

# Harborough District Community Safety Partnership **Parish E-Newsletter**

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#### Welcome

Summer is well and truly here, and our Safer Summer campaign is in full swing. This newsletter is to update you on the news from the Harborough District Community Safety Partnership (CSP), crime, and local initiatives to support reducing crime and anti-social behaviour. Harborough District CSP is made up of Harborough District Council, Leicestershire County Council, the Police and the Fire Service. Information on the CSP can be found on our website.

#### Safer Summer



- When you go out, make sure you lock your doors (front and back) and close your windows, even if you are going out for a short time - in many burglaries it can take the thief just five minutes to break in, steal property and leave.
- Do not leave small windows open on your house believing them to be safe.
- When out in your garden ensure that windows and doors to the front of the house are secure.
- Secure access to the rear of your property.
- If you have an alarm system fitted, ensure you use it.
- Use light timers to make your home appear occupied when you are out.
- Put your car keys in a safe place in your home do not leave them near to doorways and windows.
- If you're going away, get a friend or neighbour to collect your post, draw your curtains, put a light on and make your home looked lived in. Remember to cancel milk and papers when you're away.

Register your valuables free of charge at www.immobilise.com, the free UK national property register.

To report a crime or suspicious activity call the police on 101 or crimestoppers, 'Independent Crime-Fighting Charity', anonymously on 0800 555 111. In an emergency, where life is in danger or a crime is in progress, always call 999.

Safer Summer has been running since the middle of June, with various partners of the CSP attending events across the district to meet and greet and promote messages of safety. We're also planning on attending a number of garden centres across the district in August, with Turning Point, to support safer and healthier drinking habits. Our Safer Summer campaign has also been on the air with HFM and various supporting messages across our social media platforms. One message we push every year is 'Woody Nickit', have a read and be vigilant.



## Report ONLINE

#### **Police Contact Information**

The alternative to phoning 101 is to report crimes to Leicestershire Police online. Reports are triaged, given a crime number and dealt with as they would do if they were reported over the phone. Have a look at www.leics.police.uk for more information and follow the links to report.

#### **Local Initiatives**

Kibworth Anti-Social Behaviour -Due to the ongoing issues on the Warwick Road recreation ground, there was a public meeting, attended by 35 local residents, along with representatives from the Police, Harborough District



Council, both Parish Councils, and the headteacher of The Kibworth School, Emma Merry. One of the actions agreed at the meeting was to consult young people who live in the area about possible uses of the former skate park and the funding of additional provisions in the area, the survey is live now **here**, thanks to Sian Newnes.

**Lutterworth Neighbourhood Watch** - has been initiated, covering Burrough Way, Maxwell Way, Gale Close & all adjoining Roads. On their own initiative they've set up a SmartWater zone, which the CSP has helped them fund signage for. If you have any ideas to help reduce crime or anti-social behaviour in your area, please contact us to see if we are able to support you at **communitysafety@harborough.gov.uk**.

**PubWatch in Lutterworth** - Following varying levels of support for this in recent months, June saw a resurrection of the Lutterworth PubWatch, with good attendance and some

promising discussions about moving the scheme forward. The scheme enables pubs to support each other in stopping antisocial behaviour, drug offences and violence through monthly meetings where intelligence is shared with the Police and the coordinator. Individuals who cause trouble are discussed and members vote to exclude them for a period of time. The list of excluded patrons, including photographs, is then circulated to all PubWatch members. For further information about the scheme, or to join, please email communitysafety@harborough.gov.uk.



#### **Local Crime Update**

**Vehicle Thefts** - As a result of a force-wide increase in vehicle thefts, particularly theft of vehicles that are "keyless", and number plate thefts, Harborough CSP attended the Classic Car Show in Market Harborough. Advice on prevention was given, and freebies including anti-theft number plate screws and signal blocker key pouches were given out. According to figures from TRACKER, a stolen vehicle recovery service, top-of-the-range vehicles such as BMW, Mercedes-Benz and Land Rover make up the majority of cars stolen and recovered in 2018. With thieves using technology to overcome robust security systems, you might want to consider additional security measures such as an alarm, immobiliser, tracking system and steering or handbrake locks.

**Retail Theft** - Retail theft continues to be a concern across the district. Whilst arrests have been made, and some individuals have been charged and imprisoned, it is worth rereading the Business Crime Prevention Advice given by Detective Inspector Helen Fletcher from the Leicestershire Police, available **here**.

**Nitrous Oxide** - Also known as Laughing Gas. We have put up some awareness posters in Warwick Road recreation ground in Kibworth, informing walkers of nitrous oxide. This is what was contained within silver canisters sometimes found discarded in the park. There have now also been findings across the Harborough District. There are dangers to using nitrous oxide, the risks include falling unconscious, or even suffocating from the lack of oxygen. If you would like posters for your area, please contact us at

**communitysafety@harborough.gov.uk**, or for further information on Nitrous Oxide have a look at the Talk To Frank **website**.

