## REPORT TO GREAT CHART & SINGLETON PARISH COUNCIL JULY 2024.

My report is short as I have just arrived back from my family holiday albeit I was still in touch with residents and NHW matters, I just had sand and sea between my toes. I apologise I cannot make the meeting tonight.

I always carry on with NHW whilst I am on holiday albeit the Cornwall internet reception and mobile phone signal does resemble North Korea.

In your area my focus going into these second half of the year will be a mixture of the routine crime prevention but where required the ability to look ahead to anticipate crime trends that may strike us or sadly return to our area.

On routine crime matters for your council area, I shall be focused on

ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR
CRIMINAL DAMAGE
THEFT FROM VEHICLES
THEFTS FROM GARAGES, SHEDS AND OUTBUILDINGS
SPECIAL CRIMES THEFT OF HIGH END KEYLESS CARS
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN & GIRLS POLICE CAMPAIGN
PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT
BOGUS CALLERS/ROGUE TRADERS
FLY TIPPING

## IMPORTANTLY TO LOOK AHEAD AND ANTICIPATE, ALERT AND INFORM. REACT TO CONCERNS OF RESIDENTS AND DEVELOPING/CHANGING CRIME THREATS

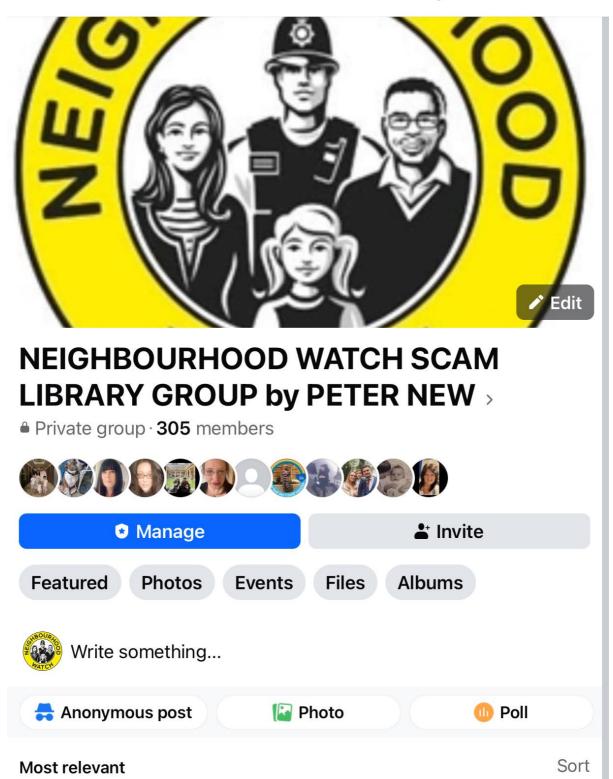
And of course, the crimes around **SCAMS** that strike to all parts of our community but will especially target the lonely, elderly, and the most vulnerable in our community. These crimes will grow and be a relentless attack on us all.

To try and assist I have set up a Facebook Group to store just SCAMs as a form of library one can look back and refer to. It would be impossible to email out all the scam information residents would just switch off and delete or not read the mails.

Whilst not the full answer it is another helpful step that residents can quickly look back and check if they are dealing with a scam. Trying to look back on a normal group the scam info could be lost among all other posts.

As I said it is not the full answer but at least it is another step and if one resident avoids becoming a victim then the work will have been worth it

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCAM LIBRARY GROUP by PETER NEW**



An issue of concern that I would like to put down a marker for future debate is the lack of involvement with officers from Ashford Police, (not rank and file officers on the front line but the structure of Ashford policing) The Beat officers who replaced PCSOs were supposed to be community based but have such large areas to cover.

You are massive key partners for Kent Police and many of you hold wider office than this Council. You must be briefed; you must be alerted and your vast experience in the Community should be at the police right hand of protecting the community.

The Kent Police model of Beat Police Officers in Ashford has struggled. When did a police officer last attend your council? The P.C.C., Matthew Scott, is clear there should be an attendance once every 3 months. It has not happened. Fears that the removal of PCSOs would see a reduction in the service were dismissed, but we have been proved right.

You have seen however I am building a strong relationship with the Rural Police Team.

This will be an issue I will be driving forward on. Why have we not been briefed about where and how Ashford Police will be going forwards. You as a council and individual councillors should have been briefed and been a party to try to help them.

With me raising these issues I will disappear from the Police Christmas card list, but this is about trying to help and understand where they are and how we can best help them. They retreat behind high walls however into saying nothing and not seeking the help of partners.

A greater fear for me is however councils could shrug shoulders and just say "Oh well it is what it is, they will not change" my reply is yes, they must and a battle I will go down fighting for.

## My markers for the closing months of 2024.

**ITEM ONE** Ashford police establishment of police numbers which I feel has not increased in the year from the launch of the new policing model (JUNE 2023) to date. You recall they launched at 50% strength.

What is it some 12 months on?

This must be a question for our newly elected M.P.

**ITEM TWO** Ashford police liaisons with key partners like NHW, council and councillors must improve and you as councillors should be briefed on serious crimes. I cannot

make the police use myself or my resources, but you are the elected representatives of the community, big players with deep connections into the community.

As far as 6 months through the year in simple terms for us both same again please!!

If in a moment of doubt, please do not read my report as negative there are few if any more positive about trying to help the police and keep our community, especially our vulnerable, safe and secure than me. Crime free and importantly free from the fear of being a victim of crime also must be our drive.

This is about asking the police to talk to us! Explain their problems! And explore ways in which we can help and all be better for the people we have the honour to serve.

Thank you for your support as always. Peter

Peter New Community Neighbourhood Watch.