



Working in partnership  
to make our community safer



# Neighbourhood Policing Newsletter

Issue 1 - 2021

## Amersham, Chalfonts and Missendens Neighbourhood Policing Team

### Covid-19

Policing during a pandemic has been a different experience, quickly getting to grips with new legislation whilst implementing social distancing in our police stations and continuing to respond to our 'business as usual' with the new addition of PPE.

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 helped to inform our patrol patterns and the majority of those that we spoke to complied. 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)

### Chiltern & South Bucks Policing Issues Panel

The priorities for your Neighbourhood Policing Team (NHPT) are decided by the brand new Policing Issues Panel. 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;**

Over the last quarter there has been a considerable fall in the amount of burglaries. It is acknowledged that with many people working from home this has had an impact on the opportunities available to the burglar. Which goes to show the importance of basic crime reduction advice in giving the appearance that someone is at home. If we look at recorded dwelling burglaries, for the last 3 months; there has been only 2 in the Missendens area compared to 19 last year. Holmer Green was particularly targeted with 13 of those and a suspect is currently on remand in prison for several of

these, there has been 9 in the Amersham area compared to 19 last year and 7 in the Chalfonts compared to 25 last year.

With the changes in technology keyless car crime is taking place and offenders no longer have to enter your house to steal your car or cars. Many of the public are still unaware of this risk. I have previously advised how Chiltern & South Bucks are targeted by criminals from out of area. There was some recent good news where two members of an organized crime group who'd been targeting vehicles from across the South East were found guilty and sentenced to 4 ½ years. They were involved in stealing 26 motor vehicles worth £1,010,813.00 over a 97 day period focusing on high end vehicles targeting keyless technology.

I have previously advocated the need for people with such cars to get themselves a Faraday box which can block your keys signals. A £17 box can stop you losing your £50,000 motor. Now there's a birthday present you hadn't thought of.

Proactively we have carried on working with other departments and police forces in targeting travelling criminals and trying to deny them the use of the road. This year January and February's operations resulted in 5 arrests, 9 vehicles being taken off of the road and 18 people being reported for various offences.

## **Priority 2; ASB/Drug Dealing**

### **We did;**

Drugs are having a massive impact on the quality of people's lives and the care free use displayed by some people. Repeated drug use led to us taking action in obtaining a partial closure order in an address in the Missendens. This bans any visitors to the address and if poor behaviour continues we can look at a full order which could stop the occupant using their own house. A lot of time and work goes on in with working with people with addiction problems and trying to get them the help they need but there comes a time when they need to be held to account.

This month my team canvassed The Bramblings to gain interest in starting a NHW group and to promote the Crime Stoppers Scheme following a rise in ASB and crime there. Residents have been asked to report suspicious activity. We want to make life as uncomfortable as possible for any would be gangs so that we can protect our community.

We've found that the joint operations have also been great as disrupting drug dealers and users. There has been a large number of arrests for drug driving. Two dealers from London were caught red handed coming into our area with a very large amount of class b drugs. We have been doing joint days of action in Amersham and Chesham with our pooled resources. Assisting our Chesham colleagues we targeted drug users and dealers over several days resulting in 9 arrests and 6 seizures of drugs.

With the changing of the season and the gradual relaxation of lockdown I have no doubt that Nitrous Oxide canisters will start making an appearance again. Commonly known as 'legal highs' this term is misleading and from now on the official term for drugs which are still legal or yet to become illegal is new psychoactive substances, often shortened to NPS. I am currently working on a project around Nitrous Oxide and this will include working with schools to educate children of the risks and how it can ruin lives. Working with the Town and Parish Councils we are in the process of creating signage for the parks to get the message out. Areas where NOS canisters are being found will have

increased patrols. Where people are found with the canisters they will be confiscated and letters sent to them and parents informing them of the risks.

