12. WELCOME, INTRODUCTION AND GUIDELINES

The Acting-Chair welcomed all those present to the meeting and asked for introductions to be made.

13. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Apologies for absence were received from Shameen Highfield, Martine Foley and Sandra DaCosta.

14. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2018 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair, subject to the following amendments:

i) Page 9, attendance; in the list of attendees substitute the name ‘Shameen’ for the name ‘Shameem’ and substitute the word ‘Youth’ for the word ‘Young’.

ii) Page 10, item 4 – YIAG Report; in the second line delete ‘safer Neighbourhood’ and insert ‘Safer Neighbourhoods’.
iii) Page 13, item 7 – Appointment of Board; in the YIAG entry in the list of Board members delete the word ‘Young’ and insert the word ‘Youth’.

15. YIAG REPORT

Representatives from the YIAG provided an update on the work they had undertaken since the last Safer Neighbourhoods Board on 11 June 2018. The update is appended to these minutes.

Councillor Roy Berg congratulated the YIAG representatives on winning the Young Advisors charity award for Best Community Project for their work with the Council, police and community in Waltham Forest. These comments were endorsed by Councillor Vicky te Velde who referred to the mental health workshops delivered to five schools and asked how the schools were chosen, if this work tied in with other strategies being implemented in the borough and if the YIAG planned to carry out similar work in other schools and link the work to exclusion rates and anti-social behaviour. She also asked if the YIAG were considering working with older people, as well as younger people, with a view to looking at some of the intergenerational issues, particularly when looking at related to reducing the perception of crime in Waltham Forest. Jane Brueseke responded by saying that the mental health project had been short-term, finishing in July, and that the offer of delivering the peer workshops had been offered to all secondary schools in the borough of which five had taken up the offer, with one or two more doing so subsequently. She said that the peer workshops were one part of the project which had been undertaken working with Public Health and the Clinical Commissioning Group and that a final report on the project providing feedback was being produced by Public Health and that when this report was ready it could be shared with the SNB. Jane Brueseke went on to inform the SNB that although the year-long project which had been funded by the Anna Freud Centre had officially finished at the end of July, Public Health had committed to carry on with more funding so that accredited Youth Mental Health Ambassadors could continue with some work in other schools and do some other work under that banner. She said that the amount of extra funding and the precise nature of the project continuation were unclear at the moment but that she had a meeting with a Public Health strategist in the near future to discuss the relevant details.

Jane Brueseke continued by saying that in regard to the YIAG working with older people this came down to the funding, capacity and the remit of the YIAG. She said that the remit of the YIAG was primarily youth empowerment and that although the YIAG had done inter-generational work in the past, such as with older people in the borough in relation to the Caribbean Black History Month. However, in regard to inter-generational work on issues such as the perceptions of crime nothing was currently planned and in order for such work to be carried out funding would need to be made available as well as the there being capacity in the YIAG to carry it out.

The Chair said that he had read about the YIAG’s Best Community Project award in the Walthamstow Guardian newspaper earlier in the day and was pleased to offer his congratulations, along with those already given at the meeting, on well-deserved recognition for the work that the YIAG carried out.
16. **POLICE REPORT**

Richard Tucker, the Borough Commander, commenced the police report by saying that focus in recent months had been the transition in regard to the merging of the police services in the boroughs of Waltham Forest and Newham to create one police team under the title of ‘BCU’ which would cover both boroughs. He said that senior police officers had been working hard to get the police force’s five strands of operation working effectively in preparation for the ‘go-live’ date of 17 October. The priorities for the new police team, which were based on the Metropolitan Police control strategy, included reduction of both the number of incidents of young people who lose their lives due to crime related incidents and serious youth violence in both boroughs, along with concentrating on violence against women and girls and on serious crime involving burglary and motor vehicles. He then said that increasing criminal justice outcomes in relation to all these areas was also a priority. Richard Tucker stressed that underpinning these priorities was the way in which the police responded to the number of vulnerable people that the police had to deal with. He said that he continually felt the need express the wider mission that the Metropolitan Police had at this time. He said that between both boroughs dealing with mental health and missing people was as big a challenge as was serious youth violence. He said that these were very significant issues and were very resource intensive for instance when vulnerable people went missing and who may be taking their own lives or harming themselves. He said that this produced additional challenges for him and his senior team as when the BCU went live 224 officers would be lost over the next year or so as a consequence of the re-organisation unless there was a significant funding change with funds being injected into the police service. However, the way he had modelled the team across both boroughs was on demand and risk placed on individuals and he was confident that the service could be delivered, but that it was not without its challenges.

