

## Police Advocate Report

Over the last month the Parish has remained peaceful in a normal manner and crime remains relatively low.

Outlying parishes has had a number of Burglaries in sheds, and Tools always seem to be popular. This is a reminder to us that we need to lock up our tools and garden equipment to make sure that in the event of this type of visitor, we are insured. Thankfully I am not aware of any at this time.

I was invited to attend a small focus group for the Police and Crime Commissioners office to discuss the upcoming Police Budget. This was I believe a very successful panel and indeed all of our recommendation are being considered.

The public I believe rate some of the Police's abilities of their presence on the streets, and their accessibility to the public, hence a number of Police station will now be opening an enquiry office for direct approach to the public, and indeed more Police are being recruited to the Force and will create a presence on the streets, eventually.

We were advised that The Police numbers for Devon and Cornwall are back to where they were before cut backs and they are still actively recruiting for even more.

We believe that in order to Police the region adequately, the Police part of the budget will increase again this year, but this has been offset against a sum of money provided to all forces by the Government. In our case I believe Devon and Cornwall was allocated £19 million extra this year. This sounds a lot but if you take into account that 85% of the Police budget goes on wages, this only leaves 15% for running costs, and that in the scheme of two counties is not a lot.

Robert Gavin