Dear Residents  **May 2018 – bulletin 2**

**Local Crime Report and Prevention**

* A very recent report from the local Crime Prevention Panel tells of a man and woman, purporting to be deaf, knocking on doors asking to sell pictures and drawings. Caution is advised.
* “Hello BT customer – your monthly payment was recently declined………we thought we’d remind you to provide us with updated billing information…..” . These scams are easy to spot if you print the email and the “from” address reveals the source – this one was Japan.
* Humberside Police report a rumour on Facebook typing BFF in “comments” and it showing up green means the Facebook account is secure – it is a HOAX. Its appearance, or lack of, is unrelated to account security.

**Advice from National Neighbourhood Watch**

* **TV Providers Discount Fraud** – victims are cold-called supposedly from a television service provider offering a discount on monthly subscription - other lead-ins are: subscription needs to be renewed; the equipment/subscription needs an upgrade as it has expired - the process follows that bank details are confirmed - sometimes, ID documents are checked by scanning e.g. passports - they have used phone numbers 08447111444, 02035190197 or 08001514141 - voices are feminine with Asian accents - 300 reports nationwide in 2018 and victims normally over 66 years old.
* **World Cup Ticket Alert** – the competition 14 June to 15 July will be targeted by fraudsters – they will pose as: official vendors or private individuals selling on-line; a website offering non-existent flights/transport to host cities; a booking service/hotel/operator selling convenient accommodation for a game; lottery/competition organisers claiming you have won cash or prize related to the tournament. Action Fraud received over 600 reports during the last one and urge caution.
* **Cryptocurrency Investments and Fake Endorsements** – the image of Martin Lewis, well known money saving expert, is being used by fraudsters selling bitcoin and other digital currencies fraudulently. His image is being used without permission - similarly, images of Dragon’s Den stars are being used fraudulently by claiming they trade in cryptocurrencies via their services.
* **On-line Marketplace Fraud** – bogus buyers make contact with sellers wanting to pay them via Paypal or other electronic method – the seller gets a fake authentic-looking email saying they have been paid more than asking price and would they send back the difference please – no need to finish the tale.
* **Telephone Preference Service Scam** – cold calling purporting to be from a well-known UK service provider – bank details requested and elderly victims usually the target - 493 instances of this fraud reported to Action Fraud in 2017.

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