



Chairman's Post

After serving as our Chairman for almost seven years, Evelyn Holden has chosen not to stand for re-election this year, although she remains an active member of the Committee. We would like to thank her for the way in which she undertaken this task so well.

We are, therefore, seeking somebody to take on the role and join us in keeping the Watch operating successfully in Birstall and Wanlip. The task is not onerous and mainly involves chairing our monthly Committee Meetings and liaising with new Coordinators and volunteers.

If you are interested in joining the Team and would like more information **without any obligation**, please email or call us: watch@villagewatch.co.uk
0756 2422 756

Payment Redirection Fraud

At one time we paid most of our bills by cheque but nowadays direct bank transfer has become the preferred method. Naturally, fraudsters have latched on to this to steal our money.

They send an email, apparently from someone with whom you are already in contact, such as a builder or a solicitor. It asks you to set up a new payment arrangement or to change the details you have previously been using. Then, when you make a payment to this new account, it goes straight to the fraudster and your bill remains unpaid!

Remember that emails, text messages and telephone numbers can be easily faked to look genuine. Emails can even be sent from genuine email accounts that have been hacked.

Do not reply to such a message or use the contact details included in it until you are absolutely sure that it is genuine. **Always confirm any instructions directly with the person or company requesting the change.**

The best advice is to check the request in a different way from the one used to send it. Use the contact details that you already have on any correspondence or use a publicly available telephone number, such as one published on a website or in a telephone directory.

Please make a note of our new Phone Number

0756 2422 756

Our previous number has now been disconnected but, of course, still appears on our current membership cards, pens and other printed items.

Saturday Advice Shop

20th October 2018

10 a.m. to 12 noon
Parish Council Building
10 Sibson Road
(Opposite the Garden Centre)

The Crew from Birstall Fire Station will be at the

Advice Shop from 11 a.m.

to give advice and information on keeping
your family and home safe

Fireworks

Please remember your
neighbours when celebrating
with fireworks.

It is against the law to let off
fireworks in the street or other public places.

If you are planning to do so in your garden, please warn your neighbours, especially those who are elderly, vulnerable or who have young children or pets.

THE LAW IS CLEAR AND OFFENDERS CAN BE PROSECUTED.

No fireworks can be set off after 11 p.m.

except on the following dates:

Bonfire Night, 5th November – Midnight

Diwali, 7th November – 1 a.m.

New Year's Eve, 31st December – 1 a.m.

Chinese New Year, 5th February – 1 a.m.

Report firework nuisance to the Borough Council website:

www.charnwood.gov.uk/pages/environmentalhealth

Incidents involving the use of fireworks in the street should be reported to the Police by calling 101.

Attempted Burglaries

At the end of August, two men knocked on a member's door late in the evening. When there was no reply, they climbed into the garden and tried to open the rear patio doors. However, the occupant was at home at the time and the men ran off when challenged.

The Police attended and advised that another resident had reported men of similar descriptions knocking on doors in the same area offering roofing work when they got a reply. It seems clear that they were calling at houses to check whether there was anybody at home.

If you have uninvited callers of this kind or spot people acting in a suspicious manner, it is always a good idea to notify the Police immediately by dialling 101. If they can, they will respond and just the appearance of a Police car can deter those up to no good. Of course, the Police have limited resources and there will be times when they have to deal with something that has higher priority but let them make that decision.

Criminals rely on the fact that people will often ignore them even when they are acting strangely. If an area gains the reputation of having an active Neighbourhood Watch with residents who will report possible criminal activity to the Police, thieves and the like will quickly move elsewhere.

The Crew from Birstall Fire Station will be at our Advice Shop on 20th October at 11 a.m. to give advice and information on keeping your family and home safe.

Come and discuss your concerns about fire and gas safety with the experts or just bring the kids to see their fire engine and learn about their work.

The Crew will be on duty at the time and their presence is subject to them not being needed elsewhere in an emergency.

Beat News

The most recent *Beat News* is published in full on the *Our Police* pages of our website – www.villagewatch.co.uk

The reports are also printed each month in the *Birstall Post*.

Here is a summary of the August *Beat News*:

- There were forty-eight crimes reported in August, slightly up on July's figure of thirty-seven.
- There were fifteen reports of assault; the majority of these were domestic-related. There were ten thefts of fuel from the petrol station, up from just four last month.
- Just one house burglary and one non-dwelling burglary were reported
- The number of thefts from vehicles has also remained relatively low, with just four reports received.
- Three vehicles were damaged and one cycle was stolen

Further information can be found at:

www.police.uk/leicestershire/NL60

Crime Prevention Advice

Satellite navigation systems (sat-navs) continue to be sought after by criminals. Please ensure that if you own a sat-nav you remove it from display whenever you leave your vehicle unattended and either hide it away in the glove box or, preferably, take it with you. Also remove any cables or cradles for the device as these are tell-tale signs that you own one, and keep a small cloth in your car to wipe away any suction pad marks left on the window. Make a note of any serial numbers on the device so that if it is stolen and later recovered, we have a better chance of returning it to you.

Neighbourhood Update

The beat team have been out again this month completing speed checks on Birstall Road, following complaints about speeding in the area. In a little under an hour we recorded just over sixty vehicles through the site and I am pleased to report that the vast majority of drivers were sticking to the speed limit. One driver was stopped and verbally warned and another was reported for travelling at 45 mph. We plan to complete further checks in the area in the coming months so please ensure that you are sticking to the speed limits at all times to avoid being caught yourselves!

PC 1759 Dave Jaeckels

Arrests Made

There was a burglary at a house on Cliffwood Avenue in early September. Two men forced open the front door and stole a car using keys they took from the house.

However, observant neighbours spotted that there was something wrong and called the Police. After a short chase, the car was stopped and the thieves were arrested and taken into custody.

All in all, a positive result for the Police and our community and all thanks to the neighbours who took the right initiative when it was needed.

Police Beat Surgeries

Meet your local Police Officers

- Monday, 15th October at Kingsgate Shopping Parade between 12 noon and 1 p.m.
- Wednesday, 17th October at the One Stop shop on Hallam Fields Road between 6.30 p.m. and 7.30 p.m.
- Wednesday, 17th October at the Coop Store on Wanlip Lane between 8 p.m. and 9 p.m.
- Saturday, 20th October at the NHW Advice Shop in 10 Sibson Road between 10 a.m. and 12 noon.
- Friday, 26th October at the Tesco Store on Sibson Road between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m.

These times are subject to Officers not being required elsewhere in an emergency.

What do You think of this Newsletter?

Do you have:

- any views on the content?
- any ideas about how it could be improved?
- any suggestions about what it should include?

Please let us know by emailing us at:

watch@villagewatch.co.uk

IF YOU ARE NOT EXPECTING SOMEBODY TO CONTACT YOU BE VERY CAUTIOUS ABOUT WHAT THEY TELL YOU

Contacting Birstall and Wanlip Neighbourhood Watch

Email: watch@villagewatch.co.uk

Phone: 0756 2422 756

Calls go to our answering service but we always try to reply within 24 hours
Please remember to leave your number

Write: c/o Birstall Parish Council
Council Office, Birstall Road,
Birstall, Leicester, LE4 4DH

We also have a locked post box on the counter in the Council Office

Thank you to Birstall Parish Council for continuing to support the Watch – www.birstallparishcouncil.org.uk