

Police Service of Scotland Community Council Report



Community Council:

Forth and Endrick, Killearn Community Council

Reporting Period:

March 2017 – April 2017 Compiled by PC Raymond Murphy

Ward Plan Priorities

Antisocial Behaviour

There have been no reports of antisocial behaviour in the Killearn area over the reporting period.

Local officers have continued to carry out patrols in the area following concerns about youths gathering in the playground of Killearn Primary School in the evening whilst drinking alcohol and discarding litter.

Road Safety

There have been no recorded road traffic collisions in the Killearn area over the reporting period.

On 30th March 2017, one motorist was stopped by police in Main Street, Killearn, and found to be driving without a driving licence and insurance. He was the subject of a report to the Procurator Fiscal.

Concerns have been raised about the manner at which vehicles are being parked on the A809 near to the Devil's Pulpit. On 14th April 2017, a vehicle was found to be parked in that area whilst causing an obstruction. The vehicle was recovered by police and the driver subsequently reported to the Procurator Fiscal for a road traffic offence. Police will continue to monitor this area and take enforcement action where applicable.

Further reports have been received about vehicles driving at excess speed in Beech Drive, Killearn. Local officers have conducted further speed checks in this area and will continue to do so.

Police patrols have continued around Killearn Primary School at school time in response to complaints about inconsiderate and illegal parking, and we will continue to carry out such patrols.

Theft

Between 20th March 2017 and 21st March 2017, batteries were stolen from a set of temporary traffic lights on the A81 near to Dumgoyne. Enquiry to date has failed to identify anybody responsible, but if anyone has any information, they are urged to contact Police Scotland or CrimeStoppers.

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Community Engagement and Reassurance

PCs Ray Murphy and Steven Graham are based at Balfron Police Office and can be contacted at the police office, on 101, or at ForthEndrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk. Both officers have access to this email address mailbox, and it is recommended that this email address is used by the local community for email contact.

Social Media

Please remember that we regularly publish useful information and updates on social media, including appeals for information, updates about road closures and crime prevention advice. Our Facebook and Twitter pages can be found at

www.facebook.com/forthvalleypolicedivision

www.facebook.com/policescotland

www.twitter.com/stirlingpol

www.twitter.com/policescotland

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Other Incidents / Activity of note

On 14th April 2017, police were contacted about a group of potentially illegal deer stalkers who were operating on land in Killearn. A thorough search of the area was conducted and enquiry subsequently confirmed that the group were operating legally and with permission of the land owner.

Rural Watch Scotland

"Rural Watch Scotland' is an extension of the Neighbourhood Watch Scotland movement and endorsed by the Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime (SPARC) and Forth valley Rural Crime Group aimed specifically at the rural communities of Scotland and aims to bring all the benefits of Neighbourhood Watch to all rural communities irrespective of location, size or demographics.

Rural watch is an online community for any member of the public where appeals, crime prevention tips and safety alerts can be posted by those who subscribe which can be viewed by all members. Subscription is free and the sharing of information on the forum is a great example of real time crime prevention in action.

The objectives of Rural Watch Scotland are to:

- Reduce crime and the fear of crime by providing the right information, to the right people, at the right time.
- Encourage people to think about safety and security for themselves, their neighbours and their community.
- Improve community cohesion and well-being by supporting communities to develop 'their watch, their way'.
- Work in partnership with national and local service providers to develop more resilient communities that are better prepared against threats, intentional or unintentional, such as crime or extreme weather.

The experience of Neighbourhood Watch throughout Scotland and elsewhere across the world is that members of Rural Watch Scotland will be less likely than non-members in the rural community to be a victim of crime.

By joining the Rural Watch Scotland scheme members can receive alerts and advice by phone, text or email. By keeping members informed about crime and other threats in specific areas, Rural Watch Scotland can help prevent crime, keep communities and residents safe, and members responses to these alerts can help catch criminals or be better prepared to deal with other threats to communities. To join Rural Watch Scotland simply:

- Log onto www.ruralwatchscotland.co.uk
- Click the green JOIN button at the top of the page.
- Follow the on screen instructions."

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Issues raised

Community Council Feedback

When the item regarding the Devil's Pulpit was read out, this caused a significant reaction in the audience. In particular, a resident who lives in the vicinity described a number of situations which had arisen, adding that chaotic conditions had resulted (I know him well and he is not prone to exaggeration). I have been driving in that area fairly frequently over the last 10 days or so and have been amazed by the number of vehicles, a significant number of which were foreign. The area is being 'promoted' by Visit Scotland with no indication of the parking difficulties when a large number of people arrive.

We believe that significant dangers are arising for motorists and also for people walking on the road from cars parked at some distance. If there was a serious accident at the site (not unlikely given the difficult access) it might pose grave difficulties for the rescue services. We realise that there are limits to what the police can do, but we would ask you to consider contacting the Council. We will be writing to them and will copy you into that.

Incidentally, a resident who was present at the meeting where parking at the distillery was discussed spotted David McNally putting advisory notices on cars recently. Many thanks for that!!!