

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT JOINT POLICING SUB COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF CAPPAMORE-KILMALLOCK HELD AT THE DEEBERT HOUSE HOTEL, LIMERICK ON THURSDAY, 20th October, 2022, AT 2.00 P.M.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:

Councillor John Egan, An Cathaoirleach.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Carey, Donegan, Mitchell, E Ryan, M Ryan and Teefy.

Apologies: Director, Transportation and Infrastructure (Mr. B. Kennedy)

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Meetings Administrator (Ms. D. O'Brien); Senior Executive Engineer (Mr. T. McKechnie) and Clerical Officer (Ms. H. O'Neill)

Also in attendance: Acting Superintendent An Garda Siochana, Mr Patrick Brennan (Bruff) and Inspector An Garda Siochana, Mr James Ruddle (Roxboro).

1. Adoption of Minutes

- (i) Circulated copy of draft Minutes of April Meeting of the Joint Policing Committee of Cappamore Kilmallock held on 14th July, 2022.

Proposed by: Councillor Donegan

Seconded by: Councillor Egan

And Resolved:

“That the draft Minutes, as circulated, be taken as read and adopted and signed.”

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

2. Policing Issues in the District

An Cathaoirleach wished to compliment An Garda Siochana on a meeting held earlier in October to discuss Anti Social behaviour. He also wished to welcome Inspector James Ruddle to the meeting and thanked Superintendent Dermot O'Connor who previously attended the Joint Policing Committee meetings in the Municipal District.

Superintendent Brennan commenced by addressing the questions that had been submitted by the Elected Members since the July meeting.

Regarding Antisocial behaviour it was noted that 2 new Gardai would be starting in the Kilmallock Barracks in Unit D. It was highlighted that the public should contact 999 in case of emergency rather than the local Garda Station as calls would be guaranteed to be answered.

This is not due to the Garda Station not being manned, but that the Gardai may be attending to another call. When 999 is used the closest patrol available to the incident will respond and the log of the call will be permanent.

In relation to speeding it was noted that there were 267 speed detections in 2021 compared to 227 in 2022 (not including detections by the speed van). The best deterrant against speed was highlighted as being the driver feedback signs.

Details of the new Policing model were outlined. Where previously 2 districts existed in County Limerick, this has been amalgamated into one, to be known as the Limerick County Community Engagement area. One Superintendent will be covering this Community Engagement Area, and one Superintendent (Gda Dermot O'Connor) will be covering the Crime Unit. Should the value of a theft exceed €7,000 this will be dealt with by the crime unit.

Other changes include the Performance and Assurance area to deal with Risk/Audit/Governance and streamlining the court system and GSOC complaints. The Business Services area covers Finance and Human Resource Management.

Bruff Division

Acting Superintendent Brennan outlined that it is important to advise constituents that there is a possibility of an increase in burglaries in the run up to Christmas, and that alarms and security lights etc should be utilised.

Acting Superintendent Brennan also confirmed that Superintendent Andrew Lacey would be covering the Roxboro district at JPC meetings moving forward.

An outline of the priorities for An Garda Síochána in the run up to Christmas was provided for the Elected Members including : Speeding, Drink Driving, Seatbelt and Phone Use while driving.

Acting Superintendent Brennan proceeded with the statistics for the Bruff Division, providing a comparison between Q3 2021 and Q3 2022, noting that these are provisional figures for the period:

Type of crime	Q3 2021	Q3 2022
Burglaries	8	9
Thefts	12	9
Thefts from MPVs	12	10
Section 3 assaults	Decrease by 80%	
Section 2 assaults	11	20
Section 3 Drug offences (possession)	Reduced by 62% due to detections.	
Section 15 drug offences (sale or supply)	Reduced by 60%	
Drunk Driving	12	5
Drug driving	0	1
Fraud (including Phishing)	Decreased by 47% due to campaign of awareness undertaken by economic fraud bureau	

Acting Superintendent Brennan noted that the County Drug unit was now staffed with a Sergeant which should see an increase in detections.

Patrols in the area:

Area	Number of Patrols
Bruff	200
Hospital	150
Kilmallock	294
Bruree	74
Ballylanders	94
Cappamore	71
Pallasgreen	91
Murroe	38
Oola	27

It was noted that some patrols may be proactive without responding to a call.

Roxboro Division

Superintendent O'Connor outlined a report from the Roxboro division as follows:

Type of crime	2021 Q3	2022 Q3
Property Crime	11 (burglaries 1, thefts 10)	11 (burglaries 3, thefts 8)
Crimes against the person	3 (minor)	2
Public order incidents	3	4
Drink/drug driving	2 (1 drug, 1 alcohol)	4
Collisions	22	12
Fraud	1	2
Domestic Violence	13	10
Criminal Damage	5	1

It was noted that the reports of Domestic Abuse had increased due to increased reporting and an awareness campaign. Details of the risk evaluation tool used by Gardai responding to reports of Domestic Abuse were provided.

In relation to collisions, it was noted by the Elected Members that 30 vehicle accidents had taken place in 8 weeks on the approach road to Ballylanders. It was agreed by Acting Superintendent Brennan that a meeting regarding same could be arranged through locally based Garda Dave Hennessy.

It was noted that a question regarding averaging speed cameras was going to the Transportation SPC, and feedback was received from Acting Superintendent Brennan that these cameras are effective and showing results.

An awareness campaign regarding the offence of parking on the footpath was put forward as a suggestion for Limerick City and County Council.

Any Other Business

The Elected Members wished to express a vote of sympathy to the families of Dylan McCarthy and Billy Casey, both of whom were victims of violent assaults.

The Elected Members expresses their best wishes to Detective Roche and congratulations to Garda Derek Smart.

The Elected Members also congratulated An Garda Siochana on their 100 year celebration, 25 years in Bruff and the Little Blue Heroes initiative.

It was noted that Alan Dooley, IT Department, Limerick City and County Council will be invited to the next JPC meeting.

The Cairde App through Muintir Na Tire was discussed, and the Elected Members noted that they look forward to further implementation of same.

An Cathaoirleach concluded by requesting that the names of any new Gardai to a locality be submitted to local newsletters etc and Gardai invited to local events to provide a strong relationship between An Gardai and local Communities.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____

Cathaoirleach

Date: _____