Referring to serious youth violence, Richard Tucker said that there was a period when he first took over both boroughs when a number of murders occurred across both boroughs which was shocking. He said that this type of crime particularly impacted on young people, especially those on their way to or from school, and caused concern amongst parents of young people going to school. At the moment he was still very much in an operation frame of mind around confronting people who would harm the community in which we lived and worked in. Although there number were few in relation to the population but the effects of their crimes were significant. He said that consequently, at his behest, there had been a significant increase in the number of stop and searches carried out by the police and that this had resulted in a decrease in associated violent crime rates, especially in Newham. However, he said that he wanted to move away from that operational way of working and wanted to do more engagement work with young people and communities with a view to start influencing people who would harm others and try to divert others from becoming involved in serious crime. He referred to a serious incident which had started in Waltham Forest and finished in Forest Gate when a car full of young men wanted to kill people in Waltham Forest, were intercepted by the police and then tried to kill the police officers by shooting them. He stressed that the police needed support from the community as the police were the officers of the community, who although sometimes made mistakes, were devoted and reliable public servants.
He continued by reporting that the evidence from the Pathfinders when they went live was that there had been a drop in performance around response to emergency calls and that the police had learnt from this and were ready for the go-live date in terms of how this would be managed and how work would be prioritised and that he was confident that the police would be able to maintain the service that they were currently providing. He wanted to make the new BCU a centre of excellence of policing in the UK and in relation to this he said that he had the senior team in place to deliver that and that there were all the policing challenges within the two boroughs for the police to prove that it was the best BCU in the UK. The challenges included dealing with mental health, missing people, gang issues, firearm offences and burglaries, however, the work the police were doing around vulnerable young people was ground-breaking and was a model of excellence as to how this should be dealt with on a nation-wide basis. He highlighted the fact that the multi-agency team that was based at Willow House, which has been supported by the Leader of the Council and Alastair Macorkindale, had health, education, police, youth services and children’s services officers working together tackling problems on day-to-day basis.

Richard Tucker went on to refer to the fact that Superintendent Waheed Khan and Chief Inspector Matt Casey had been working on the ‘Community Pledge’ which he wanted to roll out before 17 October 2018. He said that this was the police’s pledge to the community as to what could be expected in regard to community policing and that this was one area in which the police were working on in as to how it responded in a pro-active manner to ‘problem addresses’ which had a significant detrimental effect on the surrounding areas and that he wanted to specify the number of days in which associated pro-active work was carried out. He said that the Community Pledge resulted in changes to ward structures and the policing of schools.

