

Note from the Chair

We are in the throes of an onslaught of petty vandalism and antisocial behaviour. Over the last couple of months the Parish Council has dealt with two break-ins at the Sports Pavilion, retrieved discarded bins and dog waste from the Fishponds, and cleared up broken glass in our children's play areas.

The cost of repairs and increased security now totals over £1000. Unfortunately, this is paid for by our residents via their council tax. With a limited budget, increasing spending to deal with crime results in us having to cut back on other things.

I fail to understand the mindset of those who carry out these acts. It makes me angry and sad to see areas of our village despoiled and dangerous. I am certain that this is a very small minority and that if we all work together we can help the police to deal with those involved.

If you witness vandalism, anti-social behaviour and/or crime taking place in our village then please report it to the police immediately. Take photos and videos if you can. Crimes can be reported online via thamesvalley.police.uk, or by phone (101 for a non-emergency, 999 in an emergency).

It can feel daunting to report crimes given the fear of reprisal or threats. Be reassured that the names of those reporting are not revealed. And don't think you are 'wasting police time' – our local police are ready and eager to help us in these matters. Let's work with them and ensure these few, small-minded people are not allowed to spoil Eynsham.

Ross Macken, Chair

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