

Shepherdswell, Eythorne, Elvington & Aylesham



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August 2024

Introduction

It has been very enjoyable to be out on foot patrol over the past month, making the most of the lovely dry weather we have had. I have enjoyed meeting many residents during this time and as always, have received positive feedback.


I have also been conducting several road checks across the district monitoring speed and other traffic offences. This has resulted in several illegal vehicles being seized and removed from our roads.

I will do my best to attend future Parish Council Meetings and can be contacted on the below email.



Email – 11454@kent.police.uk

Your local beat officer:
PC 11454 Bowler



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Incidents of Note

Nuisance Motor vehicles – I have received several complaints of nuisance vehicles and in particular nuisance motorcycles. Many of these have been motorbikes heading to disused colliery sites in both Snowdown and Elvington.

As mentioned in my previous newsletter. The Coal Authority have gone to great lengths and expense to prevent access to Snowdown Colliery by installing a large perimeter fence. I regularly still attend this area and am in contact still with The Coal Authority to decide what course of action to take next to try and completely resolve this issue.

In Elvington, I have attended in both marked and unmarked police vehicles, where only last week I stopped and seized two vehicles in one evening for driving offences. I will continue to attend and act robustly with those using the roads illegally. I will also be conducting more spontaneous speed checks within the villages.

Scrap Metal Thefts – A report has been made to Kent Police of persons attending Aylesham in a vehicle and taking metal items without the consent of the owner. This included items such as barbecues. These items were not scrap metal and no consent was given to take them. Report 46/131574/24 refers.

RTC – Easole Street, Nonington – On 22nd August 2024, Police responded to reports of a road traffic collision where a vehicle ended up on its roof. The driver was arrested for possession of class B drugs, driving without insurance and driving whilst over the prescribed limit. Investigations are still ongoing.

Rogue Traders: It is worth noting we are seeing an increase in Rogue Traders across the district. Please consider the following if you are looking to get any maintenance work completed on your property:

- Research different companies and compare quotes so you know how much you would be expected to pay for a job. Rogue traders will often charge extortionate prices for simple jobs.
- Be wary of leaflets that are posted through your door offering services. Rogue traders will often have incorrect business addresses, and be only contactable by mobile numbers. Ask for identification and take vehicle registrations down and do not be afraid to ask for references.
- Make sure a quote is obtained in writing for the exact work to be completed. Do not give traders an opportunity to subtly damage your property to charge extra (take pictures before and after a quotation if physical inspection is required). Rogue traders like to bill you for items you have not requested. Avoid paying money up front and insist in a bank transfer from your bank to theirs using a sort code and account number; do not give them your card details. Avoid paying in cash.
- If you feel something is wrong, do not continue with the work. Trust your instincts. Ask a friend or relative for advice and take your time to make a decision. Rogue traders will try and pressure you into a sale.