Superintendent Waheed Khan, addressed the Board and stated that he was responsible for the Neighbourhoods and Partnerships strand within the new BCU. He explained that the purpose behind the ‘Community Pledge’ was to provide an overt and basic way of stating how the police would be committed to deliver the best policing that it could in terms of front-line services for the citizens of Waltham Forest and Newham. He went on to say that it would be a way for the police to be held to account and an opportunity for the police to improve transparency around its priorities and what it was hoping to achieve. He said that the pledge would be a two-way process whereby the police would expect all those involved in the local community to work together to make sure that the outcomes were being delivered that it was intended to achieve as part of the Pledge. He then informed the Board that included in the Pledge would be a commitment to carry out regular weapons sweeps, regular patrols in the wards where the police were aware that there were particular hot-spots, a commitment that DWOs would not be removed from their wards to support other commitments across the Metropolitan Police, unless there was a serious force mobilisation. The Pledge would also seek to ensure that the DWOs would be more effective in the way they communicated within their areas and that this would be achieved in a number of ways including the use of social media and the internet, but that it would be equally important to engage with those who did not use the internet. This would be done through the use of local community centres, religious establishments and libraries as well as other means.
Superintendent Waheed Khan summarised that three key issues in the Pledge were communication, accountability and making sure that the police were delivering outcomes in a way that people could identify as tangible. Referring to comments made earlier by Richard Tucker in relation to timeframes he said that rather than giving vague commitment as to when a response may be obtained from a DWO the Pledge would provide much clearer timeframes within which affected parties could expect immediate action, first contact or completion of an issue. He said that this would provide a benchmark for the police to work to and the police hoped that it would improve confidence in its actions and provide more effective and transparent communication.

Chief Inspector Matt Casey then addressed the Board and said that he would like to explain in more detail what the Neighbourhoods and Partnership strand of the five strands of police operations model would look like.

He said that he had come to Waltham Forest from Camden and Islington and that these were the first two boroughs to merge two policing services into one and based on his experience of how the process had worked there he was very confident that the Neighbourhoods, youth and schools and partnership provision and make sure it was better that when the two boroughs operated separately.

He said that the Neighbourhoods and Partnership strand would be split into four key areas of work. One part of this was the delivery of policing across the 20 wards in Waltham Forest. Each ward would have two DWOs and a PCSO supported by a sergeant who would have three, and in some instances four, teams to manage. These officers would be responsible for the day-to-day delivery of dealing with long-standing community issues, problem-solving, and neighbourhood disputes. Youth and schools provision was another element and across both boroughs there were in excess of 40 secondary schools, numerous primary schools, a couple of pupil referral units and many post-sixteen colleges. Each of these educational establishments would have named police officers who would act as the contact and go-to person. He continued by saying that because there were so many primary and secondary schools it would not be possible to have a dedicated officer for each school. In regard to primary schools they would be split up on a pool basis with each pool having a go-to officer and in relation to secondary schools they would be paired on a buddy basis with each two schools sharing the same officer who would spend an equal amount of time on each site and would help the staff and leadership team of each school with the aim of overcoming the policing challenges of that particular school. Besides the activities in each school there would be youth engagement provision. This was one of the few areas of growth within the Neighbourhoods portfolio, and he stressed that the support of youth engagement work was absolutely essential to the lives of young people, as were things such as the Duke of Edinburgh’s scheme and the volunteer police cadets and other opportunities to engage with young people, and that there would be dedicated police officers who would deal with youth engagement work.

He said that finally there was the partnership hub which brought together individuals who had specialist roles across both boroughs such as faith liaison officers, those responsible for licensing, problem solvers and special constable coordinators and would deliver a partnership strand across the entire BCU.
Chief Inspector Matt Casey then informed the Board that it was intended to introduce a new pro-active approach specifically for Waltham Forest whereby a team of officers, led by a sergeant who would be flexible across 20 wards where they could be moved into the most demanding areas to support the resident ward officers. There would be no specific remit as to their activity as this would be decided by residents, the local authority and senior police officers, deciding upon which were the most challenging areas and issues. The new arrangements would mean that a specific additional number of officers could be parachuted into a small defined area to deal with a single problem.

Chief Inspector Matt Casey concluded by saying that all of the issues he had referred to were underpinned by community relations, strong ties with the local authority, the SNB, ward panels, volunteers, the third sector and charities supporting the police in their carrying out their work.

Councillor Roy Berg thanked the police for their briefing and said that he was pleased to hear that the police were intending to work more closely with the community and other agencies. He then asked when the new arrangement in regard to DWOs would be implemented. Chief Inspector Matt Casey stated that it was intended to have all the personnel in place by the go-live date of 17 October and from then on every ward in Waltham Forest would have two constables and a PCSO and that there would be seven sergeants managing the 20 wards.