**Speed Monitoring -** Police have carried out speed checks in Church Langton, Great Glen and Lubenham in early July and advice was given to a number of drivers, although no tickets were issued. In another recent operation some vehicles were registered as travelling at 120mph, 116mph and 103mph on the A6 between Great Glen and Kibworth. Consequently, a second speed check was carried out on the same stretch of road and a local person was recorded as driving at 122mph



and another motorist driving at 101mph. They were both given tickets and will be summonsed to court.

PC 2192 Paul Farrar, one of the officers running the operation, said; "122mph is the highest I have ever recorded and it is very likely these motorists will lose their driving license. That section of road is a dual carriage way, drivers should not be going 50mph over the national speed limit!"

#### **Modern Slavery**

Modern Slavery Awareness Week was held in June, instigated through De Montfort University. The Community Safety Partnership supported the campaign on social media, raising awareness of the signs to look out for. The following is an extract from the campaign...

"We were treated so badly! We were tired due to the crazy hours that we were working and the lack of food they gave us. They did not care, if we did something wrong or slowly they would beat us; they broke us physically and mentally. They tortured us with stories about what they would do to our families if we did not do as they said. I would not wish the treatment we suffered on even my worst of enemies. I am so glad it is now over!" Anecdote - through the eyes of victims (not a true story).

If you believe that someone you know is a victim of Modern Slavery, please call the Modern Slavery helpline on 08000 121 700 or report online:

www.modernslaveryhelpline.org/report



#### **Drug and Alcohol Awareness**

Turning Point - the Leicestershire wide service for drug and alcohol abuse, attended the Community Safety Partnership meeting in June



with an update on the work they are doing to help residents across the district. Within the district, they help stabilise long term users, and help with displacement from homes and illnesses caused by drug and alcohol abuse. There were 72 deaths attributed to drug or alcohol abuse across the Leicestershire area in the last quarter, most from alcohol related liver failure. Hepatitis C is also present, with approximately only 50% of carriers having been tested and diagnosed. As a Blood Born Virus (BBV), it can be spread through sharing injecting equipment, but more surprisingly, through sharing notes or straws used to snort drugs like cocaine. We have had reports of cocaine use being on the rise for young people across the district. The CSP are looking to fund clinics during recovery week in September 2019 where they are able to test for BBVs and advise on treatments. For further information on drug or alcohol issues, or support, please contact **Turning Point**.

## **Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs)**

As part of the review of the PSPO regarding anti-social drinking across some areas of the Harborough District, a public consultation has been carried out via Survey Monkey, thank you to all those who have completed it. The next stage of review is to analyse Police data on how the PSPO has been utilised and enforced. We will then be publishing a proposal of the PSPO on the **website** for a second consultation before presenting it to Cabinet in September.

### Message in a Bottle Campaign

The PCSOs have been out and about distributing the 'Message in a bottle' campaign. A scheme which encourages the elderly and people with serious medical conditions such as life threatening allergies to store their medical details in a plastic bottle, kept in the fridge.

In the event of the emergency services being called to someone's home they will be alerted by a green sticker on the inside of the front door and another

on the door of the fridge so they will know where to locate the bottle.



The bottle is easy to use and has a push-fit lid and is big enough to hold all of the necessary information. The significant benefits of the scheme are that it can save the emergency services' valuable time identifying the patient and their emergency contacts. By stating whether the patient has special medication or allergies it is a potential lifesaver and provides peace of mind to the user and their friends and families. For more information, or to request a bottle, please contact **communitysafety@harborough.gov.uk**.

#### **CCTV**



There has been some interest from a number of local Parish Councils across the district in purchasing additional CCTV to cover areas in their villages. This is in response to an initiative by Harborough District Council that has offered to monitor CCTV on behalf of the Parishes through the Lifeline Control Centre Service. Should you have any enquiries, please contact communitysafety@harborough.gov.uk.

## **Ask for Angela**

The Ask for Angela initiative has been running since May 2018, set-up to provide a safe way for customers to remove themselves from uncomfortable situations whilst out in the evening, for example on a date. By asking a member



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ASK FOR ANGELA VISIT

LEICESTERSHIRE.GOV.UK/ASKFORANGELA

of staff, in a participating venue, for Angela, that individual is alerting staff that they need help. They may be aided to a safer location so they can peak in confidence to that member of staff to establish what support they need, for example calling a taxi, leaving via the back door, contacting friends and family. For more information on the scheme, including details of participating venues, have a look here. If you've Asked for Angela we would like to hear from you, so please contact communitysafety@harborough.gov.uk.

IF YOU GO TO THE BAR AND 'ASK FOR ANGELA' THE BAR STAFF WILL HELP YOU GET OUT OF THAT SITUATION AND CALL YOU A TAXI OR HELP YOU OUT DISCREETLY, WITHOUT TOO MUCH FUSS.

#### **Photo and News Opportunities**

The front page photo is of part of Warwick Road Recreation Ground in Kibworth.

If you have photos or news from around the Harborough District that you would like to have featured in the quarterly parish e-newsletter, please submit them by November 2019 to r.woods@harborough.gov.uk

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