

2016 AGM

# Milton Keynes Neighbourhood Watch Association Newsletter November 2016



We are pleased to announce that Nikki Barrett (pictured above) was voted in as our new Chairperson. Nikki has a background with Milton Keynes Council and is a very committed co-ordinator in her local area for NHW and obviously now wants to see the development of NHW across the whole of Milton Keynes.

Nikki replaces Oscar Hubert, who resigned after many faithful years to the expansion of NHW across MK. We hope we are not losing Oscar totally as he has expressed a wish to remain involved with the progress of NHW. Robin Taylor was re-elected as Secretary. Mike Muchmore was re-elected As Treasurer. Ian Crossley was voted onto the Committee in an IT role and as can be seen by our new website it doing a great job. Tassos Chryssafis was voted onto the committee in a co-ordinating role.

Colin Wilderspin was an invited speaker at the meeting, from SAFER MK, who gave an excellent talk about the future of community and safety projects within MK. Our second speaker Gez Chiariello, the LPA Commander for TVP attended and Expressed his commitment to NHW in the future.

## SEASONAL CRIME PREVENTION

ED ALLINGTON (CRIME PREVENTION OFFICER FOR TVP)



The Police in Milton Keynes have commenced their three-month winter burglary operation to combat burglaries in homes and target offenders during the darker winter months.

Operation Darknight has been run four times in recent years in Milton Keynes and has helped to significantly reduce the numbers of homes that have been burgled over the winter period.

Residents are advised that, with the clocks having gone back, now is an important time to check that your home is not vulnerable to burglary. Make your house look occupied when you are out. Use a light timer switch to turn a lamp on and off, don't just leave a hall or landing light on. If possible secure rear gardens, lock and padlock gates. Shut and lock doors and windows when a room is unoccupied. All doors should be deadlocked with the key. Don't leave any keys near to your letterbox or cat flap where a burglar could hook them out. Valuable items including laptops, games consoles and jewelry should be kept out of sight of doors and windows. Security mark all valuables with your postcode

and house number using an ultraviolet pen or use a Police approved forensic property marking kit such as Smartwater. Keep a record of the property you have marked with the make, model and serial numbers. Take photos of jewelry and other items without serial numbers. Register identifiable items such as mobile phones, sat navs, game consoles and computers free of charge with Immobilise the national property register at

<http://www.immobilise.com>

For further information please view the Thames Valley Police website at

<http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk>

and the SaferMK web site at

<http://www.safermk.com>



Safer MK Milton Keynes Has a Variety of Initiatives in Milton Keynes which Neighbourhood Watch Association endorses. They also support Police initiatives like the latest one outlined by Rebecca Orchard the Community and Diversity Officer for TVP.

A new Thames Valley Police initiative, supported by the Hate Crime Network, trains members of the community to act as 'champions' for hate crime. They must show the ability to work positively within their communities, observing the requirement to maintain confidentiality at all times. Ultimately they are active ambassadors who aim to help increase the awareness and reporting of hate crime.

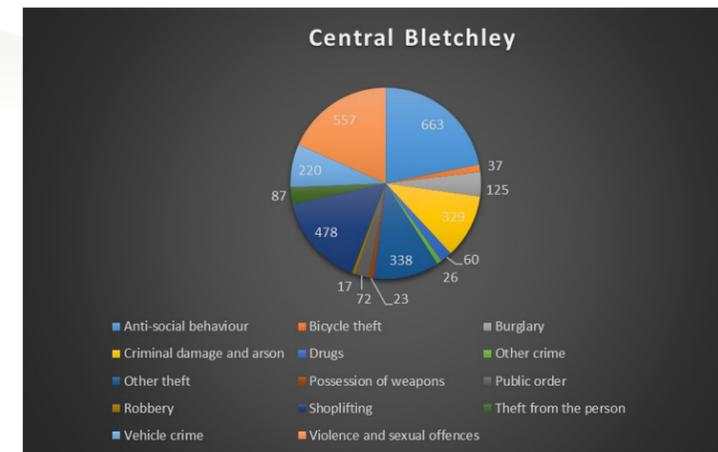
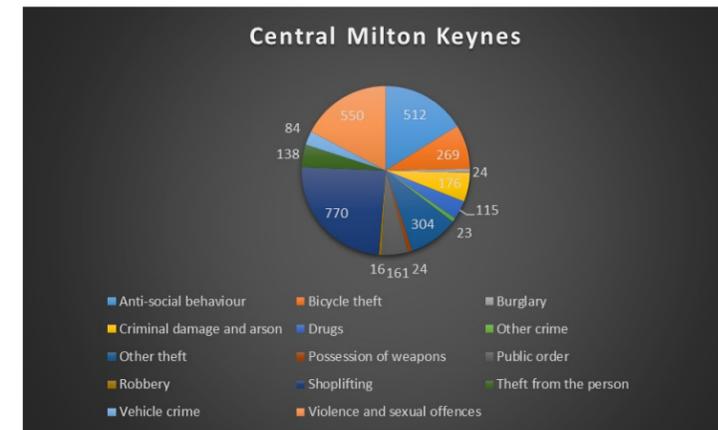
Each champion must pledge to attend at least two group meetings a year and undertake training as required. They must also be DBS checked, after which they will be in a position to offer victim support, following hate crimes or incidents.

Hate Crime Champions are people from one or more of the following communities, or are people who actively support those communities:

Black and Minority Ethnic Communities. This includes Gipsy, Roma and Traveller communities.



## Crime Statistics Between October 2015 to September 2016



Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender

Different religious communities including: Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, Pagan and Sikh

People and supporters of people with recognised disabilities: autism, hearing impairment, learning disability, physical disability and visual impairment.

We are really proud of our Champion's scheme and see all our members as a great asset to our positive working. To have people within the community to help support and relate to others who may face similar fears and prejudices is so advantageous.

We have trained our first set of champions, and intend to run the scheme again. If you are interested in becoming a champion, please telephone the CADO office, 01908 686 326 and you can be involved in helping support your community.

### And Finally

Over the next 12 months we are looking to be involved in Fetes, Bazaars, Community Functions and Involvement with Parish Councils.

We would love to hear from anyone who might want to volunteer to help for a few hours at any of these events that are local to yourselves.

We are trying to encourage the growth of NHW which we are sure will benefit local communities across the whole of Milton Keynes area. Any help that you can give would be appreciated.

If there are any comments that you would like to make or ideas that you have, that you feel would help improve your community please get in touch, using either the [MKNHWA.org.uk](http://MKNHWA.org.uk) website, Facebook and twitter.