Jane Brueseke said that it was very encouraging to hear about the proposed enlarged youth engagement team and referred to the work that the YIAG currently did with PC Jason Hill. She asked for further details as to what was proposed in regard to youth engagement team that would be established under the new BCU. Chief Inspector Matt Casey responded by saying that Waltham Forest will have three people purely responsible for dealing with youth engagement. He said that their work would be guided by the demands in Waltham Forest and therefore was not restricted by the fact that they would lead young people through the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme, volunteer police cadets, work experience and mentoring opportunities. He went on to say that Alison Smith would be responsible for overseeing the work and had strong ideas as to what could be done with a number of the initiatives coming from the Metropolitan Police Youth Engagement Strategy.

Councillor Vicky te Velde referred to the link between reporting data and priority setting and was concerned about the quality of some of the data and asked what steps would be taken to ensure its accuracy. She then said that a lot of young people were experiencing anti-social behaviour and crime but were not reporting the incidents and asked what could be done about this because if crimes were not being reported they would not appear in the statistics which in turn affected how priorities were decided.

The Borough Commander responded by saying that as a result of previous cuts in police resources both analytical and research staff numbers had been reduced drastically and this resulted in the loss of the ability to look at data and produce valuable information which would inform the patrol strategy and priorities. He said that this had been recognised as a mistake and was being rectified with analytical
staff being recruited and this would result in the two boroughs having three analysts between them. Referring to young people affected by crime he said that under the Pledge every young person would have access to a police officer but more needed to be done as young people may not wish to speak to a police officer, but he pointed out that there were also responsible adults in all schools, including teachers and support staff, who young people could talk to. He said that he would encourage these responsible adults to set up processes whereby comprehensive engagement took place and information feed was clearer. He said that young people had to have the confidence of speaking to a responsible adult and not just to a police officer about issues of concern but they could also communicate issues by way of phone, IT platforms and the police websites.

Referring to police priorities the Borough Commander stated that these were serious violence and the death of young men and associated gangs issues and the vulnerability of women and girls, including domestic violence, sexual exploitation and serious sexual assaults.

Councillor Shabana Dhedhi referred to the effective policing that had been carried in the London Borough of Newham and asked what could be done to bring these successful policing methods to Waltham Forest. The Borough Commander said that the same tactics were being used in Waltham Forest as had been employed in Newham in terms of having an increased police presence, for instance in the St James Street area. However, he said that this was unsustainable in the long term so more need to be done to identify the issues that were driving the problems, such as in the St James Street area. He said that the police needed to be more agile in their work and identify the people who led young people to crime and put them in a position where they made poor decisions.

Councillor Shabana Dhedhi referred to the high level of violence in London, drawing attention to a local car-jacking incident she had read about earlier in the day, and said that London appeared to be a very violent place, resulting in individuals being worried about their personal safety. She asked how the police reassured the community that crime was being tackled because the perception of crime was at a high level and said that she was nervous at times when walking in London. She said that she was pleased to hear that similar policing tactics would be used in Waltham Forest as had been used in Newham. The Borough Commander responded by saying that he was the issue of communication whereby the public were more informed of policing activity. He said that perceptions of crime did not correlate to actual crime which was considerably less than people believed. He said that the police could be more responsive in trying to allay fears of violence and getting the message across that the vast majority of people were not physically affected by violence.

A YIAG representative said that the YIAG had been very fortunate to work with PC Jason Hill and then asked what is being done to engage with young people that were hard to reach and who perhaps would not come forward to take part in the initiatives and activities referred to earlier in the meeting as some people might not feel comfortable or lack confidence in coming forward. She said that recently she had seem some of the results from the Big Youth Conversation which reflected the fact that many young people were not anti-police but lacked the facilities to have positive
engagement with the police. Chief Inspector Matt Casey responded by saying that he had spent a lot of time assessing this issue. He made the point that it may be the case that the people who made the effort to come to the police to engage in activities and initiatives were not really the people who the police wanted to engage with as it was the people who did not want to have contact with the police who were the people that needed to be engaged with. He said that the Police Cadets, who came from a variety of backgrounds and cultures, was a prime example of where youths wanted to increase their self-confidence and get exposure to other like-minded young people. He said that some of them had zero regard for the police. In regard to work experience and youth mentoring activities that took place in Newham and would now take place in Waltham Forest he said that they were run by police officers who had life experiences that were worth sharing with young people. However, he said that there was a real advantage in the police joining with other bodies, charities and groups that had more credibility, such as West Ham Football Club, in order engage with the hard to reach and in this regard the police needed to spread itself as thinly as possible and be present at appropriate occasions when young people might want to approach the police.

