



Case Study

The problem

The Police and Council received an increase in reports of anti-social behaviour in a local community within Southern Wiltshire. As a result an anti-social behaviour survey was distributed to all residents. The main findings of the survey were as follows:

- Fire setting in the garage areas
- Damaged property particularly to the garages, fences and bungalow roofs,
- Abusive, intimidating and rowdy behaviour.
- Litter around the area and on residents property, particularly gardens.

It was also acknowledged that whilst the majority of residents felt that levels of anti-social behaviour had fallen slightly or remained the same, they still perceived it to be a real issue which needed to be addressed.

The response

A Multi-agency Meeting was held which included, Local Residents, Parish Council, Police, Local Church, Wiltshire Council Housing, Wiltshire Council Public Protection Officers, Wiltshire Councillors and Wiltshire Council Youth Development Service. A round table discussion was held followed by a walk about of the area.

The following headline actions were agreed:

- Wiltshire Council, Housing will ensure that all pavements and curbed areas are treated for weeding and the grass will be cut, to help clean up the area
- Approaching sign will be replaced by Wiltshire Council, Housing
- Youth Service will work with young people to cut back the hedging as part of the leisure credit scheme
- Parish council will work with young people to improve the current skate park facility
- Police to look into neighbourhood watch in the area
- Wiltshire Housing to look into setting up a local residents committee, to look at some possible ideas, for some of the open green spaces – small play park and allotment area have been suggested Young people will be asked to participate in the committee.
- Parish Council, to publicise good news stories in the parish news letter
- Look into using anti-climb paint to be put onto the garages, Wiltshire Council, Housing.
- Youth Services to look into the possibility of an intergenerational project in the area, to improve community relations.
- Dragons teeth to be look into to stop people from parking on the grass, Wiltshire Council, Housing.

It is clear that without everyone's involvement, this type of discussion and the actions agreed, would not have been possible.

What next?

The Group will monitor the actions to ensure that the positive outcomes are delivered. We will require the support of the local community to progress the longer term outcomes, the aim is to empower residents to take action with the support of partner agencies.