Police Service of Scotland Community Council Report



Community Council:

Forth and Endrick, Balfron Community Council

Reporting Period:

June 2019 - Compiled by PC Gary Martin

Ward Plan Priorities

Antisocial Behaviour

There are a still a few ongoing neighbour disputes within the village. We are, as previously stated, in very regular contact with all the persons concerned and liaising regularly with Stirling Council to try and resolve the issues.

A reported Vandalism, a vehicle appears to have been scratched using possibly a key, enquiries ongoing.

A further report of Vandalism, damage caused to a sun lounger, enquiries ongoing.

A male was warned in relation to being in possession of a small amount of cannabis.

Road Safety

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

Report of sheep on the road, please be careful on your travels.

Road traffic collisions on the outskirts of the village, no major injuries.

A report of an alleged drunk driver, vehicle quickly traced, all in order, merely lost.

Along with the community councils in the district, I attended the Rural West Area Community Forum in Balfron High School and obviously discussed were the issues in relation to speeding in all the villages. Also in attendance was Andy Jones from the East Safety Camera Unit and Stirling Council. A number of issues raised and hopefully extra deployment on the A811 after concerns raised.

The camera van continues to be in regular attendance on the A811. One driver in particular was recorded at 87mph in the 60mph section and has been reported to The Procurator Fiscal.

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Theft

Two juveniles were reported in relation to two separate minor thefts.

There was a theft shoplifting from the Co-op, Buchanan Street. The same persons were involved in thefts from Killearn Co-op. After further enquiries, these males were identified, traced and reported in relation to a number of Shopliftings from all over Scotland.

There has been no thefts reported since the last meeting however there has been a Theft Housebreakings reported in neighbouring villages so we urge people to be ever vigilant and contact the Police should anyone see anything suspicious.

Alarm calls have been attended to by Police, confirmed all in order on all occasions.

There was a report of suspicious persons selling fish. Vehicle quickly traced by Police, persons and vehicles checked out and it was confirmed with the company it was all in order.

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

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Other Incidents / Activity of note

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.

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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.	
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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

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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

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