Richard Tucker said that Stella Creasy MP had done a good job in setting up projects which were willing to engage with young people in a variety of ways and disciplines. He felt that more work could be done in relation to this in order to coordinate activities related to youth engagement. Richard Tucker went on refer to recent robberies in the St James area in association with which two young men were arrested as a result of the victim taking a photo of the perpetrators. He said that in response to this incident involving serious violence a Section 60 Notice had been put in place and extra officers had been assigned to the area.

Philip Dundon stated that he had attended the meeting organised by Stella Creasy MP and that he was very pleased that there had been such a good attendance and response from agencies and organisations.

James O’Rourke, a local resident and observer at the meeting, stated that he had grown up in the St James Street area. He said that the comments about perception were correct in that the crime figures did not correlate to perception, but it needed to be recognised that people were very concerned about being caught up in incidents. He said that consequentially it had to be recognised that the perception was real for many people.

Fiona Martin referred to recent serious crime incidents in the borough and stated that no statements or communications had been issued by the police in relation to these incidents. She said that on occasions such as these communication form the police in regard to activities that were happening or any updates, subject to operational constraints, would provide much needed reassurance to the public. She said that what communication there was tended to come from the local MPs and that that the lack of communication from the police resulted in a lost opportunity for engagement with the community and provide reassurance that action was being taken. Also she said that she and Amanda had been to a number of ward panel meetings since the last Board meeting and on a number of occasions it was apparent that there was a disconnect between what was happening at a CID level in terms of communication and the ward officers getting information. It was clearly the case that response
officers and the CID, who were dealing with major incidents, did not pass on sufficient information to ward officers for them to reassure the public about what had, and was, happening in regard to serious incidents. Richard Tucker responded by saying that he had raised the issue of communication recently with his senior team so that when the police turned up at a scene the duty officer who took control of that incident was thinking about victim safety and then witnesses and suspects when actually they had sergeants and pcs who should be dealing with the operational matters and they should be thinking about the wider and broader engagement requirements.

He said that DWOs had the means to check what issues had occurred in their ward by carrying out a beat check on their ward. He added that they should be informed as to what critical incidents had occurred in the locality. He said that he was due to meet the Inspectors the following day for all the neighbourhood teams and his expectation was that the local DWOs were the leaders within their communities and consequently should be informed appropriately. He stressed that communication was an issue for the police, partly because the Duty Officers changed three times a day, but he said that he would emphasise to his officers that communication was important and that they should keep people informed through the use of Facebook, Twitter and partnership messages so that people were aware of what was going on. The Borough Commander concluded by making an undertaking to include within the Community Pledge a communication plan.

Councillor Roy Berg referred to the fact that he received regular complaints from residents in regard to the 101 service. He said that due to the length of time that people were kept waiting when using this service they often did not stay on the line long enough to speak to someone in order to report an incident. He went on to refer to the police cadets and say that PC Stuart Reid was an outstanding officer and mentor for young people. He suggested that a method that could be used to engage young people and get them involved, and which had proved successful in the past was to have competitions between the Police Cadets, Sea Cadets and the Air Training Corps, with the competition being immediately followed by a social event. He said that this idea could be used in other ways such as through competitions between youth centres.

The Borough Commander and Chief Superintendent Waheed Khan informed the Board that, following the conclusion of final internal discussions within the police, the Community Pledge would be made shared during September, prior to its launch.

