

Police Service of Scotland Community Council Report



Community Council:

Forth and Endrick, Balfon Community Council

Reporting Period:

May 2019 - Compiled by PC Steven Graham

Ward Plan Priorities

Antisocial Behaviour

On 21st April 2019 there was a report of a smashed window in Endrick Rd. A male was later seen with a metal pole and later in the morning a wing mirror was discovered to be smashed, This appears to be all linked and enquiries are continuing.

There are a few neighbour disputes ongoing within the village. One of these resulted in a male being cautioned and charged with a breach of the peace. We are keeping in contact with all the persons concerned and liaising regularly with the council to try and resolve them.

Road Safety

No recordable road accidents occurred since the last meeting.

Speed checks and the zebra crossing checks have continued to be monitored and this will continue.

Theft

There have been no thefts reported since the last meeting in the Balfon area however thefts have been reported in the Fintry area so we urge people to be vigilant and contact the Police should anyone see anything suspicious.

Police Service of Scotland Community Council Report



Community Engagement and Reassurance

It is important to you to have community officers who you know, who are accessible and who address local problems.

PC Steven Graham and PC Gary Martin are the Ward Officers for the Forth and Endrick area. They are based at Balfron Police Office and can be contacted at the office, on 101, or at ForthEndrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk. It is recommended that this email address is used by the local community for email contact.

Please remember that we regularly publish useful information and updates on social media, including appeals for information, updates about road closures and crime prevention advice. Our Facebook and Twitter pages can be found at

www.facebook.com/forthvalleypolicedivision

www.facebook.com/policescotland

www.twitter.com/stirlingpol

www.twitter.com/policescotland

OFFICIAL

Police Service of Scotland Community Council Report



Other Incidents / Activity of note

SHEEP WORRYING

This time of year presents the problem of sheep worrying. Dog owners are being warned their animal could be killed if it is found to be in the presence of sheep, even if it has not physically attacked them or chased them.

A dog attacking, chasing or even being at large in a field where sheep are kept can lead to significant injury and often leads to the sheep being killed or destroyed. Such attacks have a financial and emotional impact on the farmer and cause immense suffering to the animals and are avoidable if dog owners follow some simple steps.

The vast majority of livestock worrying incidents involve sheep and can occur when a dog attacks, chases or in the case of sheep, is at large (not on a lead or otherwise under close control) in a field where livestock is kept. The effects of a dog attack are evident and cannot be overstated but significant damage can also be caused by a dog simply being present in a field. Pregnant ewes can abort their lambs or lambs can be separated from their mothers.

The advice to dog owners who live in rural areas or anyone walking and exercising their dogs in the countryside is to ensure they are under control at all times and avoid going into fields where livestock is grazing. The Scottish Outdoor Access Code says dogs shouldn't be taken into fields where there are lambs or other young farm animals.

Rural Watch Scotland

"Rural Watch Scotland' is an extension of the Neighbourhood Watch Scotland movement and endorsed by the Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime (SPARC) and Forth valley Rural Crime Group aimed specifically at the rural communities of Scotland and aims to bring all the benefits of Neighbourhood Watch to all rural communities irrespective of location, size or demographics.

Rural watch is an online community for any member of the public where appeals, crime prevention tips and safety alerts can be posted by those who subscribe which can be viewed by all members. Subscription is free and the sharing of information on the forum is a great example of real time crime prevention in action.

The objectives of Rural Watch Scotland are to:

- Reduce crime and the fear of crime by providing the right information, to the right people, at the right time.
- Encourage people to think about safety and security for themselves, their neighbours and their community.
- Improve community cohesion and well-being by supporting communities to develop 'their watch, their way'.
- Work in partnership with national and local service providers to develop more resilient communities that are better prepared against threats, intentional or unintentional, such as crime or extreme weather.

The experience of Neighbourhood Watch throughout Scotland and elsewhere across the world is that members of Rural Watch Scotland will be less likely than non-members in the rural community to be a victim of crime.

Police Service of Scotland Community Council Report



By joining the Rural Watch Scotland scheme members can receive alerts and advice by phone, text or email. By keeping members informed about crime and other threats in specific areas, Rural Watch Scotland can help prevent crime, keep communities and residents safe, and member's responses to these alerts can help catch criminals or be better prepared to deal with other threats to communities. To join Rural Watch Scotland simply:

- Log onto www.ruralwatchscotland.co.uk
- Click the green JOIN button at the top of the page.
- Follow the on screen instructions."

Neighbourhood Alert.

This is a community messaging system which sends alerts regarding crime, safety and resilience to communities. Ruralwatch is an information platform that has been set up by what was formerly Neighbourhood Watch, however the big difference being that any members of the local community can sign up to have the relevant alerts sent to them by various means including E-mail or Text message. To receive free alerts simply register at:

www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk

Hate Crime 2019

This year's hate crime campaign focuses on people who work in the night time economy, for example taxi and private hire drivers, those working in late night retail stores and takeaways.

Research shows that these individuals are more likely to be victims of hate crime, and we aim to raise awareness of the problem and encourage reporting of incidents to police.

A hate crime is "any crime which is perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated (wholly or partly) by malice and ill-will towards a social group". Perpetrators of hate crime focus on targeting individuals on the basis of actual or presumed:

- Disability
- Race
- Religion/Belief
- Sexual Orientation
- Transgender Identity

OFFICIAL

Police Service of Scotland Community Council Report



Shut out scammers

Doorstep Crime affects some of the most vulnerable within our communities. It manifests in many forms including online and telephone scams, exploitation by persons known to the victim and the fraudulent activities of unscrupulous persons purporting to be bona fide tradespeople.

There is a campaign started called "Shut Out Scammers" which is raising awareness of offenders who cold-call people at their homes and scam them out of money. Doorstep criminals may offer to carry out work at a reduced rate, asking you to hand over cash straight away and often in advance of any repairs being carried out. We have visited local businesses handing out leaflets and posters to highlight this issue.

There is no specific look to a bogus caller or rogue trader. If you have any concerns at all, do not allow an individual entry to your home, or provide them with any form of payment and do not hesitate to phone the police immediately. Always ask for ID and only let callers in if they have an appointment and you know that they are genuine.

If you would like to receive any of our advice and guidance on preventing crime then you can visit your local police station, call 101 or visit our dedicated webpage at

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/personal-safety/Shut-Out-Scammers>.

Issues raised

Community
Council
Feedback

OFFICIAL

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Police Service of Scotland Community Council Report



OFFICIAL