



DECISION NUMBER: PCCG-2019-069

**MINUTES OF THE ANIMAL WELFARE MEETING
HELD ON 28th OCTOBER 2019, 4.00PM
AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, CROESYCEILIOG**

PRESENT: Mr Martyn Evans – Chair
 Mrs Gill Mason
 Mrs Laura Buchanan-Smith
 Mrs Caroline Herbert
 Emma Smith, RSPCA Deputy Chief Inspector
 PC 1129 Paul Booth, Dog Section
 Jeff Cuthbert, Police and Crime Commissioner
 Mrs Nicola Warren – Scheme Administrator, OPCC
 Mrs Ceri Davis – Assistant Scheme Administrator, OPCC

The meeting began at 4.00pm

1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	ACTION
	Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Lisa Winnett, Jennifer Deasington and Ellis Park.	
2	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF 24th JUNE 2019 The minutes were agreed to be an accurate reflection of the meeting.	
3	CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR NOMINATIONS As some of the visitors were not able to attend the meeting, the committee agreed for the nominations to take place at the next meeting.	
4	MATTERS ARISING Martyn Evans (ME) informed us that whilst carrying out a visit a dog handler had refused to get the dog out of the van for inspection on two separate occasions. PC Booth (PB) informed the visitors this was most likely because the dogs were unsocialised and the officers were trying to maintain this as part of the training process. NW had not been made aware of this and asked that all visitors inform the OPCC if it happened again as per the agreed process for flagging up concerns.	ALL

	Ceri Davis (CD) to contact Sergeant Julie Pearse (JP) to ascertain why the dogs were not able to be seen by the visitors	CD
5	<p>SCHEME UPDATE</p> <p>Nicola Warren (NW) confirmed that she had reviewed the Animal Welfare Scheme Framework and that there had been no change to the number of volunteers on the scheme since the last meeting. There were no issues with maintaining the current scheme and carrying out the number of visits required.</p> <p>NW reminded the volunteers that their ID Cards should be kept up to date. Some attendees stated that their ID cards were now out of date. CD recorded the names of those with out of date ID cards and agreed to follow this up.</p> <p>The volunteers informed the group that they were rarely asked to show their ID badge when attending a visit. NW reiterated the importance of ensuring the visitors presented their ID card to the officers when conducting a visit and agreed to contact the Sergeant to ensure officers were advised to request ID during a visit for safety and security purposes. CD to raise this with JP.</p> <p>NW informed the group that under the new General Data Protection Regulations completed visit report forms should not be retained by the visitors. The signed visit forms should be posted to the OPCC. If the visitor emailed a copy to the OPCC, the email should be deleted and the form destroyed immediately and appropriately. This was agreed.</p> <p>All visitors confirmed they had received a copy of the updated Animal Welfare Scheme Hand Book.</p> <p>NW advised us that Finn's Law had been used by Staffordshire Police against an offender who assaulted a dog in August 2019. This resulted in a conviction and the offender received a 21 month prison sentence for attacking the police dog as well as for other offences.</p> <p>We were advised that PD Jack had sadly passed away but he had a long and happy retirement with his handler.</p> <p>NW asked the group if anyone would like to volunteer to take part in a short video to promote the good work of the Animal Welfare Scheme. CD to email the visitors to establish numbers of interested individuals.</p> <p>NW informed us that there was a new confidentiality form to be completed and returned. CD to post a copy to all visitors.</p> <p>We discussed visitor involvement at recent events and agreed that all visitors should be informed of any opportunity to participate in future.</p>	<p>CD</p> <p>CD</p> <p>CD</p> <p>CD</p> <p>CD</p> <p>CD</p> <p>CD</p> <p>CD</p>

8. VISIT FRAMEWORK	NW noted that this agenda item was for information and that no changes had been made to the number of visits in the framework.	
11. WATERTON VISIT	A discussion was held to determine if there were any volunteers available for the next visit to check on the kennels at Waterton. Caroline Herbert and Emma Smith (RSPCA) agreed they would undertake the visit and contact JP to arrange.	CH
12. AOB	Concerns were raised regarding attendance at meetings as some members were not adhering to the minimum attendance of one meeting per year. NW agreed to address the matter with the relevant individuals and to provide an update to the Chair and Vice Chair in due course.	NW
13. DETAILS OF THE NEXT MEETING	The next Animal Welfare Meeting has been scheduled for 4pm on 24th February 2020 in Conference Room 1.	

Jeff Cuthbert B.SC., MDIPD, Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent

I confirm I have considered whether or not I have any personal or prejudicial interest in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with my code of conduct. Any such interests are recorded below.

The above request has my approval.

Signed 	Date <u>17/1/20</u>
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Contact Officer	
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Background papers	