

Ramsden Bellhouse Parish Council



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Village Security

At its consultation event in 2005 the Parish Council received overwhelming support for the proposal to fund a shared Police Community Support Officer for the village, so the Parish Council added £8,500 to its budget for the next and following financial years to pay for the scheme. Due to factors beyond the Council's control the plan to appoint a locally based PCSO could not be implemented.

Conscious that residents were concerned about crime prevention, the Council looked for other ways it could act to promote security. Having heard of a similar scheme in another Essex parish, the Council decided to use a security firm to patrol the village streets for a trial period. The trial has been running since the beginning of March, and the Council now needs to decide whether it should continue on a more permanent basis.

Shortly after the initiation of the patrols, the Council carried out a questionnaire to gauge local opinion. At that time the signs publicising the scheme had not been installed, so awareness of the patrols was low but the level of support was very high. The results of the survey can be found on the Parish Council's website via a link on the Village Security page. Now that there is wider knowledge of the scheme, the Council wants to ask your opinion as to its future, because as a Council Tax payer you are funding it.

The village is patrolled in a vehicle at least once a day and the security personnel log in at key points in each road to provide a record of when and where they were. The Parish Council is provided with these times on a weekly basis. The Council does not publicise the timing, frequency or duration of the patrols as this would reduce their effectiveness as a deterrent. Currently the cost is £100 per week, unless extra patrols are requested. This works out at an average of approximately 37p per week per household.

Please complete the questionnaire on the reverse of this sheet and deposit in the box provided in the shop or send by post to the address above by Sunday 28th. September. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

VILLAGE SECURITY QUESTIONNAIRE

Please tick your choice

1. Do you think the security patrols should continue?		Yes <input type="radio"/>	No <input type="radio"/>
2. Do you think the average household cost of 37p per week is	Too low? <input type="radio"/>	About right? <input type="radio"/>	Too high? <input type="radio"/>
3. What is your concern about village security, please write it here.			

COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

The Parish Council is currently investigating the feasibility of setting up a community speed watch group. To get a group underway we need to find at least eight volunteers, but more would be better. If you are interested in participating, this would involve attending training sessions and then giving up a morning or afternoon perhaps once a month, please give your contact details below.

Name	
Address	
	Telephone
email	

Personal information will be used solely for the purpose of setting up a Speedwatch group and will not be used for any other purpose or passed to a third party.