



Marlborough Town Council

September 2017



Hello and welcome to this Community Policing Team report.

Current Priorities

Theft from Motor Vehicles

A total of thirty seven thefts from vehicles have occurred within the Marlborough area since 1st May 2017. This compares with eighteen in the Devizes area and twelve in the Pewsey villages.

Of the Marlborough villages, incidents have included a number of thefts of fuel from farm machinery during crop harvest, and batteries from tractors, HGV's and horse boxes. Incident locations include Froxfield, Mildenhall, Ogbourne St George, Aldbourne and Chilton Foliat.

Other incidents have included the removal of property from insecure vehicles. We have also seen a spate of thefts from vehicles at our beauty spots of West Kennett, Avebury, Hackpen and Manton this month.

We have just received delivery of the Area Board-funded signage and have plans in place for their fitting at relevant locations, at height, to avoid their removal by those who engage in this activity. Victims to this type of crime include tourists visiting our beauty spots; such signage and information will help to reduce their risk of being victim to crime.

We continue to target police patrols to those areas and release information via press, community messaging and social media with such alerts. Intelligence work is ongoing in relation to those nominals active in this area of criminality and policing operations continue. Thank you for enabling the signage acquisition.

Two brothers from the south Wiltshire area have recently been convicted of a number of these type of offences, committed within Wiltshire and Dorset:

Edward and Lenny Wells stole handbags, wallets, purses, sat-navs, mobile phones and other items worth up to £20,000 over three months from November 2016. Both men were on licence from prison for similar offences at the time.

Jailing them for 44 months each for conspiracy to steal from motor vehicles, Judge Susan Evans QC said: "When you target handbags and wallets people lose items of substantial value which leads to high level of inconvenience."

Prosecuting at Salisbury Crown Court on Thursday, Edward Elton said 104 cars had been broken into.

Both men pleaded guilty and accepted responsibility for most, but not all of the 104 offences. The court heard they targeted isolated, rural car parks, breaking into vehicles and taking items including 44 handbags and 13 purses and wallets. On other occasions cash, jewellery, and even dog food was stolen.

Lenny, aged 30 and from Eyres Way, Salisbury, had three previous convictions for four theft offences.

Edward, aged 28 and from Lynch Close, Mere, had "an extensive record" of 18 convictions for 27 offences including theft, fraud and burglary.

Both men were jailed in 2015 alongside their brother Nicholas and father Wilfred for conspiracy to steal from cars in what was described as "a family business".

Crime prevention advice:

We would like to remind motorists to adhere to the following advice whenever possible.

- Don't leave any valuables including laptops, satnavs, mobile phones, handbags, credit cards or vehicle documents in your car.
Do not leave items of value in the boot, you are being watched.
- Don't leave coats/jackets on show in the vehicle as a thief will want to see if there is anything valuable in the pockets.
- Clean satnav suction marks off your windscreen, as leaving them is an immediate advert to thieves that a satnav is in the vehicle. Make sure no satnav attachments are left visible in your vehicle.
- Remove your stereo if you can, mark it with the vehicle registration number if you can't.
- Leave your glove box open to show there is nothing in it.
- If you own a van, make sure you remove your tools overnight and display an appropriate sign in the rear window making this clear.

Dwelling and non-dwelling burglaries

Targeted patrols continue throughout the Marlborough villages by members of the East Policing Team, in efforts to disrupt, deter and deal with criminality. Positive outcomes have resulted following stop searches of vehicles and nominals. One recent stop by Pc STEELE and Pc BARRATT at Aldbourne, early hours of 21st August resulted in excellent intelligence gathering, of a known nominal and further enquiries are to follow relating to this individual.

We have investigated forty seven burglaries, including attempted burglaries, in the Marlborough area since 1st May 2017, which is of concern. However, this has reduced to only one incident during August. This compares with thirty burglaries in the Devizes area and seventeen in the Pewsey villages.

Of those investigated in the Marlborough area we can report that positive outcomes have resulted from a number of these incidents.

A nominal, previously of no fixed abode, currently on remand in prison, has been identified and admitted at his recent interview in prison responsibility for two dwelling burglaries at Ogbourne St George, (1st May 2017). This individual is also being dealt with for a number of other burglaries in the Swindon area.

Following a forced entry via a rear door to a dwelling in Marlborough, daytime on 2nd May 2017, two suspects have been identified. Enquiries are continuing.

Of another incident, two suspects were seen on CCTV within a property in Marlborough High Street, into which entry was gained via forcing of the front door at 2316 hours on Tuesday 19th July 2017. Nothing was stolen. Undetected currently.

A resident of Ramsbury has been charged and convicted of four burglaries and driving offences, which have occurred in recent months, in the areas of Ramsbury, Baydon and Mildenhall. Luke PATTERSON has been given a 26-week prison sentence suspended for 24 months. He must also complete a drug rehabilitation course and pay compensation of £1,179. His driving licence was also endorsed with six penalty points.

We are currently seeking the owners to a quantity of recovered property which we believe to be stolen, including high-value cycles, power tools, and fishing equipment, seized during the arrest of two persons on suspicion of burglaries. A Wiltshire Police press release of Wednesday 23rd August 2017 includes a number of photographs of these items. Their identification will assist with our enquiries.



