn.police.uk

bloomsbury.snt@met.police.uk

Steve advised that Hanway Place, Stephen, Perry and Tottenham Mews were still being used by drug dealers.

Dave Fereday Update

Dave advised that he attends the Camden Partnership Afternoon monthly meetings as a member of the Anti-Social behaviour group. Government funding has been made available to Councils and Camden were looking to funding four police officers to assist their outreach team. He is looking to set up a meeting with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC), the Home Office, MPS and Camden Council to discuss how anti-social behaviour by rough sleepers and beggars impacts on the business and residential community. Camden recognise that the street population are one of the biggest concerns in the area. Dave encouraged members to report litter issues via the Camden Clean Streets App

Dave updated the meeting that The Fitzrovia Partnership are looking to join the Safer Business Crime Reduction Partnership and he will be recommending this to the Board and COO. Businesses will benefit from a dedicated radio scheme, closer working with the Safer Westminster Partnerships, better communications and a dedicated analyst to identify repeat offenders, he has recommended that this starts from 1st August 2018. Nancy will circulate details of the current members of the radio scheme and this list will also be available via The Fitzrovia Partnership website.

Member's discussion

James (Greggs) advised that he said seen an increase in begging within the branch and that he had been assaulted by an aggressive shoplifter early in the morning, he had reported the incident while it was happening and also used the radio with little response, Kevin asked that James send him the CCTV images of the incident, Dave suggested that if any member had similar problems he be advised of full details (date/time) so that he can raise the issue with Camden CCTV who monitor the radio calls, The TFP radio provider, OS Comms, record all radio calls which can be used as evidence when Camden CCTV are challenged about their lack of response.

Alton advised that that Derwent London had recently held a 'lock down' at their Stephen Street premises and some good learning practices had been identified. He thanked Wojciech for his work with removing the street litter from Gresse Street and also complimented Paul and Farid for their work to address the rough sleeper/begging problems in the area. Dave advised that if businesses challenge why the Partnership only has two Street Wardens he can bid for more funding for this resource in the 2019/20 budget.

Khandoxier advised that Robert Dyas had experienced shoplifting, his approach is to ensure that staff are visible in the branch and that they approach people if they are acting suspiciously, he also ensures that his team are confident when using the FitzBac radio.

Pietro and Kalu (McDonalds) queried why the Policing team only has two officers, the resourcing issue was discussed. Dave updated the group that Westminster Borough was merging with Kensington & Chelsea and Hammersmith and Fulham following the successful merger of Camden/Islington and Brent Boroughs, this would change the policing style in the area with officers having more local knowledge of the areas they patrol. Members were once again encouraged to report crimes by either using the 999 or 101 phone numbers or if the suspect has left and the theft happened some time before then report online using the following web site- www.met.police.uk/report/how-to-report-a-crime

AOB

West End Project – a scheme aimed at improving the environment in the Fitzrovia area, works are now under way and it is hoped that it will finish when the Elizabeth Line opens in 2019. It is likely that the works will impact in some way on businesses operating in the Tottenham Court Road area but The Fitzrovia Partnership will make sure that you are all given prior notice of work outside premises and those issues such as customer access, deliveries and waste are raised and managed. The MPS advise that Tottenham Court Road would have MPS Hostile Mitigation Plans in place following completion of the West End Project, DF advised that the Dominion Theatre had raised concerns about the removal of street furniture and that this could lead to theatre queues being targeted however the MPS have been liaising with the Theatre.

More detail about the project can be found on the Camden webs site:-

<http://www.camden.gov.uk/ccm/content/transport-and-streets/transport-strategies/west-end-project/>

The Communications Team also have a drop-in information centre at The Building Centre, Store Street which currently opens on a Monday between 1pm – 6pm and Friday between 8am – 1pm.

Waste – the majority of the card left on the streets is being left by businesses in the area, Dave advised members that it is an important responsibility of businesses to manage waste.

Current threat level

The current threat level from international terrorism for the UK is assessed as **SEVERE**.

The threat level for Northern Ireland-related terrorism is set separately for Northern Ireland and Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland). In Northern Ireland it is **SEVERE** and in Great Britain **MODERATE**

Dates of next Meetings

24th July 2018, 2pm, 13 Fitzroy Street, London W1T

21st August 2018, 2pm, 13 Fitzroy Street W1T

18th September 2018, 2pm, 13 Fitzroy Street W1T

23rd October 2018, 2pm, 13 Fitzroy Street W1T

20th November 2018, 13 Fitzroy Street W1T

11th December 2018, 13 Fitzroy Street W1T

Contact numbers

Listed below are the phone numbers that are available to you if you wish to report a street based issue to the authorities.

- **Emergency services - 999**
 - Fire Brigade
 - Ambulance
 - Police in the case of emergency, life threatening, or where the suspect is still on scene
- **non-emergency police reporting call - 101**
 - To make non urgent reports of crime and anti-social behaviour
 - To report a crime that has occurred and the suspect has left
 - To report begging and rough sleeping
 - Appointments can be made for the police to visit you at a time that suits

- **Anti-terrorism hotline. 0800 789 321**
The slogan, 'if you suspect something is linked to terrorism then report it' applies to this number.
- **Bloomsbury Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team - 020 8721 2693**
Bloomsbury.snt@met.police.uk
[@MPSBloomsbury](https://twitter.com/MPSBloomsbury)

This is our local policing team. They work a shift pattern and there are occasions when none of the team are on duty or working locally. They also carry the Fitzrovia Business Link Radio when working in the area.

Send images to

kevin.orrow@met.pnn.police.uk
dave.hodges2@met.pnn.police.uk

- **Camden Safer Street Team - 08088 000005**
streetsafe@cri.org.uk
To report:-
Rough sleepers
Street drinkers
Beggars
- **Camden Community Warden Service – 0207 974 4444**
To deter antisocial behaviour in public places and report problems within the street environment, such as graffiti and abandoned vehicles
- **Camden Council - 020 7974 4444**
To report the following issues:-
Flytipping
Missed waste collections
Highway faults
Overflowing waste bins
Graffiti
Illegal street traders
- **NHS non-emergency number - 111**
Call 111 and speak to a highly trained adviser, supported by healthcare professionals. They will ask you a series of questions to assess your symptoms and immediately direct you to the best medical care for you
- **Fitzrovia Partnership Ambassador Team 020 7755 3398**
ambassadors@fitzroviapartnership.com
To provide advice, support and information