



Fownhope Parish Council Statement on Crime and Disorder

Crime and Disorder

The Parish Council acknowledges its duty to consider crime and disorder implications when exercising its various functions and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area, in accordance with Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

In response to local concerns in relation to speeding, the Parish Council have taken the following action:

1) Community Speed Watch (CSW)

The Community Speed Watch team have expanded and are carrying out regular speed monitoring sessions. The Community Speed Watch (CSW) scheme is a national initiative where **‘proactive members of local communities join with the support and supervision of their local police to record details of speeding vehicles using approved detection devices’**.

With an emphasis on education rather than penalty, registered keepers of vehicles exceeding the speed limit are contacted by letter in the first instance and then, if repeated, they will be visited by the local police. However, enforcement and criminal prosecution based on the collated evidence will follow if drivers repeatedly exceed the speed limit

2) Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs)

Two new EVOLIS Speed Indicator Devices were purchased and installed in 2021 and data is regularly monitored throughout the month. Installed at both ends of the village, the SIDs operate in accordance with current restrictions and monitor the speed of vehicles travelling in and out of the village. Data is reported to the Safer Neighbourhood Team. The Parish Council is in communication with the Safer Neighbourhood Team to request regular speed monitoring sessions.

3) Annual Parish Meeting 2021: Speaker Superintendent Edd Williams

Superintendent Edd Williams was invited to speak at the Annual Parish Meeting in 2021. The minutes from this meeting, including the content of Superintendent Williams’ speech and contact details is available on the website.

4) Local Policing Charter

In response to the Local Policing Charter, the Parish Council undertook a public consultation to establish the top three concerns of parishioners in Fownhope and submitted the response (speed, speed and speed) to the Safer Neighbourhood Team. The team are expected to agree a Contact Contract which sets out expectations for contact, when, by whom and how frequently, and agrees how much time will be allocated (awaited).

5) Safer Neighbourhood Team

The Team attends a regular public participation one-and-a-half-hour session in Fownhope, at Wye Leisure and at the West End Stores for members of the public to say hello and discuss any issues or concerns they may have. Dates and times of sessions are publicised on the Parish Council noticeboard outside the West End Stores, in the Flag (if time appropriate), on the village Facebook page and on the emailed newsletter. In addition, a member of the team periodically attends the Parish Council meetings in rotation with other parishes.

6) Neighbourhood Matters

Parishioners are encouraged to sign up to Neighbourhood Matters, a digital neighbourhood watch scheme, to receive updates on crimes, latest information on on-going incidents and to learn more about the actions of West Mercia Police in the local community. The Parish Council actively encourages parishioners to do this via regular articles in the Flag and emailed newsletters.

7) Crime Prevention Training

The Parish Council organised two sessions on the education and promotion of actions that can be taken to protect against crime in February 2019 (Fownhope New Memorial Hall) and February 2020 (Fownhope Pavilion). Further sessions have been put on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Notes from the sessions are available to download from the website.

8) Police Crime Commissioner

The Clerk shares the Police Commissioner newsletters with Councillors and wider where possible; and the Parish Council completed the PCC Town and Parish Survey July 2022 to provide feedback and continue engagement.

9) Website

There is a specific page on the website 'Crime Awareness and Prevention' for information and signposting.