**Notes to the Meeting of Boynton Parish Council and Police Commissioner Keith Hunter held at Boynton Village Hall Monday 23rd July 2018.**

**Meeting Instigated by Mr Trevor Pickering.**

**Present: Trevor Pickering; Keith Hunter; Debbie Fagan; Ward Councillor Richard Burton; Cllr K Kalesnikovs; Cllr P Kalesnikovs; Cllr D Emms; Cllr W Stubbings; Farm Watch Chairman Gordon Calvert; Kilham Neighbourhood Watch Anita Harrison, Sandra Morrison Boynton Parish Clerk; 40+ residents**

Introduction:

Keith Hunter has 30yrs police experience and has been the Humberside Police and Crime Commissioner for the past 2 yrs.

2 years ago Humberside Police had poor management and one of the lowest morals in the whole of the force, and in his first year of office Mr Hunter stripped out the top tier of officers and management, and replaced them and then started a major recruitment campaign. The East Riding had been underfunded for many years and this has also now been addressed. Officer numbers had fallen from 2200 in 2008 to 1420. By November 2018 this will have risen to 1900. It will be a further 12mths before these officers are fully trained.

The key role is to develop Community Service Partnerships with the Police, Fire and Social Services.

Mr Hunter has taken over the chair of The Criminal Justice Board, and is now the voice to criminal agencies. He covers 10 parliamentary constituencies. Debbie Fagan is Keith Hunter’s representative for the East Riding.

Questions and Answers:

Q. Public feeling is that certain groups within a community or area are treated with ‘kid gloves’. – gypsies/travellers

A. Gypsies and travellers are a community that tend to have an element or group of people that the rest of the community are scared of. The nature of their community life style makes it hard to prosecute this group therefore they tend to be ignored.

Q. Is there a triage for reporting crime, and is every crime investigated?

A. Yes subject to there being a visible line(s) of enquiry. Detection rate has fallen however.

Q. John Gatenby (local farmer) the 101 service takes too long to be answered often over 1hr.

A. the 101 service does not work properly and this is inherent right across the country. New resources to improve the service include a call back service. The original service was not adequate to cope with the volume of calls. A crime in action should be a 999 call. New systems and training are being implemented. 1 million pounds is being spent on software. Poor mobile connections often mean callers have to sit and wait for a call back, which needs to be addressed.

Q. Anita Harrison - Neighbourhood Watch -Kilham – there were 4 reports of break ins during May, only 2 have been investigated and had visits by the police.

A. Demand for policing is high with not enough resources, but will investigate

Q. In practical terms what should residents do?

A. You can sign up for an app that keeps you abreast of what is going on in your area. We are trying to get local police teams to come out and talk to communities on a regular basis.

Q. Bill Stubbings – there is no sharing of information between North Yorkshire and East Yorkshire forces. How many of the new recruits will be PCSO’s? Police carry a lot of ‘kit’ and are often in no fit physical shape to chase a criminal.

A. Do not know if North and East Yorkshire forces talk to each other. Systems between forces are not always compatible. The equipment police carry is meant to make them safer.

A. Gordon Calvert – Driffield Farm Watch the cameras provide between Farm Watch and Humberside Police are working. But capturing a registration number is only a start. The system is a big information gatherer. Some funding is available for community safety related projects, and further cameras could be one of these. Community Safety Partnership would aid with funding applications.

K Hunter – 450 additional staff are all police officers. 30-40 PCSO’s are already in place and these will eventually be replaced by police officers. Recruitment for CID is also high. Bridlington have an early intervention scheme where a PCSO goes into families and tries to intervene in juvenile crime to prevent kids becoming adult criminals. This is working. The vast majority of kids that commit crime often come from backgrounds with parent’s drug or alcohol dependent.

Q. Mr Field – had 2 quad bikes stolen in October. 6 weeks later North Yorkshire Police telephoned and asked why the incident had not been reported, as they could not trace a crime or log number. The bikes had turned up in York. 101 give a crime number and then tell you to sort it out with your insurance!! 2 bikes were stolen again, this time trackers had been fitted. The bikes were tracked in Woldgate, but nothing was done. Bridlington police said they cannot do anything.

A. Crime numbers should be on police national data base. Debbie Fagan is making a note and will investigate, as at face value this lack of investigation is not acceptable.

Q. Boynton Hall also lost equipment at the same time as Mr Field (twice).

A. Police morale is low and many have just given up – I am trying to reverse this.

Q. Brian Stephenson – I live next to the traveller’s site on Woldgate. I had equipment stolen last year, which was taken in a wheelbarrow, which was subsequently found on the traveller’s site. The incident was not followed up.

A. We need to engage and build relationships. This has not been going on and police have not been going into travellers sites. As police presence has diminished a certain element think they can do as they want.

Q. Dawn Emms - Why do PCSO’s not know what is going on? There is not enough information being passed. Humberside police do not have sufficient local knowledge, often not knowing even where villages are, let alone streets or areas. PCSO’s need to be given information about community alerts. Parish Councils need to be better informed about resources with better communication from local policing team. There are 155 parish councils within the East Riding, better links need to be developed and information made available for the communities.

A. Debbie Fagan to look into developing better links.

Q. Mr Stephenson – Cells in Bridlington have been closed down, resulting in a round trip of over 3 hrs to Clough Rd in Hull. This takes ½ of the police force away from the town and surrounding area. How can this be rectified?

A. I objected to this at the time. However the cells had to be shut down as essential gas work to underground pipes had to be done. Additional resources have been put into Bridlington to cover the cell closures. Some of the cells will never be operable again, but 2 cells can be reopened if needed. Bridlington offices should be prioritised at Hull. K Hunter to investigate if this system is working. It is likely that Bridlington cells will be mothballed, and further additional resources will be allocated to the station. If cells are used the station needs a custody sergeant and other staff, plus medical support, which is not the best use of resources available. Ultimately would like to build a new station at Bridlington. Many police stations that have shut down or were under threat have been spared. Driffield is to stay open as a joint force with Fire and Ambulance.

Q. Richard burton Ward Councillor – what is the view on having special constables that are volunteers.

A. Yes I would support this. Many special constables ultimately joined the police force, so numbers have gone down. Now recruiting again.

Kay Kalesnikovs Chairman of the Parish Council Thanked Mr Hunter and Debbie Fagan for their time and answers to questions and on behalf of the Parish Council and the community invited them both back in a years’ time to discuss further. Thank you also to residents of the community for their support and taking time to attend the meeting.

Meeting closed.