

REPORT TO GREAT CHART WITH SINGLETON PARISH COUNCIL OCTOBER 2026

Dear Council

Please accept my apologies for tonight. There are several councils which now meet on Mondays, and I will spread myself as best I can but will always send a report if I cannot attend.

Since we last met, I issued guidance to the community on the issue of parking etc in Singleton Hill especially the issue raised by a resident at the last council meeting.

I can report a very positive meeting with the new CH INSP at Ashford, Jennifer Bassan. It was a very positive meeting and a much better climate and working relationship appears on the cards from the last holder of the post.

I attended the meeting of the CMO's AGM as did some of you also. I was not allowed to speak which was disappointing because a positive message was to be told. I was however allowed a display in the foyer, and I was delighted by the comments and support from residents as to my work on the development. To date occupations, seem very slow still

I have supported the resident from Great Chart who was assaulted, and I have stayed in touch and visited him also.

I felt the police action on this serious case was shall we say slow. Can I also say a few frank email exchanges with various police contacts took place in "Pete speak" and to date I understand arrests and bail with strict conditions have been issued.

I attended on Tuesday 6th October one of my normal one to one meeting with the Crime Commissioner Matthew Scott. He has over the years been a solid supporter of my work and to me personally.

The meeting updates him on all my NHW work and especially features my close work with councils.

We discussed my opposition the 43 police forces down to 12 as I personally feel it does not bode well for neighbourhood policing based on "Peelian Principles" in communities.

I also voiced my opposition to the government's proposal of the removal of the posts of Crime Commissioners. With my work I need an independent person I can go to when the police fail to meet public expectations. The thought of no PCC and the police reassuring the police as is well causes me great concern.

I spent time in deep discussions with the Commissioner about the Governments Early Release Scheme of prisoners.

This has the makings of a disaster, and I do not say that to alarm you.

We must all make ourselves available if approached to signpost victims towards the police if problems occur, especially Domestic abuse victims.

You will see I posted considerable guidance that the PCC sent to me immediately after the meeting.

I am still disappointed that no formal statement has been put out over the scaling back of the Police School team. I understand it will just be 2 x PCSOs to cover all schools. For me I believe in a prevention-based approach as you know, and being in schools discussing the types of crimes that concern the community. Catapults, Scooters, ASB and even issues like Violence Against Women and Girls etc etc are classic examples.

The police are poor communicators and there was no formal announcement of the CLO's posts going, now the school's team and even the lack of announcement of a new CH Inspector for Ashford.

That said, if we are close and tight in our partnership, clear in our communications and focused on the business we press on serving the residents of your parish.

You will recall I said the strength for the community is in you all and the council. The debacle of LGR is a classic example of we battle on together.

Thank you for your support as always

Peter

Peter New

Community neighbourhood Watch

I have included as an annexe my community guidance on the running Foxes Lane/Singleton Hill traffic matter

Peter New

Community Neighbourhood Watch.



I have had reports from NHW members and an email from KCC Councillor Bill Barrett raising concerns about parking and driving in this area requiring tight vehicle movements.

I also attended the Great Chart with Singleton Parish Council last week where a concern resident attended and described the behaviour of some drivers with very aggressive and threatening behaviour.

We are reaping what we sow and the building of the newer parts of Ashford with narrow roads and not enough parking coming home to roost.

Can I offer the following guidance and my ex fire service life requires me to remind everyone of the "gaps needed" to get fire appliances, buses, refuse lorries, ambulances and very sadly now large cars.

Can I stress if there is aggressive or threatening behaviour displayed by persons towards residents report the matter to the police with the details if you can get them safely of the vehicles involved.

This is Ashford's biggest ticking bomb and new build developments are not helping as roads are so narrow.

We will soon have more yellow lines than Central London and I follow the debate on pavement parking.

Of course it hampers visually impaired persons, the disabled and pushchairs and prams but I truly can't see the way forward as every issue is looked at separately.

I recently told a developer and builder their proposals bordered on delusion and we are building for failure.

Throw in the parking around schools around 1430 onwards and the perfect storm is with us.

Please try to park and drive carefully in these very tight busy areas.

Thank you