The Acting-Chair thanked the police for their report.

17. **ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**

The Acting-Chair said that much work had been carried out relating to the appointment of the Board and also to agree upon the process for the election of executive board members and in this regard he thanked Anthony Jackson, Chris Benson, Suzanne Elwick, Alastair Macorkindale, Fiona Martin, Amanda Wheate and Catherine Mears for their work. The Acting-Chair then asked for nominations for the position of Chair. Fiona Martin was proposed and seconded for the position of Chair and was duly elected at which point she took over the chairing of the meeting.
FIONA MARTIN IN THE CHAIR

The Chair asked for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair and Amanda Wheate was proposed and seconded and was duly elected. The Chair then asked for nominations for the position of Secretary and Catherine Mears was proposed and seconded and was duly elected.

18. PROJECT FUNDING APPLICATIONS - UPDATE

The Chair, Fiona Martin, gave a presentation to update the Board on work carried out on behalf of the Board by Amanda Wheate, Cathy Mears and herself in regard to MOPAC funding applications. She said that an open application process had been used and that emails inviting applications had been sent to a variety of local organisations, the three local MPs, senior police officers, dedicated ward officers, school officers and members of the Safer Neighbourhood Board, and that in addition to this, Stella Creasy MP had sent the application form to her contacts and promoted the process in her weekly newsletter.

The Board noted that to be eligible projects had to either ‘prevent crimes or reduce crimes’ or ‘deliver community engagement’, or achieve both of these.

Fiona Martin continued by saying that 16 applications had been received from a broad selection of organisations covering the entire borough, but added that two of the applications had been rejected as they were incomplete. She then said that the total amount of funding requested in the applications which were eligible was £104,159 but that the budget available was £29,450.

Fiona Martin concluded by informing the Board that of the project applications received, five were supported by the Board, and she said that these, along with the submitting organisation, were:

1. Boxing Diversion Project (East London Boxing Academy)
2. COG – The Link (Higham Hill Hub CIC/Pinpoint CIC)
3. Tackling Youth Crime through Educational Theatre (Leyton College Sixth Form)
4. Development of Neighbourhood Watch across the Borough (MPS – Waltham Forest Safer Neighbourhoods)
5. Let’s Talk with Young People (YIAG)

but that there were a few things that needed to be checked before the selected applications were submitted to MOPAC.

Councillor Shabana Dhedhi stated that she had drawn the ‘Tackling Youth Crime through Educational Theatre’ project to the attention of the Head Teacher of Leyton Sixth Form College as she believed that the College could roll it out to schools as a means of educating pupils about female genital mutilation and sexual violence against women. She was therefore pleased to see that the College had pursued the matter and had applied for funding.
The Board agreed that the five project applications referred to by the Chair in her presentation, as detailed above, be recommended to MOPAC for funding approval.

The Chair thanked Amanda Wheate, Catherine Mears and Alastair Macorkindale for their work on this matter.

19. SAFETynet FORWARD PROGRAMME

Alastair Macorkindale, Head of Community Safety, introduced the item by saying that the purpose of submitting the SafetyNet Forward Plan to the SNB was in order to obtain a community view on key aspects of work which the SafetyNet Board was considering. He said that SafetyNet was the statutory crime and disorder reduction community safety partnership in Waltham Forest, which was chaired by Richard Tucker, the Borough Commander, and it was attended by all of the key chief officers from the appropriate public sector services, representatives of Victim Support and a standing place at the table for a representative of the SNB. He said that it was intended that a cyclical process be established whereby key reports were submitted to the SNB before they were considered by SafetyNet so that the SNB’s views could be represented at SafetyNet. He said that due to the amount and nature of business on this evening’s agenda it had been decided not to include for discussion the main priority themed report which was due to be considered by SafetyNet at its meeting next week but he was happy to circulate the report to the SNB either later in the evening or the following day. He said that the report in question was an update to the SafetyNet Board on the work that was being undertaken to tackle domestic abuse and contained information about new projects and new ways of working that had been adopted over the last three months.

