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Sun 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

1. I'd like to thank the Parish Council for their continued support. In the last year I've kept The Parish Council updated monthly by email.
2. The community is kept updated via our Dedicated Facebook Page with recent / relevant crimes in our area, which also includes relevant Crime prevention advice. I've used The Old Mail for seasonal items.
3. I receive updates from The Police, Action for Fraud, The NCA (National Crime Agency) and other Agencies via Facebook & Twitter. Northants Talking helps me keep informed on Local issues including Crime Prevention matters. 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.

The community messaging service changed its name in July 2023, from Northamptonshire Neighbourhood Alert too Northamptonshire Talking.

There is still 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](http://www.northants.police.uk)) to report Crime, which can be quicker that ringing 101.

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

Scams can be in the form of emails, Texts or by ringing people purporting to be a Specific Company like a Utility / Energy Supplier, an Entertainment Provider, your Bank, The Police, HMRC or DVLA to obtain peoples Bank or personal details.

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.

### Genuine organisations will never:

✗ Ask you to reveal your password	Not going to happen
✗ Ask for your account number	Never ever
✗ Need or ask for your banking PIN or access code	No way
✗ Ask you to supply your security answers	I don't think so
✗ Need your bank details to issue a refund	Nope
✗ Tell you to transfer money to a 'safe' account	No no no
✗ Ask for personal information	Not really
✗ Tell you to purchase digital vouchers	Negative
✗ Tell you to pay a bill or fine via bank transfer	No chance
✗ Ask you to buy cryptocurrency like Bitcoin	No

**via email, text or incoming phone call.**

Follow [NorthantsCyber](#) and [NorthantsFraud](#) for the latest cyber and fraud advice.



5. Our yearly Crime figures are showing a decrease, but we have still suffered from Crime, from ASB, Criminal Damage and Theft. Also, The Bus Shelter has again been vandalised this year. We have still had the occasional suspicious vehicle driving around.

Also, we have still experienced Anti-Social Behaviour by a small group of Intimidating Young Persons, 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 Potterspurty 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.

The local Police continue to hold Fearless Surgeries directly aimed at the younger generation, working jointly with the Ethos Team and Senior Leadership Team at Elizabeth Woodville School. The purpose of the surgeries is to give students on the South Campus a safe space to report matters that concern them to the Police.

Fearless is promoted ([www.fearless.org](http://www.fearless.org)), a confidential reporting website run by the charity Crimestoppers but aimed specifically at the younger generation.

6. 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. I have a stock of Crime Prevention 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.

7. South Northamptonshire Police continue with their Policing plan which puts the Public and Communities they serve at the heart of all they do. The last Local Priorities, were as follows:

1. Road Safety & Traffic Offences
2. Burglary
3. Drug Dealing/Misuse

8. We have had several visits from The Forces Beat Bus, which brings community Policing 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."*

9. Burglary continues to be rare in South Northants, but we are under no illusion as to the impact this crime can have on victims, and any burglary is one too many! Across the whole of the South Northamptonshire area there have been 23 residential burglaries in the past 12 months - a drop of 76.25% on the previous 12 months. Northamptonshire Police's dedicated Burglary Team investigates every one of these, and we strive to keep reducing these numbers further. Operation Crooked is the Force's campaign to reduce burglary.

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:

- Annual Report from South Northants Policing Team
- 2023 Breakdown of Crimes for Potterspurv
- Yrly Comparison of Crime Figures