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Wotton under Edge
North Nibley
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I have decided to pick a current topic familiar to all as a short article this issue.

Anti-social behaviour. What do we class as anti-social behaviour?

Anti-social behaviour is acting in a manner that has "caused or was likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not of the same household" as the perpetrator.

As you are aware we each have a different level of tolerance therefore what does not bother one person may bother another.

What examples are there of anti-social behaviour?

It will never be a completed list, examples include abusive behaviour and language, threatening behaviour, neighbourhood intimidation, bullying, loud music, the misuse of motor vehicles, the targeting and singling out of persons without reason. Damage to property, repeat unwanted behaviour that follows a course of unnecessary actions.

I would also include methods via telecommunication, for example misuse of the telephone, text message and social media sites. Most people will assume that this is not covered and that abuse 'from the comfort of the armchair via telecommunication' is perfectly acceptable. We all have a duty to report such behaviour and by doing so we can take a number of actions, such as initially visit the perpetrator/s, issue warning notices if the behaviour follows a repeat course of action, or as expected take criminal action.

I would therefore encourage the reporting of such behaviour as there are many ways to assist the local police. We also work closely with other services such as neighbourhood wardens, the local housing, the animal welfare officer and as such there is no need to be a victim.

To report any incidents of anti-social behaviour I would therefore call the 101 incident number, even if you would like advice or to just make the local team aware. For urgent matters and to report crime 'in progress' please however contact the 999 emergency telephone number. Further advice can also be found on the Gloucestershire police website.

www.gloucestershire.police.uk

Other Matters –

There has recently been a spate of incidents mirroring a national 'craze'. RSPCA are fully aware. On a few occasions throughout the county to include Wotton under edge there have been a number of reports in which pets have been taken, then clipped of their hair before being let back to the owner. Pets are normally clipped on the back, under the chest or back legs. This is both distressing to the animal and the owners. Normally the pet is 'captured' then released the same day.

The most recent incident of this nature being within the Pitman Place area of Wotton Under edge on Tuesday the 1st of March. **Incident 361 – 1st March 2016**. If anyone is aware of any similar incidents then please feel free to contact me directly or call the 101 non-emergency number.

Criminal damage.

There was a recent report of criminal to a householders fence within the area of Court Orchard Wotton under edge and the pathway down towards Potters pond area. **Incident 96 – 29th February 2016**. This happened on the 28th of February at approximately 8pm. Plants had also been pulled from the garden area. A male (black jacket) and female (grey top) approximately 20 years of age had been having a very vocal argument in the street before the male directed his anger towards the fence completely smashing the lower half. £30+ of damage was caused.

Poaching/Hunting

Locally and countywide there has been reports of hunting and poaching. This has been reported in the local papers and is happening around the North Nibley, Cotswolds and Forest area. People are using cross breed animals such as Bull terriers and Lurchers for both speed and power. Stroud District Council animal welfare is aware. Please report any incidents to both the council and the police. The signs are normally tracks within the woods and bright powerful lamps being used within the woods late at night. Deceased animals are also found with obvious teeth wounds and marks. It is a cruel dangerous practice and can result in a large fine.

Please as always feel free to contact me direct or place/share my information within local media and article.

Regards,

Benjamin Rollins 9105

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