Open Meeting – 11th October 2017
Following on from the last newsletter there have been some developments. The coordinators decided to hold an open meeting and open it up to people wanting to consider starting their own scheme. Since then I have been asked by Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch Association to be their representative for Felixstowe and villages. The idea is to form a ‘cluster’ that will identify all coordinators in the area and the ability to share ideas and projects. With that in mind the open meeting has been extended to those coordinators in the cluster. The meeting will be held at Trimley Sport and Social Club at 6.30pm on Wednesday 11th October 17. Already we have speakers from Suffolk Trading Standards on the subject of beating the scammers and from the Suffolk Police Cybercrime Unit. The second part of the meeting will be devoted to those considering starting a scheme and existing coordinators to learn from other experiences such as availability of grants. So do come along and meet your coordinators and hear about beating the scammers and better computer security.

Full details appeared in the September edition Felixstowe Spotlight magazine.

Update on Scammers and Rogue Traders from Suffolk Trading Standards.
A few of the latest:
Rogue Fish Sellers calling at houses selling inferior and not as described fish, seen operating in Ipswich Felixstowe and Claydon.
Callers at houses making offers to buy jewellery at low prices in Wickham Market.
False Royal Mail Delivery Cards: cards are left indicating an item is ready for collection and occupant needs to call a 0208 number. Caller is then asked to provide personal details.
Rogue Driveway Traders: These people call offering to lay or repair driveways and with lifetime guarantees, only difficulty is you won’t see them again and work is inferior.

Rogue "Green Energy" companies are still targeting Suffolk!

Their current tactic, aimed at those that have solar panels installed, is to show the resident pictures and videos of house fires.

The rogue companies are claiming that new legislation requires a safety device to be fitted to their solar panel system. They go on to explain that the Fire Brigade will not attend a fire caused by solar panels that do not have the device installed.

Suffolk Trading Standards and Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service would like to reassure everyone that this is a confirmed scam and should be reported to Trading Standards via Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 03454 040506.

Suffolk Trading Standards offer the following top 10 tips on how to deal with doorstep sellers:

1. Never sign on the spot
2. Check the trader’s identity. Always ask for an identity card and look up the organisation to check the salesperson’s identity is genuine

Good signage is essential – this one is at Searson’s farm
3. Be wary of special offers or warnings about your home
4. Always shop around for the best price
5. Read the small print. Always read documents carefully before you sign them and make sure you fully understand your rights
6. Double check the facts. Make sure you fully understand the total costs of the transaction – including estimates, delivery and installation and the arrangements for after-sales servicing
7. Talk to someone you trust for a second opinion
8. Don’t hand over a cash deposit. Avoid handing over money before work is started. A reliable trader will never ask you to do this
9. Think very carefully before you agree to a trader starting any work straight away. If you agree to have any work done or goods delivered within the seven day cooling-off period, you may have to pay if you later change your mind and cancel the contract

Trust your instincts. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is Good advice and worth remembering

New Bus Shelter
A new bus shelter has been erected on the High Road opposite Spriteshall Lane to replace the old wooden one that was falling down. The contractors came from Liverpool and told me they were the cheapest quote and enjoyed their stay at the Orwell Hotel before returning home!

Overnight from Liverpool! Something wrong?

Speed Watch
The community speed watch initiative working with Suffolk Police now has 26 volunteer members locally and regularly operate in our area often catching 20 or more speeders per session.

Crime in our Area
We are given crime statistics for our area from a nationally recorded data base. Unfortunately these run several months behind. The latest available are for June and show a very low crime rate in our area. No burglaries and one stolen bicycle in our N/W area for the month. Trimley St Mary had 11 crimes and the Felixstowe area in total had 276 crimes reported.

Dates for diary:
Open Meeting 11\textsuperscript{th} October 2017 at 6.30pm
Christmas Tree Switch On is Friday 24\textsuperscript{th} November 2017 at 6.30pm

Your Coordinators are:
Tony Allen, 15 High Rd, IP11 9QT  
Fx. 274859 (Lead Coordinator)  
email: tony@transportsecurityservices.com
Joyce Walford, 24 Spriteshall Ln.  
Fx. 670371 (Treasurer)  
Emma Pitt-Steele, 49 Cordy’s Lane. (Web Master)  
Carol Seaman, 2 Chatsworth Crescent.  
Ray Wade, 4 Eaton Close  
Marian Johnson 10 New Road  
Heather Foy 27 New Road

Remember
Good Neighbours
Cut Crime

Editor: Tony Allen