Dear Residents  **January 2017 – bulletin 1**

**Crime reports**

* Parked cars in Pocklington damaged. Secure shed in Shiptonthorpe – 2 cycles stolen.

**Scam reports – local**

* From *jhughes@smartt.com*: “Overdue Statement for Year 2016 – an official letter in regards to……….over due invoices owed by your company……..click here to review our official letter..……you are required ……to arrange a payment.”
* From *mark.acctspay@itsol.co.uk*: “Mark has shared a document (New Account Statement.pdf) with you …… View Document Now……We have passed your long overdue invoices to our dept collection agency……The Drop Box Team.”
* From *accountspayments@haywood.edu*: “Click here to review your remittance advice…….please allow 3 working days for this amount to be credited to your account……..”

The clue to all these scam emails received locally this month, apart from the poor spelling and grammar, is that printing the email shows that the ”From” address on each is the same as the “To” address. IF YOU CLICK ON THE LINK YOU ARE HOOKED.

**Scam report – national**

* Email from *service@amazon.co.uk* saying recipient made an order from Amazon and it is an automatic customer notification. Recent examples: orders for “vintage chandelier….Bose stereos…..iPhones…..luxury watches”. Email states, “If the transaction is not authorised, click on the help centre link for a full refund”. Leads to a convincing looking website where bank details are to be entered. Outcome needs no explanation. Frauds such as this should be reported to ActionFraud on 0300 123 2040.

**Police advice – telephone/letter/email scams**

* Fraudsters often deceive by **pretending** to be police, bank staff or other trusted people.
* **Do not** revealpersonal or financial info or transfer/withdraw money if asked **on the phone**.
* **Do not** arrange tohand over cards or cash for a **courier** to collect.
* “We believe there is a **fault on your computer……..**…” is a common line of the scammer.
* “We are the bank…..**someone is trying to access your account**……we will create a new one over the phone if you give me your details”. Put down the phone immediately.
* A letter or email says you have won on an **overseas or online lottery**. Do not respond - they only want your details
* Money abroad and help needed – scammers have various stories to convince you to help them **use your account to move money** – they want your details and will empty it.

**Healthy Homes project**

This very generous project has carte blanche funding in East Yorkshire in Jan-Mar 2017 to help vulnerable rural residents (e.g. elderly, very young) living in cold/damp homes. The scheme extends to help with reducing heat loss, fuel costs, debt or, in some cases, providing a new heating system. Referrals can be made by anyone with the intended recipient’s permission to **Peter Hirschfield on 01652 637700**. See the attachment to this Bulletin for much more detail.

Robert Mills