

# Melksham Community Area Board

December 2014



## 1. Neighbourhood Policing

<b>Sergeant:</b>	James Williams
<b>Town Centre:</b>	PC Kane Fulbrook-Smith PCSO Rose Baldock PCSO Christopher Pugh
<b>Rural North:</b>	PC Barry Dalton PCSO Janet Gould PCSO Maggie Ledbury
<b>Rural South:</b>	PC Emily Thomas PCSO Helen Wilson

There has been one change to the team in November. PCSO Rose Baldock and PCSO Helen Wilson have swapped areas of responsibility.

## 2. NPTs - Current Priorities & Consultation Opportunities:

Up-to-date details about Neighbourhood Policing Teams including team membership, current priorities and forthcoming community consultation events can be found on our Wiltshire Police Website.

Visit the website at: [www.wiltshire.police.uk](http://www.wiltshire.police.uk)

### Current Priorities:

The current priority for my team in Melksham is to promote Community Messaging, launched through the NPT and PCC on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2014. I am grateful to Sainsbury's, Melksham who allowed us to utilise their foyer for the launch.

Why is Wiltshire and Swindon Community Messaging being introduced?

The Wiltshire Police and the Commissioner is committed to involving communities in the prevention and reduction of crime and anti-social behaviour. Working alongside Neighbourhood Watch, Wiltshire and Swindon Community Messaging aims to improve the two way flow of information between communities and the police. Another aim of Community Messaging is to help promote Neighbourhood Watch, as people can join or request to start a new scheme when signing up for Wiltshire and Swindon Community Messaging.

Wiltshire and Swindon Community Messaging is an online secure system that members of the public, including Neighbourhood Watch coordinators and members, can join to receive messages about policing and crime matters in their area.

Messages can be sent by email, text and voicemail. People can join Wiltshire and Swindon Community Messaging by visiting [www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk](http://www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk)

What type of messages will be sent?

Messages can be sent from the police by email, text and voicemail. Email will be the main way that the

police will send messages with text and voicemail used as and when appropriate due to cost – for example for sending a text to farmers about on-going suspicious activity in an area or sending a voicemail message to vulnerable elderly people about distraction burglaries in their area.

Can Wiltshire and Swindon Community Messaging be used to report crime?

People can reply to messages to feed back information to their NPT. The system will not be monitored 24 hours a day - always call 999 in an emergency or 101 in a non-emergency.

### 3. Police and Crime Commissioner: Mr Angus Macpherson

PCC website: [www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk)

### 4. Local Issues and crime:

Historically in the months of September, October and November we see an increase in the volume of burglaries. One of the key areas the team have focused on has been offender targeting and the causes of crime. Since the 15<sup>th</sup> October 3 burglars have been arrested and charged to court. When linked with the efforts of you the community in protecting your property, this is having a real impact on the reduction of this type of offence.

Since the last area board 21 people have been arrested for violent crime. While there has been an increase in violence against the person, this has been in the 'violence non-injury' category. There is also a continued reduction in the number of offences linked with licensed premises, down six offences for the same period last year.

I had expected an increase in criminal damage due to the graffiti in the town for which a male has been charged. There remains a constant drip of minor damage to vehicles, trees, walls, school property and the police custody unit, as well as damage to an Ipad through reckless behaviour!

The community plays a huge part in reducing all crime and the below messages, while constantly repeated, ring true especially as we move towards Christmas. Please spread the word;

**Report to police, or via Crime stoppers, any information you have or any concerns or suspicions about anyone involved in criminality.**

- Secure your property
- Mark your property
- Record details of identifiable property and/or take photos of you belongings.

The website [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com) can be used to record these details and may even prevent offenders taking the item in the first place.

ED Melksham NPT	Crime				Detections*	
	12 Months to November 2013	12 Months to November 2014	Volume Change	% Change	12 Months to November 2013	12 Months to November 2014
Victim Based Crime	1133	1101	-32	-2.8%	24%	28%
Domestic Burglary	55	35	-20	-36.4%	5%	17%
Non Domestic Burglary	120	53	-67	-55.8%	3%	8%
Vehicle Crime	99	104	+5	+5.1%	11%	6%
Criminal Damage & Arson	224	242	+18	+8.0%	25%	28%
Violence Against The Person	304	324	+20	+6.5%	39%	37%
ASB Incidents	940	767	-173	-18.4%		

5. On the 26<sup>th</sup> November I was pleased to be part of the first of what I hope to be many planning meetings to deliver a successful Carnival and Party in the Park for 2015. An open and honest discussion was held by representatives from both event Committees, Melksham Town Council and Wiltshire Council to review last years events and opportunities for next year.

There was no crime or disorder reported following the very successful Melksham Christmas lights switch on. My congratulations to Melksham Town for this increasingly popular event.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Area Board

**Inspector Matthew Armstrong**  
Sector Commander