

Police Service of Scotland Community Council Report



Community Council:

Forth and Endrick, Balfon Community Council

Reporting Period:

November 2019 - Compiled by PC Gary Martin

Ward Plan Priorities

Antisocial Behaviour

A report of a broken window to a residential property, enquiries still continuing.

A report alleging a male drinking in public. Police attended, it was quickly ascertained that this was in fact incorrect information, all in order.

There are still ongoing neighbour disputes of a minor nature, Police always attend to these matters and issues are quickly resolved.

Other matters -

There was a report of a chimney fire, no suspicious circumstances.

There have been reports in relation to concerns for persons, these vary from reported missing persons to mental health issues. Police attend on all occasions immediately and matters resolved.

Road Safety

Report of large amount of diesel on the roadway just outside Balfon, Council advised and matter dealt with quickly.

Report of a minor road accident in the village – offending vehicle traced and matter dealt with accordingly.

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Theft

A report was received in relation to the theft of scaffolding. Enquiries ongoing but have as yet no suspects have been identified.

The theft of a motor vehicle from an area on the outskirts of the village. Persons have been identified and it appears to have been persons known to the complainer.

We have again included information in relation to anti-snap locks at the end of the report is still included this month. The evenings are getting darker earlier and it is a time where traditionally housebreakings can occur. Please consider the following:

- Use timer switches on lights and radios to make it look as if your home is occupied.
- Ensure all doors and windows are secure when you leave and when you go to bed.
- If possible use secure lighting at the front and back of your property.
- Make sure all garden tools and ladders are locked away when not being used. Don't give the thieves the tools to break into your house.
- Use a good quality lock on any garden sheds and outhouses.
- Make a note of all makes, models and serial numbers of expensive items in your home.
- If your house is fitted with an alarm then please use it. This is a good deterrent should thieves manage to force entry to your house.

Create a FREE and secure inventory of all your personal property at www.immobilise.com

- If you note anything suspicious in your neighbourhood report it on 101.

There are guides on the Police Scotland website giving other ideas to protect property in rural areas:

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/home-and-personal-property/rural-crime>

All incidents in relation to suspicious persons or vehicles are welcomed and Police have and will attend to all these incidents immediately

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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 Balfour 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

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

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>.

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Prevention is the cure –

Are you considering upgrading the locks on your external doors?

Europrofile cylinders tested and certificated to the following standards should be considered:

- a) Door Hardware Federation Technical Standard 007 (DHF TS 007) - 3-Star rating,
- b) DHF TS 007 1-star cylinder may be utilised if accompanied by DHF TS 007 2-star external hardware (handle set or secure escutcheon) or cylinder protection.
- c) Sold Secure SS312 (Diamond) standard cylinders;

How do I know if I have anti snap locks?

Essentially there are two ways you can ensure the euro cylinder locks on your doors are anti-snap proof.

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1. The lock is an SS312 Diamond Approved Cylinder (as below)SS312 Diamond is the highest level of approval for a euro cylinder lock.
2. Look out for the 3 Star Kitemark Logo

If your lock has the 3-Star Kitemark Logo on it, this indicates the lock is tested against snapping.



For further information on enhanced security products including doors, windows, glass and locking mechanism please go to

www.securedbydesign.com and www.policescotland.co.uk



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