

Suffolk Police Redlingfield Annual Report 2012 PC Jacqui Thomas

The Parish of Redlingfield has had just 1 crime for the year from May to May. The previous year there were 8 crimes, so a very good reduction, and crime remains of a low level. The Mid Suffolk North Safer Neighbourhood Team which covers 45 parishes has also seen a 6% reduction in crime overall this year which is pleasing to note. The crime for Redlingfield was a Theft of fence panels, unfortunately an offender was not found.

The future of Eye Police Station has all but been decided, with the sale of the current property and houses either side soon to be sold. The new Police Station is to be relocating to Castleton Way in Eye, joining onto the Hospital site. These proposals are cost cutting measures as currently there are 7 Officers based in a station built in an era when there were more Officers based at Eye.

March 2012 saw a new Officer arrive at Eye, PCSO 3250 Ben Oswick will have sole responsibility for the town centre, giving our policing team its highest numbers for 3 years. Sergeant Jon Eaves of the Mid Suffolk North Safer Neighbourhood Team has taken up the role of Sergeant at the Mid Suffolk Central Team as well as remaining here. This will give him a combined area of 82 Parishes to oversee. However there are no plans to merge both Policing teams.

This year has also seen Community Speed Watch take off in the Parish of Walsham-LeWillows, we also have applications going through for the parishes of Redgrave and Withersdale Street. We are hoping to have more schemes for this coming year, and work will continue to support the interest shown.

On 15 November 2012, for the first time ever, the public across England and Wales will elect a police and crime commissioner who will be accountable for how crime is tackled in their police force areas. Police and crime commissioners (PCCs) will aim to cut crime and deliver an effective and efficient police service within their force area. PCCs will be elected by the public to hold chief constables and the force to account; effectively making the police answerable to the communities they serve. Police and crime commissioners will ensure community needs are met as effectively as possible, and will improve local relationships through building confidence and restoring trust PCCs will not be expected to run the police. The role of the PCC is to be the voice of the people and hold the police to account.

This year we face an unprecedented resourcing challenge. As a result of the Government's reduction in public spending, the Constabulary is required to make savings of £17.7 million by 2014/15, and in 2012/13 we move to the second year of the savings programme to achieve this. So far, we have made savings of £4.7 million and still have £13 million to deliver. Approximately 60% of the savings programme relies on collaboration with public sector partners including Norfolk Constabulary. The Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies have continued the success of Operation Breakout, which was launched in December. This combines both forces patrolling together at night into the morning, targeting rural based crime and clamping down on any suspicious vehicular activity they see. Officers from both sides of the border, patrol Norfolk and Suffolk parishes together and this operation has proved effective in reducing crime. 2012 will hopefully see a more high profile police presence, with new technology in vehicles such as computers. This will save officers returning to the nearest station to fill out paperwork, and enable a quicker way of checking information, without the need to contact the control room so much.

We will continue to provide the best service we can for the public and I look forward to working with you all for the year ahead.

PCSO 3172 Steven Long and PC 878 Jacqui Thomas

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