**BENNIWORTH POLICE REPORT MAY 2020 – MAY 2021**

Good evening and thank you for allowing me to prepare this report for you. I apologise that I am unable to make your meeting tonight (as I had originally intended) but I hope you will find this report along with the proposals I will make, to be helpful and satisfactory.

We find on many occasions that the perception of police ‘numbers’ are sometime not accurate, and part of my role is to manage people’s expectations of the police and the response(s) we provide.  On the Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) I used to be the Community Beat Manager (CBM) for the rural area and had a colleague who was the CBM and responsible for Louth town.  Between us we had 7 PCSO’s.  I am now the CBM for ***both*** areas and have ***2*** PCSO’s so as you can imagine this has a huge impact on what realistically we can do.  Please don’t think I am trying to bemoan the situation and I will always try and do as much as we can with the resources available to us.  However please try and be patient and understand that, as a Neighbourhood Policing Team, if you contact us we might not always be able to respond as quickly as you might like, but we will get to you as soon as we can.

Sadly, with the above in mind, we simply don’t have the capacity to attend at Parish Council meetings (and haven’t done so for some time). However, keeping lines of communication open is very important and we will always try and do what we can for you.  The information you often require can be accessed through the police.uk website and you can then drill down into your area to get the details you require.  On this occasion I have endeavoured to provide you with a report as I am unable to attend this evening as I had originally suggested I might.

In general crime terms, I am also pleased to tell you that the burglary spike we had been encountering in recent years has fortunately declined.  We worked with Humberside Police who were having similar issues in their area.  A male was arrested in Lincolnshire at South Elkington last year in relation to these offences last year and I don’t think it’s any coincidence that now he has been identified and dealt with for those offences, we have seen our burglary figures across East Lindsey drop too.

Specific to Benniworth, I have looked at all the incidents from May of last year and I am similarly pleased to inform you that there is nothing during that period that needs to greatly concern you. There have maybe been a handful of calls to us in that time but nothing regarding any criminality trends that need to be brought to your attention. From May 2020 there have been the following reports –

* Burglary (outbuildings) – 3. Items taken were heavy duty garden tools and a lawnmower.
* Attempt burglary – 2. Locks damaged and entry gained but nothing taken.
* Anti-Social Behaviour – 5. Report of quad bikes on land, youths in the old train tunnel and neighbourhood dispute.
* Criminal Damage – 1. Tyres slashed on vehicle.
* Suspicious circumstances – 6. Sus. Vehicles / people in the area.

I am sure you may consider these figures to be of concern but when considering crime figures from across the county and indeed the UK, 17 incidents, and of those 17 only 6 crimes being recorded in 12 months is still very low and I can reassure you, you live in a very safe area.

Part of our role within Neighbourhood Policing is to meet our communities, to offer advice and to reassure you. With this in mind, I would like to extend the following invitations to you.

* I would like to offer you the opportunity to be a part of a ‘Zoom’ meeting that I will set up. The objective will be to allow you to speak to us directly so we can answer any questions you might have and to offer any advice as mentioned above. I would like this to happen in the next month or so and sometime after 16th June.
* For us to come to your village with our Crime Reduction Tactical Advisor and to offer you advice in person. You will be able to see some of the home security products that are available and we can also offer you the opportunity to have Simone (our Tactical Advisor) come to your home and provide a free home security survey.

I will leave you to discuss some dates, and I will ask Adele to get back in touch with some suggestions around dates.

Finally, you may not be aware that we do now have a new Neighbourhood Policing Team Sergeant in the form of Sergeant Andy Price.  I have worked with Andy for many years and he is tireless in ensuring we provide the best service possible (as we all do) and to the highest standards.  I am sure you will want to welcome Andy to the area and to our team too.

I hope you have found this report useful. I also hope you will keep working with us and reporting incidents when they occur.  All I would emphasise is the importance of reporting ***all*** incidents on 101.  Please don’t call our personal work mobiles as we don’t have the capacity to take incident reports.  It is however extremely important that reports are made because if we don’t know they’re happening then we do not get a clear picture of how big an issue is.  That will therefore mean resources will get placed elsewhere, when in fact it may be they’re needed here in rural communities like yours.

I wish you all the very best and please, if you want me to come and see you or you want to discuss something of concern, please get in touch and I will always do my absolute very best to assist.

All the best and many kind regards.

Rich.

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