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Mon 24th March 2022

1. I'd like to thank the Parish Council for their continued support and for their annual donation in supporting SNAST, which serves to help and support NHW Groups in the South Northants Area.
2. The last year has been still had its ups and downs, as we learn to live with Covid-19 which still caused restrictions and lockdowns but even under these very difficult circumstances village life still carried on. I've kept The Parish Council updated monthly by email or in person. I've used The Old Mail for seasonal items.
3. We have a Dedicated Facebook Page for Potterspury, to keep people updated with recent / relevant crimes in our area, which also includes relevant Crime prevention Posters and advice.

4. I receive updates from The Police, Action for Fraud, The NCA (National Crime Agency) and other Agencies via Facebook & Twitter. Neighbourhood Alert helps me keep informed on Local issues including Crime Prevention matters but some messages cover other areas, this is because the Crime in question could easily be repeated where we live by the same criminal(s) on the same day.

A good example of this is a distraction burglary.... Criminals quickly move around, and it is useful to know who and what to look out for to prevent further incidents occurring elsewhere in the county.

We still have an extensive Police Website that contains a variety of useful information, both specific to our area and of general interest, aiding interaction between the public and the Police. You can use the website (www.northants.police.uk) to report Crime, which can be quicker than ringing 101.

5. Fraud continues to be a serious issue for us all with an ever-increasing list of sophisticated scams being used.

Scams in the form of emails about renewing your TV License, Amazon Prime or Netflix accounts or by ringing people, purporting to be from either their Bank, The Police or HMRC to obtain people's Bank details.

Covid is still being used as an excuse by Txt's or Emails regarding the Covid-19 Vaccine, asking people to click on fake NHS looking links to obtain payment and provide Bank details, the NHS would never ask for payment and especially as the Vaccine is Free.

The advice is never click on any link contained in a Txt or E-mail, unless you are absolutely confident it's from who they say they are, always ring the relevant phone number for the company you hold the account with or from a reliable source.

6. Our yearly Crime figures are showing a small increase as we have still suffered from Crime, from Mountain Bike Thefts to attempts to break into Sheds & Vans and still have the occasional suspicious vehicles driving around. Also, we are still experiencing Anti-Social Behaviour by a small group of Intimidating Youngsters, causing damage and distress for The Village. This impacts on all residents and the local community, which can be un-nerving, leaving people feeling frustrated and Vulnerable. When this happens Potterspurry

shows it still has a strong sense of community spirit with some residents using various social media sites to convey information of concern, however sometimes forgetting to report their suspicions to The Police, it helps to report all incidents of Crime (even suspicions) as this in turn will help The Police to build up a picture of what is happening in our area.

It is important to report each incident at the time, if possible, by ringing 999 as it is a "crime in progress", especially if there are additional issues like verbal abuse, ASB or a related vehicle registration number, The Police control room will then Triage the call and decide if it requires a 999 response. Alternatively, it can be reported by ringing 101 or by going online to the Northants Police website.

7. Our CCTV cameras in Meadow View continue to help and are a great asset to the Village. I continue to help residents with advice concerning Crime prevention and refer them to the relevant bodies for further assistance if and where needed. I still contact The Police directly to report Crime and to seek information for the benefit of the village.

8. Northamptonshire Police continue with their Policing plan which puts the Public and Communities they serve at the heart of all they do.

South Northamptonshire Neighbourhood Team, the Office of the Police, Fire, & Crime Commissioner and Northamptonshire Police launched their new Beat Buses. One to cover the western half of the county, the other covering the northern area. These buses will be out and about into the very heart of our communities inviting people to come and speak to one of the local Neighbourhood PC's or PCSO's with any concerns or provide intelligence to help The Police or too just ask for advice on Crime Prevention.

In the words of our very founder Robert Peel:

"The police are the public and that the public are the police, the police being only members of the public who are paid to give full-time attention to duties which are incumbent on every citizen in the interests of community welfare and existence."

An Online mapping tool has allowed members of the public to flag areas in their communities where they feel unsafe – and local agencies are urging even more people to use the map to help them identify areas that can be helped.

The StreetSafe map was launched in September 2021 by the Home Office, and the National Police Chiefs' Council collects data allowing police forces to understand the specific concerns raised and use the information to make informed decisions on safety. After a successful first phase trial, the StreetSafe map is now continuing to be available for use by the public for the 2022/23 financial year.

Although open to everyone, the tool is being used as part of efforts both locally and nationally to tackle violence against women and girls. West Northamptonshire Council and the Office of the Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (OPFCC) have been awarded £800,000 to deliver a host of schemes to improve safety for women and girls.

Reporting is anonymous and the data gathered for Northamptonshire will be used by the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner's Office. Validated trends will be taken to the Community Safety Partnerships in Northamptonshire where Police and Local Authorities will jointly work towards finding solutions.

Now the three organisations – Northamptonshire Police, West Northamptonshire Council and the OPFCC – are urging residents to share their views, with the promise that their feedback will be taken into consideration.

Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, Stephen Mold, said: “The first trial phase since September has proved very useful for us, and we're glad to see StreetSafe continuing for the next financial year. This will really help us reveal any patterns and build solutions for specific local problems.

“And it will form a really important part of the work we are doing in Northamptonshire to target violence against women and girls.”

Northamptonshire's Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (NPFCC) Stephen Mold announced that he wants bars, pubs, clubs and restaurants across the county to support a pioneering police-led

licensing initiative to make their venues safer and more secure for the benefit of customers, staff and local communities.

The Commissioner sees the Licensing Security & Vulnerability Initiative (Licensing SAVI), which is the first ever National Policing Award for safety and security, as a major part of his strategy to tackle violence against women and girls.

Licensing SAVI encourages venues to improve their operational security and management practices year on year using an online self-assessment, which for the first time, contains all the information that venues need to meet police and council statutory requirements for safety and security.

It can lead to venues being awarded a Licensing SAVI star-rating for display to show the efforts taken to improve safety and security.

As well as providing safer and more secure venues, Licensing SAVI also seeks to reduce the demand on Police Forces, NHS Ambulance Services and Accident & Emergency Departments. Licensing SAVI is supported by the National Police Chiefs' Council and Project Servator, a police anti-terrorism initiative.

Northamptonshire Commissioner Stephen Mold said his five-year crime plan (2021-26) includes seeking to protect those who are most vulnerable – an objective that has received added importance by the recent national campaign to prevent violence against women and girls.

9. I have a stock of Crime Prevention items from our local SNAST Team which can be purchased by residents at cost price, these vary from Shed Alarms to mini personal alarms for their properties and an array of leaflets / Stickers to give out. I hope to purchase more NHW signs for the Village this year, which I hope will go some way to deter Criminals.

10. Our strong Community Spirit Continues and proves that we all wish the best for our village and there is a desire to look out for one another and keep it as safe as possible.

11. Our Watch still moves forward for the future of our community. I still strongly feel that what we are doing is the correct path to take as the link between the local Community and the Police is as vital as ever.

Be aware that the Biggest Crime we face is still the fear of Crime.

Craig Coppin

NHW Coordinator / Police Liaison Representative

Enc:

- South Northants Neighbourhood Teams Annual Report
- 2021 Breakdown of Crimes for Potterspurvy
- Yrly Comparison of Crime Figures