

Can I start of by saying I am sorry that I have not managed to make any of your Town/Parish Council meetings, there has always been an obstacle. Please keep sending me the dates, I will always reply if attending or not.

I will do a generic report to the whole area today, rather than a small piece for each of you . So, what has been concerning me. There seems to have been an increase in Burglaries within the area, I have researched these, and of the 8 burglaries reported, only one was a house. One was a shop, and the others sheds and outhouses, and it would seem the most wanted item were power tools. So my response is, please advise people to check the security of their sheds and out buildings. There were also a spate of thefts from vehicles in the area, and the blinding connection was that the items stolen by breaking into the vehicle were left on display.

Good news is that reports of ASB on the area is at an all time low, however, with the approach of lighter and warmer evenings, I suspect they may well rise.

As to be expected Migrant crossings to Dungeness and coastal areas has reduced over the winter months, there have been many boats coming across, but most are intercepted mid channel. There are still some landings, but nothing on the scale we saw last summer. However, again I have to say that with the approach of spring, the numbers could increase again.

I have to mention one reported issue in IVYCHURCH and the surrounding roads, the report was of speeding HGV's, and it would seem the contractors at PENTLAND HOMES in NEW ROMNEY were the main culprits. We attended the site and spoke to the site manager, he advised us that the route, from A2070 and down ASHFORD ROAD is the agreed route with the council, as there is not really any other route they can take without clogging up New Romney High Street. We have advised him to have a word with the drivers to be more considerate to the village, and advised that speed enforcement would be performed if the reports continued. We were told that all drivers would be advised.

Whilst sending this I have to remind you about MY COMMUNITY VOICE, we still need residents to sign up to the system if we are going to make it work effectively, I have been putting out leaflets, but if any of you know someone, be it a relative or just someone in the community, please mention the system to them, signing up is simple and quick.

We held a LEM (local engagement meeting) for residents of Romney Marsh and Hythe on 01/03/2022, to say I was disappointed with the turn out would be an understatement, there was more Police and Partner agencies than there were people that attended. Another one will be held later in the year, and as soon as I know the date and venue, of course I will let you know, I suspect it may be held closer to Hythe area.

Well that's about it. Remember to stay safe and well, COVID has not gone away, its still out there.

Regards

John Gorham 57106