



Working in partnership  
to make our community safer



## Neighbourhood Policing Newsletter

Issue 4 - 2020

### Amersham, Chalfonts and Missendens Neighbourhood Policing Team

#### **Covid-19**

Across the Thames Valley, we received hundreds of reports each day about breaches of COVID-19 restrictions. Our policing style was to engage with those who were breaching, explain the restrictions and encourage them to comply and then only enforce as a last resort. All reports of breaches help to inform our patrol patterns. This is an ever changing environment that we are all having to adapt to with rapidly changing rules and regulations.

Buckingham Council have a complaint system for alleged cases where businesses may be breaching current legislation. The coronavirus business restrictions complaint form can be found at:

[https://account.buckscc.gov.uk/service/Report\\_breaking\\_COVID19\\_restrictions](https://account.buckscc.gov.uk/service/Report_breaking_COVID19_restrictions)

#### **Community Forum**

The priorities for your Neighbourhood Policing Team (NHPT) are decided by the Community Forum. This steering group is made up of local residents and representatives from organisations across the area. The forum is not run by the police, although we do attend as representatives. This allows us to speak to a wide cross-section of the community, find out what you most want improved in the area, and consider how we and others can accomplish these aims. The top three priorities are chosen by the forum every three months and are then assumed by your Neighbourhood Policing Team.

#### **You asked us to concentrate on:**

##### **Priority 1; Burglary**

##### **We did;**

With the dark nights and mornings upon us, we expected the number of burglaries to increase during the autumn and winter seasons. Analysis shows that it is criminals from around the south of England that have been targeting properties in our areas. Being the victim of a burglary is one of the most feared crimes and the impact of having your house burgled is immense both financially and mentally.

To try and combat the burglars we took a multi-step approach focusing on community resilience, investigation and pro-active patrols.

For the Autumn and Winter crime reduction campaign I developed a newsletter to inform people of current trends including likely times, locations, tactics used by burglars. I also suggested crime reduction advice and the top cost effective tips to protect your homes. Burglary locations and historic repeat burglary locations were re-visited by their local PCSO's and crime advice was given to householders.

It was good to see a criminal being charged with burglary following an identification from Ring doorbell footage. Video doorbells are a great security aid and I would urge anyone who does not have one to get one.

During the last quarter we ran monthly weeks of action to disrupt these criminals. The NHPT led the way in taking the fight to the criminals whilst working smarter with our limited resources. To achieve better results we worked with other police forces and departments in targeting those who hurt our communities the most. We focused time and resources to target the roads on which these crooks travel.

The results were highly effective with over 20 people being reported for various offences, 20 vehicles were taken off of the road and seventeen people were arrested for a various offences which included:

Three people who'd gone to view a car for sale and had later gone back and stolen it.

A person who was wanted for burglary and GBH.

A stop check of a Mercedes Benz from our area into London under S.23 MDA led to the driver being arrested after failing a roadside drug wipe. Following this several containers of white powder were found hidden. Following the arrest a House search was conducted at his address and a large amount money, uncut white powder and cannabis.

A Sec 23 Misuse Drugs Act warrant was executed in Denham. Officers attended and forced entry. Two males were detained within the property whilst two males fled jumping out of a first floor window. All 4 were arrested and 1 kg of class A drugs recovered.

From a wider perspective the joint operation in November resulted in;

- 88 arrests linked directly to the op, 26 of these were for burglary whilst 21 were of priority burglary or SAC nominals.
- 121 stop searches of which 35 yielded positive results
- 95 intelligence reports generated
- 15 second-hand stores were visited and several LPAs took the opportunity to 'audit and re-engage' with these traders to develop stronger relationships
- 18 positive outcomes for SAC offences

Burglary is down 9% this year, but we must not be complacent as these figures will no doubt have been impacted by the stringent lockdown measures that have been in force earlier in the year and most recently through the month of December.

**Priority 2: ASB**

**We did;**

In the last quarter the team has been busily involved in a number of cases where there has been ASB. By its very nature the types of incidents are varied. We have an ongoing investigation into Fireworks with the rights of people to be able to set off fireworks against the right of animals that are nearby and effected by them.

