

Suffolk Constabulary
Mid Suffolk Central Safer Neighbourhood Team
Report for Debenham Parish Council Meeting 19.01.09

Reported Crimes

Since the 16/12/08 there have been 8 reported crimes in Debenham. Two of these crimes involved the theft of horse tack and another was criminal damage to a house window. The horse tack thefts were part of a series of similar crimes that occurred throughout the Mid Suffolk area. The other five crimes occurred in the early hours of the 7th January, please see below for details:

In the last two weeks criminals have targeted three villages that are covered by Mid Suffolk Central SNT. The three villages were Debenham, Mendlesham and Old Newton. The circumstances are as follows:

During the early hours of the morning offender(s) move into an area and commit acts of burglary, both residential dwellings and out buildings, car thefts and criminal damage to vehicles.

There were no burglaries of residential properties in Debenham however there was one in Mendlesham and two in Old Newton. All of these particular Debenham crimes occurred in the area of Wells Way and Bloomfield Way. These crimes included theft from a garage and from cars.

Despite our repeated pleas for improved personal security most vehicles and the garage in Debenham were left insecure and during my house-to-house enquiries I was dismayed to learn that many other residents were regularly leaving their vehicles and outbuildings insecure as well.

Enquiries into these crimes are ongoing but the message we are sending to all villages is to be vigilant, reporting any suspicious activity and to ensure all cars, outbuildings and houses are secure when they are left unattended. Also to ensure any valuable items are removed from unattended vehicles including Sat Nav holders.

These offenders are not choosing their target areas by chance but are doing their homework first. Maintaining effective personal security will either dissuade them from targeting the village in the first place or from returning.

We now have three new Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators who live in The Meadows area but we need more there and many more throughout Debenham. Being an effective Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator is easier than it has ever been as we are constantly looking to improve the way in which we manage the initiative. Should you be interested in becoming a Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator or you know of anyone who may be interested then please contact me.

Neighbourhood Watch is proven to improve community relations and reduce crime.

For further information on crime prevention or Neighbourhood Watch please contact me on Tel: 01473 613500, send me an email:

midsuffolkcentral.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk please mark it for my attention or visit the website at www.safersuffolk.org.uk/midsuffolkcentral

In an emergency always call 999

Yours faithfully

Chris Bales
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