### **Priority 3;SPEEDING**

#### **We did;**

Speeding is one of the biggest concerns that I hear and it affects everyone. During the lockdown Amersham has been one of the few areas that have carried on pro-actively targeting speeders at a Neighbourhood level. In the last quarter the following locations were targeted for enhanced checks: Martinsend Lane in Great Missenden, Missenden Road in Great Kingshill, Austinwood Lane in Chalfont St Peter, School Lane Seer Green, Penn Road and Cokes Lane. This month resulted in eleven people being reported and the operation being prematurely stopped due to catching, then arresting, 3 people breaking into vans.

Unfortunately due to poor winter weather a number of the Op Glares had to be cancelled for safety reasons. I have obtained figures from the Road Safety Mobile and Speed Enforcement Team and they confirmed that 125 tickets were given out to speeders by them in Chiltern & South Bucks.

I have already requested additional patrols from the van and have been advised that the Road Policing Team will be supporting our area with additional speed checks.

In the meantime my team will be out flying the flag for safer roads and PC Cumming will be looking to explore the use of MVAS systems with local town and parish councils and coming up with other ideas to make the roads safer.

Community Speedwatch has been on hold since the first lockdown. TVP has appointed a Community Speedwatch Co-ordinator, PC Lee Turnham, in order to pull all councils, parishes and volunteers together, enabling the use of technology to drive forward an education lead program. This will take place with all device users being contacted or visited in, addressing concerns and installing new working practices with a common goal of reducing speed through education.

PC Turnham has been reviewing the way CSW operates and working in the background to establish a pathway forward for its re-instatement where it can be run safely for everyone involved. Hopefully this will be in the near future following the roll out of the Covid vaccines.

A few changes which will please members of the schemes: **The use of hand held devices**; These devices were, at one time not allowed within the TVP policy. TVP will now support the use of such devices due to the cost implications of static devices, impeding smaller communities from being able to use the scheme. TVP insurance/policy would not allow these devices on safety grounds. This has now been changed to accommodate their use, but only for **NON HOME OFFICE APPROVED** devices to be used.

**Insurance**; The price of public liability insurance for the scheme of roadside activity was impacting some smaller parishes. With this in mind TVP insurers were consulted and providing each scheme signed a service level agreement and has undergone the relative training, then the TVP insurance will be in place. This has a liability of £50M, far higher than that of a small parish being able to obtain.

## **April to June Priorities**

### **Dates of next meetings**

**Chalfonts , Gerrards Cross and Denham 16/06/21 18:30 venue T.B.A**

**Amersham, Chesham & Missendens 17/06/21 19:00 venue T.B.A**

## **Offenders Brought to Justice**

Offences from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021. This does not include persons who are currently under investigation.

### **Amersham**

Person charged/summonsed for ABH  
Person charged/summonsed for Rape  
Person charged/summonsed for Assault  
Person charged/summonsed for Robbery  
Person charged/summonsed for Assault on Police  
Person charged/summonsed for Possession Class b drugs  
Person charged/summonsed for Aggravate vehicle taking  
Person charged/summonsed for Theft of motorvehicle  
Person charged/summonsed for Drink driving  
Person charged/summonsed for Burglary  
Person charged/summonsed for Harassment  
Person charged/summonsed for Shoplifting  
Person charged/summonsed for Assault  
Person charged/summonsed for Theft of motor vehicle  
Person charged/summonsed for Theft of motorvehicle  
Person charged/summonsed for Shinging lazer beam  
Person TIC'd for Burglary  
Person issued Fixed Penalty for Public order  
Person Cautioned for Harassment  
Person Cautioned for Theft  
Person Cautioned for Shoplifting  
Person Cautioned for Possession of class B drug  
Person Cautioned for Possession of class B drug  
Person Cautioned for Criminal Damage  
Person Cautioned for Possession of class B drug  
Person given restorative disosal for Theft  
Person given restorative disosal for Possession of class B drug

