

2018 ASHBY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 2017-18 NEIGHBOURHOOD SECURITY REPORT

I apologise if some parishioners are already aware of the following details but the hope is it reaches the attention of others for the first time.

Neighbourhood security messages are issued to those who have asked to be included in the parish council's free Ashby Update Service. On behalf of the Parish Council I remain responsible for ensuring, when I receive any, that police and other security messages are notified to residents as soon as reasonably possible.

Neighbourhood security remains an agenda item at every Parish Council meeting. Within that agenda item, the Parish Council receives a report from a police officer, when one is able to attend our meetings. If a police report is given or provided it is given in tandem with local Police Alert / Homewatch issues.

The notable absence of Police Alert messages relating to our parish since 2016 has continued. The reduction in the level of the previous service and its usefulness, and especially since the retirement of the local PCSO, is greatly regretted as it effectively gives the impression to parishioners of eroding confidence in neighbourhood security policing.

Yet again the one report of criminal activity in our parish, recently received by me, came from a local resident. I have not received any notification of it via a Police Alert and that I find concerning. Within the last two months there were successful and unsuccessful attempts of thefts from vehicles in Chapel Lane and Chapel Road. I circulated that information almost immediately to all parishioners that receive the parish council's Ashby Update Service. I am always grateful if parish residents who keep a watchful lookout report incidents to me so that they can be circulated amongst our close-knit community. This circulation of security issues is part of a Parish Council initiative known as the Ashby Update Service / Homewatch (Police Alerts) which is free for all residents to receive.

The Ashby Update messaging service is also a useful tool for notifying changes affecting our community via the Parish Council website, or that the website has been updated. The neighbourhood security and website update service has remained at 55 recipients this year (between one third and a half of all the parish's households) and is a worthy advertisement for the community spirit of the village. The parish council invites more recipients in Ashby to join our Ashby Update Service incorporating HomeWatch / Police Alerts. Being part of a homewatch group can result in lower insurance premiums. I would be happy to provide more details via a factsheet. The Ashby Update service is quick, easy, beneficial and best of all, free to receive and belong to.

That concludes my 2018 Neighbourhood Security report.

Mark Rolph - Parish Councillor