Other cases have focused on the illegal use of drugs and the effect that it has on the community. This year I put in place a more robust and intrusive approach into tackling offenders and their properties that were suspected of being used for or to deal drugs from. When we do receive concerns officers will conduct "Have your say" sessions with neighbours to identify intelligence and see what problems are occurring. We will ensure that neighbours are aware of the problems and the risks to the person cuckooed. We will also challenge the householder and hold them to account for what is taking place at their address.

Last month we were able to obtain a closure order on a property in Holmer Green where there were concerns that County Drug Lines members had cuckooed a vulnerable adult and where using the address to deal drugs. By obtaining an order we are able to protect the householder and support them and their community. Already there has been several arrests as a result of this.

We have investigated several protracted cases between neighbours, which started over noise, and turned into harassment with fear of violence due to an escalation in behaviour. These cases are time consuming and often start over trivial things like boundary disputes and parking. We do recommend the use of Mediation Services but it is all too common that people are not willing to try the use of this service that has been proven to achieve some excellent results in resolving problems between neighbours. The team has intervened in several cases and people have been arrested, interviewed and released on bail. The CPS will be reviewing these cases and hopefully this will bring these matters to a conclusion.

**Priority 3:Speeding****We did;**

Unfortunately during the pandemic the decision has been made by TVP that there will not be any Community Speed Watch activities taking place. PC Turnham is working behind the scenes on new protocols and putting in place a new database system that when it is up and running will make the system run even better.

The Amersham NHPT has received numerous complaints of speeding on various roads. I have been getting patrols out to areas of concern to enforce perceived traffic violations. Twenty two people were reported for various traffic offences.

Locations that we have focused on included

Austenwood Chalfont St Giles

Narcot Lane Chalfont St Peter

School Lane Seer Green

Penn Road,

Penn Street

Weedon Hill Missenden

Copperkins Lane, Chesham Bois

Missenden Road, Little Kingshill

Martinsend Lane, Gt Missenden  
Joiners Lane, Chalfont St Peter.  
Kingsway Chalfont St Peter  
Elizabeth Avenue, Little Chalfont  
Cokes Lane, Little Chalfont

My team will endeavour to carry out checks at areas of concern.

**Other news:**

Unfortunately PCSO's Mike Shepherd and Gary Tugwell have both left the force to pursue new careers. Mike worked at Amersham for 16 years whilst Gary served with TVP for the last 5 years and has covered Beaconsfield and The Chalfonts. At this time there is no news in regards to as or when they will be replaced. This does put some extra pressure on the team to try and deliver the same level of service.

There are plans for the Community Forum to transition to a Policing Issues Panel working with the new unitary authority. Further updates to follow.

**Offenders Brought to Justice**

**Amersham**

Possession of cannabis - offender given adult restorative disposal  
Assault – offender given a caution  
Fraud – offender charged  
Possession of cannabis - offender given fixed penalty notice  
Possession of cannabis - offender given youth restorative disposal  
Possession of cannabis - offender given a caution  
Possession of cannabis - offender given a caution  
GBH – offender charged  
Assault – offender given a youth restorative disposal  
Harassment – offender charged  
Possession of cannabis – Offender given street warning  
Drug importation – offender given adult restorative disposal  
Dog offences – offender given adult restorative disposal

**Chalfonts**

ABH – offender cautioned  
Burglary – offender cautioned  
Drug importation – offender given adult restorative disposal  
Drug importation – offender given youth restorative disposal  
Assault – offender given a youth restorative disposal  
Possession of cannabis - offender given adult restorative disposal  
Assault – offender given an adult restorative disposal

**Missendens**

Offensive weapon – offender cautioned  
Possession of cannabis - offender given adult resorative disposal  
Possession of cannabis - offender given youth resorative disposal  
GBH – offender charged  
Possession of cannabis – offender charged

Stay safe and keep your eyes peeled.

Sergeant Darren Walsh

### Contact Us:



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Sign up to Thames Valley Alerts to receive crime and policing updates directly from your local Neighbourhood Team as well as more crime and policing issues. Sign up to the service online at: [www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk](http://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk) or speak with one of your Neighbourhood Policing Team.

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