

Committee	COUNCIL MEETING
Date	11th February 2019
Agenda Item	13

Neighbourhood watch

Clive Stewart, Chairman of Neighbourhood Watch for Essex has been in touch. He has stated that the Chief Constable is very supportive of Neighbourhood Watch. Some parts of Essex are placing more Neighbourhood Watch street signs where there are groups established and the cost is being shared by Essex Police and District Councils as well as Neighbourhood Watch. Mr Stewart has suggested meeting with the Chairman or councillors to discuss developing the scheme in Halstead.

Background information

The aim of Neighbourhood watch is to strengthen links between members of a community and protect the more vulnerable.

Traditionally, Neighbourhood Watch activities have focused on the immediate vicinity of homes, with members looking out for anything suspicious and helping their neighbours. However, more and more schemes are broadening their work to target a range of other problems such as cyber-crime, anti-social behaviour, vandalism and graffiti. When links are made with other local schemes and wider alliances are formed, the membership can become a powerful voice within a community and get actively involved in problem-solving. Neighbourhood Watch is well-known to help reduce burglary, anti-social behaviour, doorstep crime and environmental problems. But criminals are no longer constrained by geographical boundaries, and in recent years there has been a steady rise in fraud and cybercrime.

Recommendation : that HTC agrees to meet with Clive Stewart.



Sarah Greateorex
Town Clerk