

Reports presented at Hawstead PC Meeting 19 September 2013

1) Police Report

St Edmundsbury Rural South Safer Neighbourhood Team

Priority Setting Meeting Report

Tuesday 10th September 2013

Our three priorities set at the last meeting on 11th June 2013 were as follows:

- Address speeding at various times in **Whepstead, Depden, Cavendish, Little & Great Thurlow.**
- Reduce the number of burglaries throughout the Rural South area.
- Reduction of theft from motor vehicles throughout the Rural South Area.

Speeding:

Various speed checks have been conducted in the above villages and as a result:

- **Whepstead – 3 Checks carried out, 2 Tickets issued and 4 Verbal Warnings given.**
- **Depden – 5 Checks carried out, 0 Tickets issued and 4 Verbal Warnings given.**
- **Cavendish – 4 Checks carried out, 1 Ticket issued and 5 Verbal Warnings given.**
There was also 1 driver reported for summons due to speeding in excess of 50mph and could not be dealt with at the roadside.
- **Thurlow's – 6 Checks carried out, 2 Tickets issued and 10 Verbal warnings.**
- **PCSO Static Speed Checks have also been conducted in Denston & Chedburgh.**

A few of the residents of Depden have expressed their interest in setting up a new community speed watch scheme for the village. As an SNT we are currently in the process of putting the wheels in motion to getting this up and running.

Cavendish's community speed watch team have been very proactive as always throughout the months of June, July and August. As have the teams in Cowlinge and Great Bradley. So a big thank you to them for continuing to provide a visible presence in their respective villages and help tackle speeding problems.

Burglaries:

The priority to reduce the number of burglaries throughout the Rural South area was kept on from the previous 3 month period. The results as a contrast are as follows:

- During the period **12th March – 11th June 2013** there was a total of **26** Burglaries reported to us. Broken down these were **2** Burglary Dwellings and **24** Burglary other buildings.

- During the period **11th June – 10th September 2013** there was a total of **33** Burglaries reported to us. Broken down these were **3** Burglary Dwellings and **30** Burglary other buildings.

As you can see unfortunately on paper we saw an increase of **7** burglary offences throughout our 32 villages. This increase broken down was **1** more burglary dwelling and **6** more burglary other buildings.

However out of the **30** burglary other buildings we saw in the last 3 month period **19** of those occurred overnight on the 18th June during one spate in 2 villages. (**10** in Withersfield and **9** in Cavendish.)

The majority of the 19 overnight burglaries mentioned had little or no value items of property stolen, however, we encourage the reporting of these incidents as it enables us to build a better pattern and trend of offences, and aides our enquiries and the potential of identifying the offenders responsible. So we were pleased to see members of the public doing this.

Theft from motor vehicles:

Our priority to reduce the number of Theft from Motor Vehicles throughout the Rural South area was very successful, we halved the amount of offences reported to us in the last quarter. The results as a contrast are as follows:

- During the period **12th March – 11th June 2013** there was a total of **18** theft from motor vehicle offences reported to us across our 32 villages.
- During the period **11th June – 10th September 2013** there was a total of **9** theft from motor vehicle offences reported to us across our 32 villages.

Upcoming priorities for the St Eds Rural South SNT:

- Due to burglaries being an on-going concern and worry with a lot of residents in the rural community and the slight increase with the previous quarter we will look to keep this as a SNT priority.
- With speeding an on-going concern in all villages not just in the area but county and nationwide, we will be keeping the speeding priority but changing the 4 villages we will be paying particular attention to. Our suggested villages for the next 3 months are **Clare, Hundon, Kedington & Hawstead** due to receiving correspondence from residents from those villages recently highlighting specific problem times and locations. If there are any representatives from any of our villages here who would like to put forward their village then we will welcome these suggestions and come to a decision on our final chosen four.
- Any members of the public, who would like to suggest a forthcoming priority for the team, please feel free to put your ideas forward.

Twitter:

If you would like to keep up to date with the goings on of the St Eds Rural South Team follow us on Twitter. @PoliceHaverhill

2) Borough Councillor's Report

September Report for Hawstead

Shared services. The group set up to restructure the staffing at SEBC and FHDC has had its last meeting. The restructuring has saved £3.5 million for every year from now on. Services are now successfully operating across the two councils with shared management, offices, the same terms and conditions and savings more than £1 million higher than originally anticipated.

The result is that services now have staff who will work across West Suffolk, not just for the council which employs them. Although staff are shared, Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury councils keep their own individual identities, political decision-making processes and budgets.

Parish Conference. The date has been set for 22nd of October at the Apex. Arrangements will be made over parking for people attending. It is planned to spend some time briefing councils about future funding before they meet to set their precepts.

Development Control. We are currently trying to arrive at a common practice of working between FHDC and SEBC. The aim is to both simplify and expedite the planning process. We hope the new system will be in place later in the autumn.

Car Parking Review. This is on going. If agreed by Full Council,

- the 'free from 3' tariff will be extended for another year and in the run up to Christmas, the usual free from 4pm on a Thursday will also become free from 3pm.
- The cashless parking scheme with RingGo will be extended for a further 3 years.

Pay on exit parking is still being investigated as start up costs need to be fully examined. An independent report should be presented by the end of the year.

Waste Transfer Station. The proposal is to construct a modern indoor waste station at Rougham Hill which is needed to support Suffolk's move away from landfill to Energy from Waste. Essentially it is a large shed where collected waste and recycling is brought in for bulking onto larger lorries for onward transport. Currently waste is taken to stations at Thetford, Red Lodge and Haverhill from where it is taken out of county. Contracts for this run out in 2014. The SCC have selected Bury to be a centre because HWRC is already located there, it is compatible with surrounding land use and has good access to the A14.

Whilst the site at the moment is not near to housing, it will not be the case as the area to the south east of Bury is developed with 1250 new houses as part of 2031. This is the major cause for concern at the moment, together with concerns about yet more traffic congestion in this area. There will be opportunity for the public to comment further as the Planning process goes forward.

Gypsy and Travellers. Travellers are currently occupying the Nowton Park car park. SEBC have served them with a Section 77 notice requiring them to vacate the site by Monday. If they do not move away a court order will need to be applied for.

There have been on going problems over the summer with unauthorised occupation of several sites in the Borough. The Council is investigating the use of a pre-emptive injunction to prevent future use of such sites.

These travellers want to stay in the Bury area where they have work. I am therefore alerting you to the proximity of Hawstead Village Green to Nowton Park.

Angela Rushen

September 2013