

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Avon and Somerset Police has been informed of a number of incidents of behaviour which is considered to be anti-social and intimidating to some residents in Hutton Village. There have also been incidents of criminal damage to property in the village.

The problems stem from a small group of teen and pre-teen youths who have been active in the village over the last few months. Incidents include:

- riding bikes at speed on pavements in the village
- shouting at residents who remonstrate with them
- riding over gardens
- **and, on a more serious note**, knocking on windows of vulnerable people in sheltered housing and making gestures that most parents would consider to be rude and offensive.
- Criminal damage has also been caused to storage sheds at the scout hut site.

The Police have indicated that they will act upon any reports of this type of behaviour and have asked that, if safe and possible, photographs should be taken of the perpetrators which can be sent to the Parish Council who will forward them on to the Police for action. The Police could then positively identify the perpetrators and discuss any issues with the parents of those concerned. The Police will be stepping up patrols as much as possible and when operational constraints allow. **It should be noted that a Community Protection Warning (CPW), Civil Injunction, Community Protection Notice (CPN) or Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) are possible consequences of anti-social behaviour.**

The Police would like to assure residents that taking photographs of youths or any person believed to be carrying out unacceptable, anti-social or criminal behaviour is perfectly legal and would greatly assist them in dealing with these issues.

As parents, no-one wants to stop children from playing around the village. There are ample public play areas to suit all ages throughout the village. However, if behaviour is unacceptable and intimidating to other residents, it needs to be nipped in the bud especially with the advent of the school summer holidays. Advice from the Police includes a message to parents “do you know where your children are and what they are up to”