

'You said we did'/ Priorities

Rural Crime – Over the last month we have had three crime reports of hare coursing on the Wantage and Grove neighbourhood area. Hare coursing increases as crops are being cleared from the fields. Hare coursing can lead to crops being destroyed, cause damage to property and has a detrimental effect on wildlife and the environment. Two vehicles were recently seized on the Thame Neighbourhood and one on Faringdon Neighbourhood which had been used in coursing/hunting. We are working closely with local land owners and gamekeepers to help combat rural crime and will be planning some more joint operations involving local farmers in the future.

Under aged drinking – We received a couple of calls about under aged drinking over the last month. Alcohol was taken off one youth and they were also taken home by police and their parents spoken to. We are still continuing patrols to combat under aged drinking and reports compared to six months ago have reduced significantly.

Anti-social behaviour (ASB)

We have received a small increase in calls regarding ASB in Wantage town centre over the last month. A small group of kids have been reported shouting abuse at people and climbing on building sites. Four teenagers have recently signed Acceptable Behaviour Contacts with the police and any breeches of the conditions can be used as evidence to apply for a Community Behaviour Order (CBO) which will make their Anti-Social Behaviour a criminal offence. A CBO is the new version of the old ASBO.

We are still getting a few calls regarding cars causing issues in the Manor Road recreation ground car park, messing around on the gravel, and revving their engines/wheel spinning whilst leaving the car park. We are currently attempting to try and secure funding for speed ramps on the exit to help reduce some of the issues and also regularly patrolling the area. Any vehicle being used in an anti-social manner can be issued with a section 59 warning and if they are caught again in a 12 month period then their vehicle can be seized.

Crime prevention advice

During August there were three burglaries, one in Grove and two in Wantage where insecure/unlocked properties were entered and items taken. From one a TV was taken, another a laptop was stolen and the in the last, offenders took a set of car keys and stole the car. In all of these cases there was no sign of forced entry and the properties had left doors unlocked. Investigations are ongoing and if you have any information please phone 101.

When leaving your property, even for a short time make sure to lock all doors and downstairs windows before leaving and at night and use timers on lamps or radios if you are away to make it look like someone is in.

It is also a good idea to keep a record of serial numbers of expensive electronics to assist Police in tracing the owner of recovered property. Immobilise.com is a good website where you can register your items and the police will check this website when we recover suspected stolen items to see if they have been reported stolen.

Future events/meetings

On Sunday 17 September 2017 at midday, we will be assisting at the Battle of Britain Parade in Wantage town centre.

Personnel Changes

At the end of September PCSO Denise Clements will be retiring from Thames Valley Police. Denise mainly worked on the east side of the Neighbourhood covering the from the Hendreds right across to Blewbury. Denise worked with us for over 11 years on neighbourhood and three years in custody. We wish her all the best for the future.

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. This allows anyone who signs up to choose what updates they receive and how they would like to receive it. The Thames Valley Police Twitter account is kept up to date with what we are up to; please follow us @TVPSouthandVale 