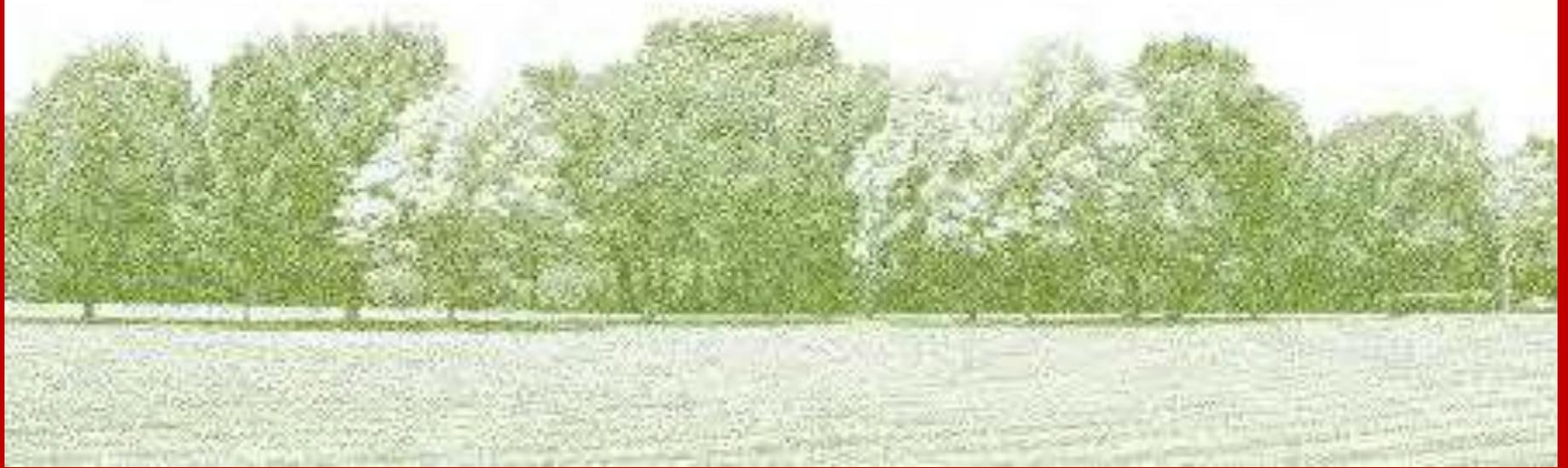


Policing Update

Chief Insp. Helen Andrews



Policing Update

Resources

Local team based at Lyndhurst - which includes PCSO Richard Williams - is supported when required by other officers based in Totton. Across the Forest there are seven neighbourhood teams who support each other as required plus five other “Responses Teams”, including Armed Response Vehicles; Dog Handlers; Police Helicopter. Can also call on Southampton, Dorset & Wiltshire officers if needed.

Crime

We live in a safe area with low levels of crime. Burglaries are few in general. Rural burglaries and thefts from vehicles and outbuildings do occur. Domestic security equipment such as “door bell camera’s are really useful. Resource is used intensively to combat burglaries. Some criminal damage but low numbers in reality.

Reporting Crime

Some will say “what’s the point of reporting” but reports helps to build a picture of where police resources need to be targeted. Online reporting via the Hampshire Police website is easy to do and all reports are reviewed locally on a daily basis. If crime is “happening now” then use 999

Joint partnership work

Local policing team work in partnership with NFDC; Forestry England; schools; National Park; Speedwatch teams. PCSO Richard Williams has regular engagement with these partners on joint operations like Fly Tipping; speeding; anti-social behaviour.

Copythorne Parish Meeting – November 25th 2021

Item 6 - Copythorne Community Speed Watch Report

The CSW Team, that is the local Copythorne Community Speed Watch Team, have been carrying out traffic 1 have a total of 9 different sites that are Police checked and approved. You may have seen them out wearing their High Viz jackets with the logo 'Community Speed Watch', using a highly advanced piece of Police Approved kit, known as SID, who either lights up with a green 'Thank You' for observing the speed limit or, a red 'Slow Down' for those drivers who are above the speed limit. SID is a large, Speed Indicating Device which also shows the vehicle's speed.

Each team member is fully trained and is vetted by the Police and they work as Police volunteers. The Police, especially our PCSO Richard Williams, fully support the CSW work undertaken by the team, as do the Parish Council. The CSW team have been fully supported by the Parish Council and would like to thank them for providing the funds for a new SID machine this year, which will prove to be beneficial for the future of Speed Watch surveys.

The aim of the CSW is to educate the public about the problems that speeding traffic can have, particularly impacting on the lives of local residents. The main aims of CSW are:

- 1. Reduce Death and Injury on the roads**
- 2. Improve the quality of life for local communities**
- 3. Reduce the speed of vehicles to the speed limit**
- 4. Increase public awareness of inappropriate speed.**

During each CSW survey, the team record the time, speed, vehicle registration, make, model, colour and any other vehicle information such as a company name, that is exceeding the speed limit by 10% plus 1 Mph. Most surveys last for about 1½ hours.

The CSW Coordinators then process the survey information. Firstly the SID information is downloaded and the times and speeds of vehicles can be checked. Next, the written survey sheets are cross matched and processed before being sent to the Hampshire Police Coordinator.

The Police Coordinator then checks that the vehicle information recorded by the CSW Team is accurate before sending out an educational letter to each driver who exceed the speed limit, if it is their first or second offence. There is also now cross force information sharing of repeat offenders. Repeat offenders and also those drivers who are found to be excessively speeding can expect Police contact. Excessive speeders are drivers recorded at 50+ Mph in a 30 zone and 66+ Mph in a 40 zone.

As with most organisations, the CSW team was affected by the restrictions of Covid this year. However, they still managed to spend a total of 55 hours at the roadside on surveys, so far this year. During that time, they monitored about 12,500 vehicles with the result that 1,487 drivers received a Police letter for breaking the speed limit and 44 drivers had direct Police contact for excessive speeding. The highest recorded vehicle was driving at 65 Mph in a 30 Mph zone.

Due to Covid restrictions and the lifting of them, it is difficult to compare statistics but, it would appear that there has been some improvement in the number of speeding vehicles compared to other years. We hope that this improvement continues.

If you would like to come out and experience a survey for yourself you would be most welcome, even for half an hour! For more information either contact The Clerk, David Rigby or PCSO Richard Williams.

The Copythorne CSW Team pride themselves on being a dedicated, experienced and friendly group of volunteers. If you see them out on survey then do give them a friendly wave.