

Stockton Home Safety Association

A meeting of Stockton Home Safety Association was held on Tuesday, 10th April, 2007.

Present: Cllr Mrs P A Cains (Chairman), Cllr K Dixon, Cllr J M Roberts; F Russell (Trading Standards); L Provett (Sure Start); D Sanders (Cleveland Police); A Moriarty and A Mitchinson (SDAG)

Officers: S Johnson (LD)

Also in attendance: T Redfern (RSVP)

Apologies: Cllr W Woodhead; C Snowdon (Environmental Health); D Turton and K Harrison (Cleveland Fire Brigade); M Shallow and M Thornton (Cleveland Police); M Wetherall (SDAG); J Mennell and K Jarvis (Public)

1 Minutes of the meeting held on 27th February 2007

CONCLUDED that the minutes of the meeting held on 27th February 2007 be agreed as a correct record.

2 No Cold Calling Zones

The Trading Standards Officer advised the Association that the pilot 'No Cold Calling' Zones in Yarm and Oxbridge had officially been opened. The Association were pleased that the opening of the Yarm zone had received publicity in the Evening Gazette, the Northern Echo, TFM radio and the Herald & Post. The Officer advised that a few minor issues had arisen since the openings but they had all been successfully resolved. It was intended that the two pilot zones would be reviewed in September 2007.

The Officer advised that Trading Standards had received funding from British Telecom for the two pilot zones. Each zone had received £300.

Members requested that the Trading Standards Officer send an email to all Council Members to advise what to do if they receive a query from residents about 'No Cold Calling' zones.

CONCLUDED that the Trading Standards Officer would send all Council Members an email about the two pilot 'No Cold Calling' zones.

3 Doorstoppers

Trevor Redfern from the Retired Senior Volunteer Programme (RSVP) was in attendance at the meeting and updated the Association on the lottery bid for the RSVP project to operate in the Stockton Borough. The Officer advised that work on the lottery bid was ongoing.

The Officer advised that they had received letters of support from Trading Standards at Stockton Council and from the Crime Prevention Team at Cleveland Police.

The Officer discussed additional routes to funding for the RSVP project. The possibility of Stockton Home Safety Association acting as the organisation applying for funding was discussed. It was agreed that the Secretary would

investigate this issue further and liaise with Mr Redfern (RSVP).

CONCLUDED that the Secretary would investigate whether Stockton Home Safety Association could act as the organisation applying for funding for the RSVP project.

4 Report of Secretary

The Secretary updated Members on the progress made with arranging a Trips and Falls Day market stall on Stockton Market on Wednesday 27th June 2007. An insurance form was being completed in order for the Association to hold a stall on Stockton Market. The Association discussed display materials for the market stall.

The Chair of the Association requested that a statement of accounts for the Stockton Home Safety Association be provided at every other meeting.

CONCLUDED that the information be noted.

5 Report of Trading Standards Officer

Underage Sales

The Trading Standards Officer reported that there had been two underage sales of alcohol since the last meeting of the Association on 27th February 2007. In one case the shop assistant who had made the sale was also underage. The shop assistant's contract had been terminated and they had received an £85 fine. The shop assistant involved in the second sale had also received a fine. The Trading Standards Officer also reported that the shop assistant involved in the second sale may have been an illegal immigrant. This had been reported by Trading Standards and was being investigated.

Playaround & Learn Children's Toy

The Officer reported that an American toy called 'Playaround & Learn' had received 180 complaints in America. The toy had a series of tubes which balls passed through. The complaints related to one tube in which it was wide enough to fit a hand into with the possibility of it becoming trapped. The manufacturers had reduced the size of the tube and this version was on sale in America. The toy was tested by Trading Standards and passed. The Officer explained that it was possible to get a hand into one of the tubes but the hand would not get injured. The Officer advised that the shop selling the 'Playaround & Learn' toy were selling the remaining stock before stocking the version with the reduced tube width.

CONCLUDED that the information be noted.

6 Report of Police Officer

The Police Officer reported that there had been 59 domestic burglaries across the district in the month of March 2007. The Officer advised the Association that this figure was relatively low.

The Police Officer updated the Association on the 2 in 1 burglaries key ring campaign that had been discussed at the last meeting on 27th February 2007. Since the launch of the campaign the Officer reported that there had been a reduction in the figures of 2 in 1 burglaries. The figures were still being monitored and the Police Officer hoped to report quarterly figures at the next meeting of the Association.

CONCLUDED that the information be noted.

7 Any other business

The Secretary advised the Association of the meeting dates for 2007/2008.

- 12th June 2007
- 10th July 2007
- 11th September 2007
- 24th October 2007
- 4th December 2007
- 15th January 2008
- 26th February 2008

CONCLUDED that the information be noted.