

# Heysham South, Middleton & Overton. January 2017

PACT Meeting Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017 Venue: Heysham Library, Heysham Village.

Introductions and welcome by Graeme Austin.

Thanks to PCSO Karl Smith for attending the PACT meeting on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January. Karl is a member of the Morecambe Harbour Neighbourhood Policing Team. His message was. "If you see or hear anything suspicious please contact the police". There have been many instances where a member of the public has provided the final piece of the jigsaw, valuable information that has been used to help clear up an enquiry or used to prevent further crime. Looking back at 2016 in our area, it was information from an attendee at a PACT meeting which gave vital information regarding a property being used for the cultivation of cannabis and alleged mistreatment of animals.

The recently installed CCTV camera system in the village helped provide the evidence to convict two youths of assault and criminal damage.

The number of reported incidents in Heysham South in December was low. A 'visit' was made to the residence of the alleged offender of recent theft from vehicles incidents and a number of items were recovered. These have been returned to their owners. No evidence of a 'jammer' of electronic device which can override central locking was found. The message is please ensure you vehicle is locked and all valuable items are removed. This applies not only when at your residence but also in public an supermarket car parks where distraction techniques may be employed to slightly open a rear door, you think you have locked your vehicle, however the unlocked door may be opened to gain access.

The next Heysham South PACT meeting will be held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February starting at 7pm. The venue will be Heysham Library meeting room. (Please use side entrance to library).

## Beware of Frost-Jacking

Frosty mornings have arrived and it is quite a common practice for motorists to leave their cars unattended in the morning with the engine running waiting for it to de-ice.

Opportunistic thieves capitalise on this widespread winter habit by prowling neighbourhoods and stealing unattended, running vehicles in a practice known as 'frost-jacking'. Even worse than your car being stolen is the fact that insurers can refuse claims of theft due to frost-jacking. If your car is stolen while unattended and running with the keys in the ignition, it is highly unlikely your insurer will cover the theft. Frost-jacking thefts can be random, but many are planned and increase as temperatures drop and winter weather grows worse. Be extra vigilant the first day after a snowfall or chilly winter storm, when thieves are most likely to strike.

A thief needs only a small window of opportunity to frost-jack your vehicle. Follow this advice to steer clear of frost-jacking thieves:

Carry your car keys wherever you go – never leave them in the ignition, even if you leave for only a few seconds.

Sit inside your car while it de-ices – never let it de-ice unattended.

Lock and secure your vehicle when leaving it.

Keep valuables locked inside the boot and out of sight or better still, take them with you.

Don't leave important car documents in your vehicle as this makes it easier for thieves to quickly sell your vehicle.

Park in busy, well-lit areas near closed-circuit television cameras.

Use a garage to store your car when not in use.

By staying vigilant and following these simple precautions, you can make sure your car and possessions stay warm and safe.

New Year resolution – Be vigilant, be aware of your surroundings and your personal space.

# Average Speed cameras to be used in Lancashire.

Eight routes where 13 people have lost their lives in collisions in almost six years (01/01/2011 to 01/10/2016) are being targeted in a bid to cut down on the number of casualties. The routes across Lancashire have seen a total of 406 casualties with 62 people suffering serious or life changing injuries since 2011.

Now the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership has given the go ahead for new average speed enforcement camera systems on the routes, with the hope of reducing the death toll and making the roads safer for all to use.

