



## **Police report**

for the Malmesbury Community area board July 2<sup>nd</sup> 2009

### **Malmesbury Town**

Local Officers have been dealing with two priorities in the town; reports of anti social behaviour around the Market Place including Oxford Street and issues surrounding Station Road Car Park. Positive proactive action has taken place regarding anti social behaviour around the Market Place. Several arrests have been made involving drunken persons who have engaged in violent crime and low level disorder. We have been working closely with the licensed premises through a proactive Pub Watch which has recently banned four Malmesbury residents from premises for their unacceptable behaviour.

The issues in the Market Cross appear to have been resolved concerning persons knocking on doors and causing a nuisance. Wiltshire Police are committed to ensuring that anti social behaviour and violent crime is tackled head on and will work closely with their partners to make sure that licensed premises are running a fit and proper business and are trading within the terms of their licence.

The second issue has been surrounding Station Road Car Park. Police are receiving regular updates from a group of residents in the area of the car park complaining of anti social behaviour involving raised voices and vehicle noise. The neighbourhood Policing team have dedicated many hours in this area and the car park is patrolled on a very regular basis. We have been working closely with our partners including Wiltshire Council. We have been conscious that a further public meeting has not yet taken place; we look forward to Wiltshire Council calling another meeting to address this continuing problem. The Police have no evidence at this time to prosecute motorists for any offences. We are aware of the concerns of the residents. It is unfortunate that the make up of the car park allows the noise levels to naturally progress towards the residential area. Crime in the area is virtually non existent and if anything the young adults meeting in the car park deter crime from occurring. Noise and speed monitoring equipment installed earlier in the year did not identify any issues. Vehicles have been examined and are maintained to a good standard. The exhaust pipes fitted, although not standard, are road legal.

### **Malmesbury Rural Villages**

Speeding has been a common theme throughout the villages. The Police are conscious that the speed or the perceived speed of vehicles is a major concern to residents. The Community Speed Watch Project has now gone live in the villages of Charlton and Dauntsey. This has been an exciting opportunity to empower local people to work closely with the Police. Selected volunteers from the villages have received training, sites have been risk assessed and effective monitoring has been taking place. This has resulted in warning letters being sent to offending motorists. A further update on the project will be given during the Area Board by Sgt Martin Alvis.

Officers have been out at locations and have issued some tickets for excessive speed. However in many areas where complaints have been received, the speed of the vehicles has not warranted prosecution.

There have been concerns of persons trespassing on the gravel pits in the Ashton Keynes area. The recent warm weather has attracted groups of young adults to the lakes but there is a real warning here. The lakes pose a significant risk of death to persons who trespass within them as we have seen elsewhere in the country, with the tragic death of a 15 year old male who drowned in a disused quarry. We are working with the quarry owners, the Council and educational establishments to highlight the dangers of this activity and to discourage such use.

Inspector Steven Cox  
Section Commander  
Wiltshire Police