*Dear Residents* **March 2016 – bulletin**

**Crime reports**

This month, Police have reported break-ins and attempted break-ins of secure business properties, sheds, garages, vans and cars in Market Weighton, Pocklington and some villages. Property (e.g. tools, cash, bicycle, motor cycle, etc) was stolen in many cases and damaged in others.

**Cold calling**

After some weeks of respite from this in our villages, more cold calling was reported in Hayton recently and a request made from a resident for stickers to be provided through Neighbourhood Watch (NHW). NHW no longer do this unless the location has been designated a Cold Calling Zone. This can be any size but does require 100% of residences in the Zone to have signed up first. If any groups of residents wish to start up a Zone, I will supply the means to do so. In the meantime, I have been supplied with a few non-NHW stickers that can be used instead by any individual who wants to. You can collect them at The Old Bus Stop in Burnby or at the garage in Hayton.

**Potholes**

I have reported directly to East Riding on-line two deep and dangerous potholes between Hayton and Burnby this month which were repaired in 2-3 working days. Anyone can do it and there is a link via the Hayton and Burnby Parish Council website (see above) if you wish. They can only respond so quickly if they have exact details of location and severity. I measured size and depth and related the positions to landmarks.

**Litter picking**

The strength of being part of the NHW network was shown in the last few days when the Community Payback team appeared and cleared up the route from Hayton down to the recycling centre. This came about from a more general conversation about fly-tipping with the East Riding NHW Co-ordinator. I understand this will be an ongoing commitment as the gardening season picks up.

**NHW signs**

As promised in the February Bulletin, a Neighbourhood Watch Zone sign now is on the Pocklington side of The Old Bus Stop in Burnby. I suggested that we have another on the lamp post at the T junction next to the pumping station to pick up people heading into Burnby from Hayton. I have had no comments about that and have spoken to the two nearest residents who would be affected and they have no objection. Therefore, I intend putting up the sign during the week commencing 4th April unless anyone objects beforehand.

**NHW networking**

Carol and myself are scheduled for two meetings in April to represent the Hayton and Burnby Group. One is for Groups in the local Pocklington area to see how we can make our efforts more effective as a larger unit. The other is similar but much grander to meet in Beverley with Groups across the East Riding and is once a year. We don’t know how useful they will prove to be but are open-minded at the moment.

*Robert Mills*