The routes are (cameras will cover traffic flow in both directions):

- A565 Southport Road (1.2m) between B5246 at Mere Brow and the Gravel Lane roundabout at Banks.
- **A583 Preston New Road** (7.5m) between M55 Junction 3 (Peel Road, Peel Hill), through Kirkham bypass, and Blackpool Road at Preston Old Road, Clifton.
- A588 Head Dyke Lane, Pilling (2m) between Fold House Caravan Park and Bourbles Lane.
- A59 Brockholes Brow, Preston (0.5m) between M6 junction 31 and Glenluce Drive.
- A6 London Road, Preston (0.7m) between Capitol Centre (Winery Lane) and Albyn Street East.
- A675 in Belmont (8.5m) between M65 junction 3, through Abbey Village and Belmont to Scout Road.
- A682 Gisburn Road, Pendle (5.2m) between A59 at Gisburn and Whittycroft Avenue (between Barrowford and Blacko).
- B6232 Grane Road, Haslingden (4.7m) between A56 through Haslingden Grane to A6177 Elton Road junction with Sough Lane.

Alongside Lancashire Constabulary the Partnership, which includes representatives from Lancashire County Council, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council, Blackpool Council, Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service, Highways England and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, has decided to adopt the system using average speed cameras as safety and motorist compliance has consistently improved on a variety of road types using the system in other parts of the UK.

The cameras will use number plate recognition technology to detect vehicles and calculate their average speed by measuring the time taken to travel between fixed points of a known distance apart. Average Speed Check signage will be used to inform drivers that they are entering an average speed control zone.

The introduction of the system is intended to positively influence driver behaviour and ensure that motorists comply with the set limits on roads, resulting in a safer environment for all road users.

Installation work will begin today, Monday 9 January on the first route, the A6 London Road, Preston, between the Capitol Centre (Winery Road) and Albyn Street East, with enforcement likely to begin around March. The other routes will have a staggered installation period with all cameras in force by the end of 2017.

Lancashire Constabulary's Assistant Chief Constable Tim Jacques, Chair of the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership, said: "We don't want to catch you speeding. Our primary aim is for all drivers to adhere to the safe speed limits on our roads, and these particular roads are proven to be amongst some of our most dangerous.

"It is well researched and documented that speeding can kill, but we know that a combination of education, engineering and enforcement can change behaviours and save lives. This is particularly important where there are recurring problems.

"The Partnership vision, 'Towards Zero', is that we work towards preventing all collisions that result in death or serious injury. Using clearly signed average speed cameras will play a vital role as part of this vision."

Research by the RAC Foundation showed that the numbers of fatal and serious collisions decreases by around a third after average speed cameras are introduced. As part of the LRSP's average speed project, research will be conducted to review speed data, traffic flow and casualty information on all of the routes.

The proposed routes chosen by the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership have been based on the following criteria:

- There is a history of collisions and casualties within the routes.
- Speed surveys indicate that speeding vehicles is an issue.
- Some of the routes have been identified as needing action around speed and road safety issues, but there aren't any other realistic or appropriate enforcement options.

There will be sanctions for anyone detected breaching the speed limits, where eligible they will be given the opportunity to attend a speed awareness course to learn about the dangers of speeding, accept a conditional offer of a fixed penalty or for higher speeds the matter may be referred to court.

More information about the average speed cameras can be found on the Partnership website: www.safe2travel.co.uk/speed

### Do it Online

Did you know that you can report crime, contact an officer, log lost or found property, pay a compliment or make a complaint and apply for police jobs on line?

The Constabulary's online reporting site https://doitonline.lancashire.police.uk, which is also accessible from the "Do It Online" tab on the main Lancashire Constabulary website www.lancashire.police.uk, was launched in November 2014 and is used by thousands of people every week.

The online reporting facility allows you to send a non-urgent message directly to an officer or member of staff who might be dealing with your case, even when they are not on duty, simply using their collar or staff identify number and name.

Around a third of all telephone calls into the Constabulary are people who simply wish to speak to members of staff or leave messages for them. If that number of calls can be reduced by using alternative methods it will allow us to provide a better service to you by giving us the time to resolve more issues over the phone.

Police officers and staff who contact you either in person, by email or on the phone should provide you with their collar or identify number as a matter of routine, so please ensure that you ask for and make a note of it in order to use this online facility.







## Heysham South, NPT (Neighbourhood Policing Team).

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