

Priorities

Theft from vehicles: The team have very much been focused on community concerns regarding thefts from vehicles in the Grove area. Patrols have increased and other tactics deployed in order to detect and reduce incidents. We are urging the community to stay vigilant and report any suspicious activity no matter how insignificant it appears. Please also consider securing valuables from view.

Drugs warrant: You reported incidents of drug dealing activity in St Marys so we executed a warrant and arrested two people and recovered drugs. A clear message was sent to the local community that drug dealing is not tolerated and we will force entry to your property if you possess or deal drugs.

Rural crime: A new WhatsApp group was formed in order to tackle Rural Crime and has proved a huge asset in reducing criminality by sharing fast time information and making the community more resilient. It was also used successfully to find and locate a vulnerable missing person off the A417.

King Alfred's School safety talks

It is important to safeguard young people from drugs which is why the Neighbourhood Team helped King Alfred's School in delivering safety awareness talks over the past month to pupils and parents. The feedback from everyone involved has highlighted that it was a worthwhile use of our time in helping safeguard the young people in Wantage.

Parking – 'You said we did'

We received a lot of complaints about inconsiderate parking near to King Alfred's School West Site. We handed out advice leaflets, patrolled during pick up and drop off times and have given the school advice. The school are now allowing drop-offs in the bus lane. All of these combined actions have meant a reduced number of complaints and people are parking more considerately and parking further away to alleviate the traffic and making it safer for the children and the general public

Offenders brought to justice

There is a group of young people in the Wantage area who come to police attention more than most. At this time we are working hard to get convictions for Racially Aggravated Harassment offences as well as violence offences against this group, who are aged 15 years old to 18 years old. Nobody is above the law no matter how young they are and we continue to make that point so that Wantage can remain a safe community.

Witness appeals

Again we urge for the communities help in identifying suspicious activity in Grove to help us catch the criminals stealing from vehicles. If you do catch any suspicious activity on your domestic CCTV then please tell us as it will really help. We also appeal for witnesses to a recent ram-raid at the COOP at Millbrook Square.

Future events/meetings/active communities

Please come and support the Neighbourhood Team v Sweatbox 'on tour' at a community football match during the evening on 4th May at Wantage Town Football Club. Sweatbox are currently without a weekly home so they are on tour for six months until the new facility is ready to use at King Alfred's.

Have Your Say meetings

Please come along and talk to a neighbourhood officer about any local concerns:

- Wednesday, 18 April 2018, 10-11am at Sainsbury's Café, Wantage with PCSO Keith Jennings.
- Monday, 30th April 2018, 3-3.30pm at the front of Millbrook School, Grove with PCSO Tom Walcott-Smith.

Contact us

If you want any advice or would like to contact the neighbourhood team you can call us on the police non-emergency number 101 or if it is an emergency then dial 999. You can also contact us via email WantageandgroveNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk. Please note this email address cannot be used to contact Thames Valley Police to report crimes or for any urgent matters. To view information on your neighbourhood team visit the Thames Valley Police website at: www.thamesvalley.police.uk. Receive free local crime alerts and crime prevention advice by registering at www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk today. Please also follow us on Twitter @TVPSouthandVale.

