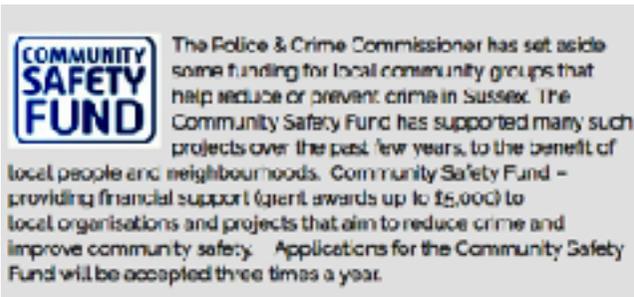


Addressing crime & safety in Round Hill without *Bonnie*

The office of the **Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner** invites bids for awards of up to **£5,000** from local organisations and projects which serve the purposes of **reducing crime** &/ or **improving community safety**



To bid successfully for an award,

1. we will need to provide **evidence of a real need for a project or initiative** (of our own design) in our local area
2. the project should **belong to a local, not-for-profit community organisation** and (where possible) should receive **match funding from other sources**
3. the project should **focus on activity** rather than equipment, capital expenditure, or anything which would involve permanent salary costs. i.e. The Fund will not support CCTV camera, things like street lights which are the Council's statutory duty, day-to-day utility bills, council tax, insurance.

Bonnie was our dedicated Police Community Support Officer, before *the cuts* did away with her original job description.

Ideas we have had so far: something akin to 'neighbourhood watch', but brought up to date

[old model = slips through letterboxes reporting burglaries; new model = include social media]

The real need could be made up of different strands representing our neighbourhood's concerns:

- preventative initiatives to promote better home & garden security to reduce **break-ins**, **bicycle theft** and **vulnerability to doorstep scams**
- procedures to increase communication among residents in each street, using volunteer **street representatives** helping residents within these smaller areas to look out for each other.
- The above procedures could help to address **fly-tipping**, vandalism (e.g. **damage to vehicles**) and **damage to property** including **tagging**. They could also address **anti-social behaviour** (e.g. unreasonable **noise**, **bonfires** on a scale & frequency which cause unreasonable smoke disturbance to neighbours, or **refuse and recycling malpractices** which please seagulls while causing an obstacle course for pedestrians). As with Neighbourhood Watch, there would be liaison with the authorities responsible for dealing with these concerns (e.g. Local Police Team, Council's Environmental Health Officer, CityClean).

Not for profit community organisation and **matching funding from other sources** - *The Round Hill Society* could step into the role of the **Not for profit community organisation** and it could provide a limited amount of **matching funding**. However:

- The 7 continuing members of the RHS committee already organise things and are not looking for more to do without support from others. There are circa 900 household in Round Hill i.e. circa 2,300 residents counting both adults and children. If a bid for an award to address crime and safety is going to happen through *The Round Hill Society*, we will need residents to come forward as volunteers to help. It is not necessary for volunteers or street representatives to be RHS committee members, though there would need to be a 'report back mechanism'. Our hope is for 5 new committee members to come forward.
- We do not have an income which would allow us to match large amounts of funding (The Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner would make allowances for that). However, it would be shrewd if some strands of the bid could be extensions of activities (relating to crime & safety) which *The Round Hill Society* already spends money on. The obvious one is Street Play where we already pay for Dr Bike to do free safety checks on kids' bicycles. Perhaps we could extend provision to giving advice on bicycle locks. We might be able to draw in community bicycle projects (e.g. changing gears Lewes Rd) as partners.

So what are we asking residents to do?

[1] To say whether you support the idea of a project to address crime and safety either along the lines described overleaf or of a different design if you have other ideas.

[2] To say whether you would be willing to support such a project on any level:

- you may be willing to act as a street representative or be good at using social media (e.g. if these elements become part of ‘a project design’ reflecting a *modern Neighbourhood Watch*).
- You may want to become a committee member of *The Round Hill Society* and make the project your own niche. If you have previous experience of making successful bids for fund money, the following table indicates the objectives of *The Community Safety Fund*.

POLICE & CRIME PLAN OBJECTIVE	TYPE OF COMMUNITY INITIATIVES THAT WILL BE GIVEN PRIORITY
WORKING WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND PARTNERS TO KEEP SUSSEX SAFE:	
Encourage and support local communities to prevent crime and disorder	Those that promote cohesion / reduce crime / improve community safety and create a positive and lasting impact on local community
Work with partners to reduce offending and reoffending	Those that support our partners in preventing offending and reducing re-offending - particularly projects to help reduce domestic abuse, serious sexual offences and violent crime (targeted diversionary activities).
Catch criminals and prevent serious and organised crime and terrorism	Those that raise awareness and support services in tackling and preventing serious and organised crime and terrorism.

The Round Hill Society is grateful to Sandy Thomas, who is stepping down from RHS Committee, for challenging the *Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner’s Office* over cuts to local policing, and finding out about the *Community Safety Fund*. The future of **a project addressing crime and safety in Round Hill** will depend on Round Hill residents’ interest and willingness to participate. There are other *roles & niches* which new RHS committee members may prefer e.g.ranging from recreational activities to involvement in planning issues.