



1<sup>st</sup> October 2019

### Statement on Anti-Social Behaviour

Following numerous reports of anti-social behaviour over several months caused by a small group of youths, two Parish Councillors and the Clerk met yesterday with officers from the Wiltshire South Community Policing Team and other agencies, together with representatives of the Trafalgar School, Neighbourhood Watch and a local business, to convey and discuss residents' concerns and to formulate a plan to address the issue.

The Policing Team reassured councillors that all incidents and concerns raised by the community are being taken very seriously and that the community is not alone. This has been borne out by increased patrols around Downton both during the day and at night and currently the parish is being identified as a policing priority.

As a result of Police Officers receiving numerous third party verbal reports of incidents from residents and others, they anticipated an increase in the crime figures for Downton. However, this has not materialised in reports to the Wiltshire Police **101** service. They emphasised the importance for all incidents, however small, to be reported to the 101 service and when calling asks residents to alert the call handler to Downton being a 'priority patrol'. Action cannot be taken on one complaint or one offence. It requires a build-up of information and they are only able to take action following formal reports being made to the 101 service. If residents do not call and make a report, it is likely that Downton will become a lower priority because there isn't the evidence to justify a higher priority.

Where a crime has been committed, as well as using the 101 Service, residents can submit a report online at [https://www.wiltshire.police.uk/Report\\_a\\_crime](https://www.wiltshire.police.uk/Report_a_crime). In an emergency always dial **999**.

The Parish Council is well aware that the vast majority of young people in Downton are considerate and responsible. It would urge residents to continue to report all incidents of anti-social behaviour and the Council will continue to liaise regularly with the Community Policing Team and other agencies to support a range of measures to reduce them and their impact on the community.

- Ends -

For more information please contact: Cllr Becky Cornell Tel: 01725 513874