

Holford parish Council Report.

Firstly, apologies that none of the Beat Team are able to attend the meeting this evening.

PCSO Peter BOLTON has now retired, & PCSO Matt LEGG has recently joined us, & is finding his way around the Beat Area of AW052 which stretches from Stogursey, all the way down the coast beyond Blue Anchor, out around Roadwater, Rodhuish, Monksilver, Stogumber... & everywhere in between, so no mean feat!

Our priorities at the moment our focus is on rural crime, especially non-dwelling burglaries- sheds & outbuildings, with theft of tools.

This is ongoing in our remote & rurally isolated communities, & we need more information, to build intelligence surrounding our offenders. We urge people to report vehicle indexes of suspicious vehicles in the area, & really need people to report at the time, rather than a couple of days after the event. Also, to review security of vulnerable outbuildings, & marking of tools so they can be identified if they are recovered.

We have been responding to 999 calls received into the Police Control Room, following complaints from members of the public, regarding anti-social behaviour- including driving – on the Quantocks, and around the villages of Holford & Crowcombe.

Unfortunately, some of this behaviour would seem to be occurring on hunt days, with what appears to be followers, causing obstruction of the highway, multiple passengers on quad bikes (various offences, including insurance), potentially causing damage to triple SSI sites by those who think it is acceptable to go “off Road” across the Quantocks.

Any offences identified will be dealt with robustly.

On Exmoor, we have been working closely with not only the Hunt, but also The National Park, Natural England, Private Landowners & our colleagues from Devon & Cornwall Police, which has resulted in reduced calls of complaints to both the Police & the Hunt Secretary direct. We would like to achieve the same level of co-operation & reduction in complaints/offences on and around the Quantocks.