Please find below the Police Report for use at Denham's' AGM on 10th May. What a pleasure to compile a report for a Suffolk parish with so few recorded police investigations.

Total recorded investigations for Denham addresses between 12/04/21 & 12/04/22 - 3, consisting of;

3 x Violence & Sexual Offences

- 1. Sexual violence and abuse is any behaviour thought to be of a sexual nature which is unwanted and takes place without consent. Sexual violence and abuse can be physical, psychological, verbal or online. Any behaviour of a sexual nature that causes distress is considered sexual violence or abuse.
- 2. Violent crimes include crimes where intentional harm is inflicted against another individual during the commission of the crime. Additionally, violent crimes can include the threat of intentional harm. The infliction of the harm can include the use of weapons, poison, bodily contact, and more.

Denham's' figures for the same period 2020/2021 show only one offence; a burglary. Although this is effectively a 300% increase between 2020/21 & 2021/22, Denham's' crime figures are remarkably low, even for a low crime county like Suffolk. This information should be tempered with the fact that the earlier twelve month period was during much more stringent Covid lock-down restrictions when crime reduced nationally.

Crime trends in the Halesworth policing locality most recently have seen an increase in theft offences where items which have seen their value escalate in recent weeks have become especially attractive to criminals.

These include the theft of domestic heating oil, catalytic converters and scrap metal. Heating oil theft in particular is an offence which usually occurs at the beginning of the winter season when oil tanks are full. With the increase in the cost of heating oil, it is now worth the time of criminals to steal smaller quantities.

We have also seen the theft of 'heritage post boxes' in the west of our area, not for scrap value, but as historic items sold on auction sites. Prices can be as high as £500. These are usually the small post boxes attached to a post or wall and originate from the period of Queen Victoria to George V.

The lighter evenings are now seeing an increase in ASB and the Halesworth policing locality has launched an internal operation in an attempt to curb increases before the summer months when ASB traditionally reaches its peak. We are trying to ensure ASB incidents are dealt with speedily and their investigation incorporates all means at Police and partner agency disposal to deal with them.

I'd like to take this opportunity to remind you of the Suffolk Constabulary on-line crime reduction resource, 'First Principle, which can be found via this link to our website https://www.suffolk.police.uk/crime-prevention-z.

If trying to contact Suffolk Constabulary, please opt for the on-line reporting tool from our website first, before using the 101 telephone number here

https://www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us/report-something. Reports are dealt with in exactly the same way and you will avoid being placed in a queue.

Always dial 999 if you are reporting a crime being committed.

Regards,

Simon Green

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A Suffolk Police library of crime prevention, security and personal

safety advice.

Access the advice here: <u>Suffolk First Principle</u>