

## **Reported Crimes of Interest for The Bassetlaw East Clayworth/Sturton Beat Area – March 2017**

**The Clayworth/ Sturton beat area includes the following villages and hamlets – Drakeholes, Wiseton, Clayworth, Hayton, Clarborough, Welham, Tiln, North Leverton with Hablesthorpe, North Wheatley, South Wheatley, Sturton le Steeple, Bole, West Burton, Littleborough, Coates and Fenton.**

The reported crimes of interest – incidents of burglary, criminal damage and thefts – reported for the beat area between 01/03/2017 and 31/03/2017 were –

Burglary Dwelling – 2 (Welham, Sturton le Steeple).

Burglary Other – 2 (Sturton le Steeple x2).

Criminal Damage to a Motor Vehicle – 2 (North Leverton, Clarborough).

Criminal Damage Other – 2 (Clarborough, Hayton).

In this year, from 01/04/2016, there have been ninety two crimes of interest reported across the beat area. This compares with sixty reported in the same period last year. As such these figures equate to an increase in reported crimes of interest in that period of thirty two crimes.

It has become noticeable to me, and I am sure to most of you too, that there would seem to be an increase in the number of vehicles driving around the area where the occupants are looking for scrap metal. I have been advised that the price of scrap metal is still quite low, but this does not seem to have prevented an increase in this type of activity. Many of these drivers do tend to have the appropriate documentation to carry out this activity – however, some don't. Please continue to report this type of activity to the control room and, a polite reminder, to ensure that any metal items of value are, where possible, not visible from the public highway or secured accordingly.

Certain areas of Harworth and Worksop have been targeted recently where lead has been stolen from dwelling properties, particularly from bay window areas of dwellings. We have not experienced this kind of activity on this beat area for many years but this note is just to give residents "heads up" in relation to emerging crime trends in other areas.

Later in the month there were two persons arrested on suspicion of theft of lead. These arrests were made possible as a result of a telephone call from a member of the public reporting suspicious activity close to the scene where the crimes were being committed. This is another example of how important and valuable these types of calls can be to the Police service.

A warning has been issued about dodgy door-to-door fish vendors charging hundreds of pounds for low quality fish in Retford, and the surrounding villages. There have been several reports of the "aggressive" rogue traders operating in the Retford area, with at least one incident being reported to the Trading Standards department.

In some instances across Nottinghamshire, residents have been misled into spending hundreds of pounds on poor quality fish, worth a fraction of what they paid for it. The County Councils Trading Standards department team say that people are given the impression that they are only buying a few pieces, but are then presented with a freezer filling amount of largely unlabelled fish, some of which is unfit to eat, plus a bill for two or three hundred pounds.

Anyone who has been approached by fish sellers, in this manner, is urged to contact the Police control room on 101 and the Citizens Advice Consumer Service (Trading Standards) on 08454 040 506.

If someone you don't know calls you up and say "Can you hear me?" then you should put the phone down straight away. That is because fraudsters are using a simple, but effective, new phone scam which could cost you a lot of money if you answer the question with a "Yes". At the moment, it is prevalent in America but there are warnings it is likely to move to this country.

The scam uses voice signatures to try and charge you for products, or services, that you've never used. This is how it works: A local number will ring you; The person on the phone will then introduce themselves and the company they supposedly work for; They then ask "Can you hear me?"; Your answer is recorded, and if you say "Yes", your response will be edited and then used to charge you for products, or services, without your knowledge. If you try to disagree with them, they will then play back their recording of you saying "Yes", and threaten to take legal action if you don't pay up.

Action Fraud, the UK's national reporting centre for fraud and financially motivated cyber-crime, confirmed the scam was prevalent in the US, but said it could not confirm any specific UK cases without a specific reporting reference number. A spokesperson for Action Fraud offered the following advice: "If you receive a call from an unrecognised or withheld number and the caller asks "Can you hear me?" just hang up.

This month there have been six reported incidents of anti-social behaviour, of various incident types, across the whole beat area. This compares with four reported incidents for February and seven reported for the same month in 2016. The anti-social behaviour umbrella covers a wide range of incident types including hoax calls to the emergency services, found/ abandoned vehicles and wildlife/ animal issues. Very few of the anti-social behaviour incidents this month, and in previous months, are youth related.

Contact numbers for the local beat team can be found on the posters displayed across the beat area in the shops and village notice boards. My contact number is 07525 226 838 and my E mail address is [david.airey@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:david.airey@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk) PC 1695 Bill Bailey is the beat manager for this area. His contact number is 07910 336 844 and his E mail address is [Bill.bailey@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Bill.bailey@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk)

**Please do not use these telephone numbers to report incidents and/ or crimes. Our works numbers should only be used for non-urgent matters – including seeking advice and/ or information.**

Thanks for all your continued vigilance and support.

**Best regards PCSO 8139 Dave Airey**