

Kilworth Avenue & Cromer Road Neighbourhood Watch

Keeping you up to date

We have been active in the last few months in taking initiatives to improve the area. For details of the main issues and meetings held go to www.kilworth.org.uk.

Successes have included:

- Helping the police to catch people vandalising vehicles in the street;
- Replacing the half-burnt fence next to the underpass between Hastings Road and Lancaster Gardens;
- Pressurising the Council to clear the graffiti in the underpass (more to do on this – see below!);
- A campaign to improve the street lighting; and
- Clearing litter and dumped mattresses from the streets.

These initiatives will reduce crime, and help the recent improvements in the general area, to the benefit of us all. By the way, in this hot weather we should be careful not to leave windows open when we go out.

Membership has increased really well. If you are not already a member, please consider signing up – it's free and you can do as little or as much as you like. Just give your name and address to Marina Wright (16 Kilworth Avenue), or Glyn Evans (27 Kilworth Avenue). Our email addresses are on the other side.

Bogus callers are making a re-appearance in the area. Please have a look at Southend Community website (www.southendcommunity.org.uk) for more details of recent incidents. To prevent them getting a foot in the door, ask for identification, and if you're not happy, don't let them in. You can then check with their organisation that they are bona fide. This website has information on many other scams (e.g. you get a leaflet saying you have a parcel delivery waiting, which you can get by phoning a premium rate phone number) and you can sign up for their email newsletter. You can also use this website to report graffiti and fly-tipping.

Neighbourhood Policing is becoming a reality. Under this scheme, we will soon have a team, dedicated to this neighbourhood, of police officers supported by CID officers, Special Constables and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) who will stay in the area long-term, and get to know the challenges. We can help them tackle crime by making sure all crime is reported to the police; we would recommend that you also report crimes on the kilworth.org.uk website – this will help us keep an eye on crime figures.

Grffiti arouses strong emotions. If nothing is done about it, we believe that, apart from looking awful, it contributes to crime, because people see it and think no-one worries about the area. We will soon be receiving cleaning kits and will be cleaning graffiti. Please let us know if you'd like to help.

Save the planet – please let us have your email addresses, to save paper and to make it easier to get in touch. Marina (our Co-ordinator) is on marina.wright@blueyonder.co.uk and Glyn (Deputy) is on glynevans7@hotmail.com.