He said that SafetyNet met quarterly and was presented with a performance report every quarter at its meetings, and in addition to this it was also presented with a specific themed report. As he had previously mentioned, the next such report which was due to be considered focussed on violence against women and girls and in particular domestic abuse. He then informed the SNB that the subsequent report, which he was proposing to submit to the SNB, would relate to discussions which had been going on throughout the year as to how issues relating to gangs were being dealt with and responded to and how challenges were being tackled and action implemented.

In response to a question Alastair Macorkindale said that the SafetyNet items would be submitted to all SNB members by way of inclusion in the agenda for SNB meetings. In response a further question from the Chair he clarified that in view of the scheduling of the meetings of the SNB and SafetyNet the key reports would be produced in time for inclusion in the SNB agenda prior to inclusion in the SafetyNet agenda and that it would be for the SNB representative on SafetyNet to relay the views of the SNB on specific reports or matters. He said it would be useful to have a discussion with the Chair and other appropriate representatives of the SNB as to what and how the SNB fed into the SafetyNet executive.

20. FUTURE DATES OF MEETINGS
The Board noted the forthcoming SNB meeting dates which were formally agreed by Full Council at its meeting on 24 May 2018.

21. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

21. (a) Ward Panel Meetings

Amanda Wheate said that since the last SNB meeting both she and Fiona Martin had attended as many Ward Panel meetings as they could and she expressed concern that a lot of attendees appeared to be unaware of the existence or work of the Safer Neighbourhoods Board which she found very dis-heartening. She continued by impressed upon Board members that they should be promoting the SNB when appropriate, such as when speaking to Chairs of Ward Panels, and making efforts to increase the membership of the SNB. She went on to say that she and the Chair would like assistance in compiling a database of Ward Panel Chairs’ contact details. Alastair Macorkindale undertook to task a member of his staff, in partnership with Chief Inspector Matt Casey, to research who the key people were on ward panels and produce a document containing the details of Ward Panel Chairs and other key contacts in the borough. Chris Benson, MOPAC representative, asked that Neighbourhood Watches be included as well on the basis that the information was available.

21. (b) Communication Network

The Chair referred to past problems with effective communication and consequently asked those present to provide their email and telephone contact details to facilitate future communication outside of the Board meetings, such as sending reminders of when ward panel meetings were due to take place, and she also said that it might be useful for a WhatsApp group be set up. The Chair undertook to coordinate the formulation of a contacts list which she would share with Board members and take any other relevant associated action.

21. (c) Vote of Thanks

Chris Benson, MOPAC representative, proposed a vote of thanks to Philip Dundon for his work whilst fulfilling the role of Acting-Chair. Members of the Board endorsed Chris Benson’s comments.

22. **SNB MEMBERSHIP/COMPOSITION**

Councillor Dhedhi asked how the Board membership was derived and elected and how the applications for Board membership were circulated and publicised. The Chair stated that those Board members present at the meeting had applied earlier in the year their applications were vetted at the time by MOPAC and the Acting-Chair.

Chris Benson stated that the situation that was faced earlier in the year was that a new Board needed to be established and that the first part of this process had been to obtain bone-fide nominations from ward panels. Chris Benson continued by
saying that the re-establishing the Board was a step-by-step process and the first step had been the appointment of the nominees of ward panels and now it was for the SNB to attract more new members.

Philip Dundon said that applications had been received before the last meeting of the Board and that they had been reviewed by himself, the Council and MOPAC. He went on to say that at the last Board meeting he had proposed that the applications be accepted en-masse and consequently the appointment of the current Board members had been agreed and taken place at the SNB meeting held on 11 June 2018.

The Chair concluded by saying that it was now a case of trying to increase the membership of the SNB and having more ward panel chairs in attendance at SNB meetings.

Cathy Mears suggested that the Councillors present to go to their own ward panels and encourage attendees to come to the SNB meetings.

The meeting closed at 9.14 pm

Chair’s Signature

Date