

## **BOTESDALE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH GROUP 2019**

Botesdale is split up into 13 Neighbourhood Watch (NW) sections and there are vacancies for The Street Botesdale, east side from Bridewell Lane to Mill Road, Bridewell Lane itself and The Drift.

I now have a total of 48 residents of both Botesdale, Rickinghall and some other people, whom I forward any crimes or incidents, by email when I receive them.

There is now Police Constable Stefan Henriksen who is the Police Community Engagement Officer, works out of Stowmarket Police station. He liaises with the Parish Councils and the Neighbourhood Watch in matters which involve Policing this area. On 25<sup>th</sup> June last year, myself and several other Neighbourhood Watch members had a meeting with Stefan who explained his role.

Mid Suffolk District Council have now also funded two new Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's) to assist in Policing this area. They will now cover the whole of Mid Suffolk District Council area. Myself and William Sargeant, Chairman of Botesdale Parish Council, had a meeting with one of them, PCSO William Butcher, on 8<sup>th</sup> January and he explained his role in Policing this area.

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March in Rickinghall Village Hall, a meeting took place with PC Henriksen respecting a problem with youths, some on cycles, who have been causing a nuisance in the early evening in both Botesdale and Rickinghall. PC Henriksen urged residents to report any actual offences and identities, of known offenders to Police.

Crimes that are reported to me have been fairly low in number but then I do not get many reports from Police due to cutbacks in Police numbers. I still believe that Botesdale is very low in incidents of crime and other types of disorder.

I am always available for residents to contact me about NW matters and my details are recorded in the Parish Magazine.

Peter H Beck. (Chairman of Botesdale NW Group)