

Police report – July 2020

Please find below a summary of the demand and engagement that the Glastonbury Neighbourhood team have been involved with over the last few weeks. It has been extremely busy.

- As many of you will be aware, we have seen some movement amongst the caravans in Glastonbury and there is now an additional encampment on Porchestall drove (just along from Snows Timber). All agencies and the land owners are aware of this situation. Our team are visiting regularly and have built a good rapport with the residents of the caravans there. It appears that these caravans were already in Glastonbury, so are not an addition from elsewhere. We are trying to keep in contact with as many residents of the caravan encampments around Glastonbury as possible so we are aware of any movements or additions.
- The weekend of Summer Solstice saw an increase in demand on our team. Significant planning by our management provided us with extra support from other teams overnight on the Saturday, and into Sunday. There were a number of calls to our control room raising concerns about the crowd that appeared on the High Street on Saturday afternoon and the performers there. Our team were in place for this and engaging with those present, many of whom were from out of town. Although social distancing was difficult to enforce we did encourage this, all were in good spirits and we managed to prevent Anti-social behaviour before it developed. There were a few stragglers, who remained in town throughout Sunday and Monday but we made them well aware of our expectations with regards to busking and consumption of alcohol in the town centre, which was taken on board.
- The festival weekend saw an increase of people in the town centre and looked like we were going to have a repeat of the gathering from the previous weekend however, with the quick actions/ support of our Shepton / Frome teams, the musicians were moved on before they could start.
- Since the town centre road closures have been put in place, PCSO Paul LINDSELL has had three incidents reported of vehicles being deliberately driven at the traffic wardens who were supervising the closures. This is currently under investigation by PC MILLER. The vehicles involved have been identified.
- Also, since the road closures have been in place, there have been four reports of criminal damage to signs. This includes, the closure signs being spray painted and the 'COVID-19 Maintain social distance' signs being cut up and stuck back together to display new messages. This is currently under investigation by myself.
- I received a report of a male shouting at some visitors, who were sat at a bus stop wearing masks, (as required by the current Government guidance) which the male disapproved of. Although the persons involved did not want to make a complaint, this male has been identified with the help of a local resident who witnessed the incident, and has been issued an Anti-social behaviour warning. This is not an isolated incident, as we have also had reports from a number of local businesses that individuals have been verbally aggressive towards them about the restrictions they have put in place to keep their staff and customers safe. I understand that people have their own beliefs and opinions with regards to the current situation but this behaviour will not be tolerated and I encourage anyone experiencing this to report to Police.
- We have issued four more ASB warning letters as a result of reports of Anti-social behaviour in the town centre.
- PCSO Freya CLARK and I attended and seized Cannabis plants from the top of the Tor.
- As a result of complaints from residents, PCSO Nik BURGE and PC Tom MILLER have been out doing community speed watch. We are currently looking for volunteers to get involved with this.

- A male, has been recalled to prison due to failing to keep appointments with probation and being involved in Anti-social behaviour in the town centre.
- A male was arrested by myself an assault in the town centre.
- I took part in a second outreach day with the NHS diversity officer and the traveller education liaison officer, attending all the traveller sites in the Glastonbury area. This was well received by the majority.
- PCSO Mel ROWLANDS has been working from home on a number of projects including new education packs. This is to allow the neighbourhood team to support schools in sessions such as citizenship, anti-social behaviour and knife crime.
- PC Karen UPSHALL is also working from home on a number of projects including addressing the issues of recording and dealing with Anti-social behaviour in Glastonbury. She has been working with colleagues in call taking, control room and the response teams to ensure nothing is filed without our team being aware. This gives us more opportunity to identify offenders and deal, even if we are not working at the time of the report.
- With the re-opening of St Ben's Church PCSO Nik BURGE is currently looking at ways of preventing the return of the Anti-social behaviour issues in the church yard. If the church yard is locked we will be removing any persons who have entered. When the churchyard is open it will be included in the PSPO (Public space protection order) so the drinking restrictions will be enforced.

On top of all of this we have been continuing High visibility patrols, dealing with neighbour disputes, supporting schools in vulnerability checks, visits with Social services, working with the outreach team to engage with new homeless persons, working with the parking enforcement officers ref the issues in Stonedown lane and much more.

Kind regards

Katie Moyse

PC 2169

Glastonbury Beat Manager

Avon and Somerset Constabulary

Glastonbury Neighbourhood Policing Team