

# Melksham Community Area Board

April 2015



## Neighbourhood Policing

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

## 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 continue to promote Community Messaging, launched through the NPT and PCC on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

To date we have signed up 467 residents.

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)

The system will not be monitored 24 hours a day - always call 999 in an emergency or 101 in a non-emergency.

**Police and Crime Commissioner:** Mr Angus Macpherson

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

## **Local Issues and crime:**

Following the last Area Board on the 11<sup>th</sup> February the figures for incidents in Melksham Community Area remain within the upper and lower control limits and there are significant crime series to bring to your attention.

For the same period last year there have been 28 fewer domestic burglaries and 57 fewer non dwelling burglaries. While this is positive in terms of fewer victims of crime we must not become complacent and security of property and possessions should always be considered to deter offenders.

Throughout the county of Wiltshire we have seen an increase in thefts of quad bikes from rural areas. Recently a quad bike was stolen from Poulshot we would advise people to secure these vehicles when not in use and certainly not to leave the keys in vehicles. As technological advances are made vehicle tracking devices are available for relatively little money, compared to the cost of replacing vehicles or paying an excess on insurance. These deter offenders and assist in the recovery of stolen property.

**Violence:** has increased by 46 offences. This increase is due in part to Wiltshire Police showing diligence to ethical crime recording. An example of this, that has affected the figures below, is an incident of violent disorder which in turn has also been recorded as separate assaults for each person involved. This has meant 17 'crimes' have been recorded for this one incident. I can reassure you that five persons have been charged in relation to this incident and are awaiting trial.

In real terms since the last area board there have been 38 violent offences in total, 26 relate to private space violence and 12 for violence in the public arena. Five of these relate to licensed premises two of which were an assault on bar staff who were acting diligently in refusing to serve a customer.

**Criminal Damage:** There have been 43 fewer reports of damage to property.

38 offences have been reported and 18 relate to damage to motor vehicles. Of the damage to motor vehicles 13 offences were committed in one night in Portman Road where cars were scratched tyres slashed and items stolen from insecure vehicles. Following these reports we have conducted extensive enquiries including going house to house for information, checking CCTV and use of Crime Scene Investigators. We have not identified a suspect. All logs and reports for this night have been checked to see if any incident could have been a causation factor leading to this damage but there does not appear to be any reason why the vehicles in this road were targeted.

**Antisocial Behaviour:** There have been 31 reports of antisocial behaviour in total. 24 personal (unwanted contact) and 7 reports of nuisance.

In addition to the above the teams are focusing activities on Awdry Avenue following reports of noise nuisance, drug misuse and ASB. We are working closely with Selwood Housing on this matter.

Regular patrols area being made to the bowls and tennis club following reports by the club members of graffiti / vandalism and ASB.

The Market Place and ASB caused by vehicles also remains a priority.

These figures are reflected in the chart below with violence crime and Anti social behaviour showing an increase over the 12 month rolling period. I am pleased with the reduction of offences in the other crime categories. Sergeant Williams and his team are examining each area to identify how we can continue to drive down crime.

ED Melksham NPT	Crime			
	12 Months to March 2014	12 Months to March 2015	Volume Change	% Change
Victim Based Crime	1249	1126	-123	-9.8%
Domestic Burglary	68	40	-28	-41.2%
Non Domestic Burglary	147	90	-57	-38.8%
Vehicle Crime	118	100	-18	-15.3%
Criminal Damage & Arson	264	221	-43	-16.3%
Violence Against The Person	247	293	+46	+18.6%
ASB Incidents	885	911	+26	+2.9%

Please 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.

**Inspector Matthew Armstrong**  
Sector Commander