Our investigations into burglaries within east Wiltshire have identified offenders, who include those not local to Wiltshire. Some are involved with organised crime groups who have travelled to the area to commit these offences. Those target hardening measures implemented within our partnership working – including the CCTV facilities both within Marlborough, Devizes and village communities, policing operations, intelligence development and community engagement - have enabled positive progress on a number of offences under investigation and have disrupted and deterred other incidents from taking place. Thank you for your community efforts around this.

Summer Burglary Campaign

The campaign which ran between 17 – 23 July aimed to educate residents about simple precautions they can take to protect their home and garden from being targeted by burglars.

To improve the security in and around your home we asked householders to remember the following advice:

- **Lock your doors and windows every time you leave the house, even if you're in the garden, and make sure you have approved locks or bolts on all doors and windows**

- **Never leave a spare key in a hiding place like in a plant pot or letterbox - a thief knows all the hiding places**
- **Keep all keys, purses and wallets out of sight and away from the letterbox**
- **Consider installing a burglar alarm, and only use a company that is registered or certified with the NSI or the SSIAB**
- **Do not open the door to anyone you don't know or are not expecting. Always check by using a spy-hole or look through a window**
- **Make sure that you have up to date contents insurance**
- **Register all serial numbers from electrical items, tools and garden equipment with Immobilise.com the free national property register. Mark items without serial numbers with an artificial DNA property marker such as Smartwater or SelectaDNA**
- **Do not keep large amounts of cash at home - it is much safer in a bank or building society**
- **Trim back any plants and hedges at the front of your property to no higher than 1 metre to remove hiding places**
- **Always report any suspicious activity, note any vehicle registrations, descriptions of persons involved and direction of travel**
- **Use a timer to set lights to mimic your usual activity when you are not at home**
- **Take photographs of all jewellery including hallmarks and keep them safe. Also consider using an artificial DNA property marker on jewellery or other valuable items**
- **Make sure any bolts are low enough so they cannot be opened by reaching over the top of the gate**

New Priority: Hare coursing and Poaching, All Areas of East Wiltshire.

This policing priority was created on 7th August 2017 to allow for the policing team to focus on those areas where this illegal activity occurs. Incidents of daytime trespass in pursuit of game and poaching activity increases at this time of year, following harvest. Incident locations for this area include the Avebury area. Activity has been reported in the vicinity of The Sanctuary, where males with dogs have been seen, location times of 1735 and 2000 hours of 1st and 18th August 2017. Vehicles involved include two metallic coloured Subaru Forrester's.

Rural crime operations will be utilised in our efforts to target those who travel to Wiltshire to engage in this activity which is most impactful upon our rural communities.

Targeted Patrols

Anti-social behaviour Devizes.

Seventy eight targeted patrols have been completed in relation to The Green at The Kramer, Green Lane and Hillworth road park by members of the policing team since this priority was created on 8th June 2017. This has been in relation to complaints regarding rowdy behaviour, alcohol and controlled drug usage and youths causing disturbance in their vehicles.

The central area of the town is subject of a Designated Public Place Order in which the Police may require persons not to consume intoxicating liquor and to surrender any open containers of such which Police may

dispose of. This legislation within the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 assists in reducing incidents of disorder associated with alcohol consumption.

As reported in last month's report a Dispersal Order was established in relation to anti-social behaviour by a group of known nominals congregating at St John the Baptist churchyard, on Long street, in recent weeks. Police and partner agencies have been and continue to work closely together to deal with those engaging in this activity that include rough sleepers and individuals with complex needs.

Local officers of the Devizes Policing Team have also been conducting patrols of Forty Acres road where they have been engaging with young persons at the play park and discussions have included how certain behaviours and activity cause alarm and distress to others. During a recent visit on 1st August one local officer assisted the youths in clearing all the litter on site.

Anti-social behaviour, Litter and Drugs Activity. Coopers Meadow, Marlborough.

Members of our policing team have been visiting this location since 6th June 2017 in response to reports of anti-social behaviour, litter and drugs usage. Engagement with the local community was completed, no offences were identified during patrols, and no further complaints received.

Get Safe Online.

Please refer to and distribute the enclosed leaflet to community members. Thank you.

Local Crimes

Over the last month there have been reports of purse thefts a couple of which have occurred in Waitrose. We are asking that people remain vigilant whilst out and about as we are still receiving reports of purse thefts which can be very distressing for those involved, think of all the items of sentimental value that maybe be in a bag or purse / wallet. Please try and make this as difficult as possible for would be thieves by keeping hold or your bag ensuring they are closed at all times, we have purse chains that we can offer to those interested. This is another deterrent that can easily be used. Please report anything suspicious to us as soon as possible.

A specialised Rock Hopper push bike was stolen from outside of the library and was reported to us on 02/08/17. The bike had been locked up and when stolen the lock was also taken. Please report any suspicious activity seen.

Police were also alerted to one incident of a fake £50 note being used in order to purchase items.

<https://www.police.uk/>

This link will allow you to check stats in more detail for your area, and all surrounding areas.

If you wish further detail please contact PCSO 6031 Mark BRAITHEWAITE.

Please dial 101 to report a crime and 999 in an emergency.

Please follow us on:

Twitter <https://twitter.com/wiltshirepolice>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/wiltshirepolice/>

Or sign up to Community Messaging <https://www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk/>



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