### **Chalfonts**

Person charged/summonsed for Affray  
Person charged/summonsed for Affray  
Person charged/summonsed for ABH  
Person charged/summonsed for Criminal damage  
Person charged/summonsed for Assault on police

Person charged/summonsed for Assault on police  
Person charged/summonsed for Assault on police  
Person charged/summonsed for Assault  
Person charged/summonsed for GBH  
Person charged/summonsed for Harassment  
Person charged/summonsed for Harassment  
Person charged/summonsed for Assault on police  
Person charged/summonsed for Breach of restraining order  
Person charged/summonsed for Criminal damage  
Person charged/summonsed for Possession of class B drug  
Person charged/summonsed for Racial Public order  
Person charged/summonsed for Assault on police  
Person charged/summonsed for Assault on police  
Person charged/summonsed for Business Burglary  
Person charged/summonsed for Shoplifting  
Person charged/summonsed for Possession of class B drug  
Person charged/summonsed for Criminal damage  
Person charged/summonsed for Criminal damage  
Person charged/summonsed for Harassment  
Person Cautioned for Public order  
Person Cautioned for Criminal damage  
Person Cautioned for Possession of class B drug  
Person issued Fixed Penalty for Possession of class B drug  
Person issued Fixed Penalty for Possession of class B drug  
Person given restorative disposal for Possession of class B drug  
Person given restorative disposal for Possession of class B drug  
Person given restorative disposal for Possession of class B drug  
Person given restorative disposal for Possession of class B drug  
Person given restorative disposal for ABH  
Person given restorative disposal for Possession of class B drug  
Person given restorative disposal for Theft

### **Missendens**

Person charged/summonsed for Business burglary  
Person charged/summonsed for ABH  
Person charged/summonsed for ABH  
Person charged/summonsed for ABH  
Person charged/summonsed for Business Burglary  
Person charged/summonsed for Breach of court order  
Person charged/summonsed for Harassment  
Person charged/summonsed for Possession of class B drug  
Person charged/summonsed for Burglary  
Person charged/summonsed for Theft from motor vehicle  
Person charged/summonsed for Public order  
Person charged/summonsed for Coercive control  
Person charged/summonsed for Malicious communication  
Person Cautioned for Possession of class A drug  
Person Cautioned for Possession of class A drug  
Person Cautioned for Theft  
Person Cautioned for ABH  
Person given restorative disposal for Assault

Person given restorative disposal for Theft  
Person given restorative disposal for Assault

### **Have Your Say meetings:**

Due to the pandemic these meetings are on hold. When it is safe to do so and meets with Government guidelines we will recommence these.

### **Other News**

Two new PCSOs will be joining the Amersham office this Summer. This is great news and will increase the visibility of the local NHPT in your areas.

I am working on a scheme with local garages to get vehicles that have catalytic converters security marked. This is an ever growing crime. Other parts of the Thames Valley have been particularly hard hit. To replace a Cat Converter can cost in the region of £1000. Worryingly organised crime groups are working in teams of 4 and carrying weapons.

There has been a review of rural crime and I have been working on improving how we engage with members of our rural community. A recent campaign was held to try and develop more rural contacts and ensure that they are confident in reporting crimes. We will be working closely with members and offering free crime reduction advice and conducting tool marking over the coming months. From reviewing last year's figures the most reported rural crime was attacks on livestock. Already I have created and distributed around 100 live stock in field signs to hopefully make dog walkers aware of the risk.

Finally the Offensive Weapons Act has changed this March. It is now an offence to own certain types of knives (gravity, flick and zombie knives) and offensive weapons. This now includes in their own dwelling where as it was in public before. The legislation also makes it an offence to carry around with corrosive substances. Be assured we will be looking at taking such knives off of the streets.

Stay safe and keep your eyes peeled.

Sergeant Darren Walsh

### **Contact Us:**



[AmershamNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:AmershamNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk)



[@TVPChiltSBucks](https://twitter.com/TVPChiltSBucks)

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.

[www.thamesvalley.police.uk](http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk)

