

# WILCOT, HUISH and OARE PARISH COUNCIL

## Local Government Act 1972

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Oare Village Hall on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7.00 pm

**Present:** Parish Councillors Jamie Ede (Chair), Neil Ridgway, Richard Fleet, Nicky Fleet, and Richard Lewis.

Unitary Councillor Paul Oatway

Clerk Ruth Kinderman

Residents Emily Hurd, Jonathan Thompson, and Dawn Wilson.

26/01	<b>To receive apologies for absence</b> None.	
26/02	<b>To receive declarations of interest</b> None.	
26/03	<b>To agree the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025</b> It was noted that item 25/80.6 had been amended to include thanks to resident John Biggs for assistance with bulb planting. Cllr JE proposed the amended minutes be accepted as an accurate record, seconded by Cllr RF and signed accordingly by Cllr JE.	
26/04	<b>Public question time</b> Cllr JE thanked members of the audience for attending; residents introduced themselves as interested in parish council proceedings, without specific questions for the council to address this evening.	
26/05	<b>To receive update from Wiltshire Council</b> Cllr Oatway reported that Wiltshire Council is intending to install wind turbines, with the program subject to full council approval. As the east of the county lies within the North Wessex Downs Landscape (formerly AONB), it is assumed that most turbines will be located in the more industrial western part of Wiltshire. The first planned location has been announced as High Post, between Amesbury and Salisbury; it was noted that this lies within the Boscombe Down flight path. Cllr Oatway reported that Wiltshire Council has received £6-£8million from central government to implement a program of improvements to bus stops and shelters from 2026 to 2031, to tie in with the proposed additional bus services. Wiltshire Council has published its Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS), with 26 priorities and 301 actions, most of which relate to rewilding, increased hedge and tree planting, and the establishment of community fruit and nut orchards. Wiltshire Council had proposed the introduction of full council tax on second homes; this had been defeated by the casting vote from the chair after a debate ending in a 45-45 vote. Wiltshire Council will be consulting during 2026 on its Waste Strategy for 2027. Proposals include household waste collections changing from fortnightly to three-weekly; booking for visits to the Household Recycling Centres (HRCs); food waste collections, with two food bins issued to each household, one for indoors and one for outside; and the appointment of Food Waste Police to monitor misuse of black wheelie bins for food waste. The HRCs at Purton and Compton Bassett will be closed without any consultation and no replacement program	

# WILCOT, HUISH and OARE PARISH COUNCIL

	<p>other than the aspiration to acquire a suitable location north of Wootton Bassett for one new HRC.</p> <p>Cllr Oatway will be challenging Wiltshire Council to ensure some of a new £45,000 fund for footpath improvements is deployed to rural areas, rather than only urban.</p> <p>Cllr Oatway reported that devolution will progress now that Cornwall and the Scilly Isles, and Devon and Torbay, have agreed their strategic authority arrangements; Wiltshire, Dorset, North Somerset, and Bournemouth, Christchurch &amp; Poole will be re-submitting their proposals to create The Heart of Wessex Strategic Mayoral Authority. Cllr Oatway noted that the requirement by central government for all authorities to have a mayor ties in with the recently announced demise of Police and Crime Commissioners, whose administrative oversight of police performance will be transferred to mayors.</p> <p>Local works to the highways include the commencement during January of surface works to the C38 between Woodbridge and Alton Barnes and the closure of Canal Close, Wilcot, from 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> March for resurfacing.</p> <p>Cllr Oatway is waiting for feedback from engineers relating to the high drain in the parking lay-by in Alton Road.</p>	
26/06	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p>06.1 To Receive the Budget and monitoring report</p> <p>Cllr NF had circulated the report to all councillors prior to the meeting; it was agreed as an accurate report, there were no questions, and the report is attached as an appendix to these minutes.</p> <p>Cllr NF noted that a transfer had been made from the deposit to the current account to pay for the Highways invoice of £6,284.26 for the Sunnyhill Lane bus shelter project (approved under item 25/76.4) Clerk to update the CIL spreadsheet to show expenditure.</p> <p>06.2 To approve invoices due</p> <p>Clerk passed an invoice for £35.56 (£29.63 + VAT£5.93) to Cllr NF for reimbursement for a new minute book – approved under item 25/76.4.</p> <p>06.3 To review NALC clerk pay scales and approve hourly rate</p> <p>Revised NALC salary scales to apply during 2025/2026 had been obtained from the NALC website. It was noted that Clerk is currently on spinal point 12 and may not be elevated further due to lack of qualifications. Spinal point 12 hourly rate has increased from £14.36 in 2024/2025 to £14.82 in 2025/2026. Cllr RF proposed that the increase be approved, to be back-dated to April 2025. Seconded by Cllr NR with all in favour and acknowledged accordingly by the Clerk.</p> <p>06.4 To receive grant application from PCAP</p> <p>The grant application form had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr RF proposed that a grant of £300.00 as requested be approved; seconded by Cllr RL with all in favour.</p> <p>06.5 To approve budget for 2026/2027 and set precept</p> <p>Further to preliminary discussions recorded under item 25/76.6, Cllr RL proposed a precept of £14,125.00 for 2026/27, the same as in 2025/26. Seconded by Cllr RF with all in favour. Due to the decreased tax base for this</p>	<p>RK</p> <p>NF</p> <p>NF</p> <p>RK/NF</p>

# WILCOT, HUISH and OARE PARISH COUNCIL

	parish from 274.77 in 2025/26 to 268.46 in 2026/27, retaining the precept at its present level will mean an increase of £1.20 on the annual council tax bill for a Band D household, which will show as an increase of 2.33%.	RK
26/07	<p><b>Planning Applications and Enforcement</b></p> <p><b>To note progress of planning applications previously considered:</b></p> <p><b>07.1 PL/2024/09344 - Huish Down Farm, Oare</b> - Demolition of existing buildings; erection of replacement dwelling etc; change of use of land from agricultural to residential.</p> <p>Wiltshire Council is now due to publish a decision on 31<sup>st</sup> January. Clerk read to the meeting an item of correspondence which had been uploaded to the planning portal on 10<sup>th</sup> December, in which the land agent for the applicant had written to the architectural agent for the applicant, outlining current livestock quantities held and ongoing farming intentions of the applicant. It was agreed that the parish council should submit a comment to the planning portal acknowledging the correspondence and expressing appreciation of the intention to continue farming activity at Huish Down Farm. It was noted that due to the planned agricultural activity, the application for change of use is no longer required and that the parish council should comment accordingly, with the expectation that the application for change of use will be withdrawn. Clerk to draft a response for approval by email.</p> <p><b>07.2 PL/2025/07893 - THE STABLES, POUND LANE, OARE</b> – construction of pond. Approved by Wiltshire Council since the last meeting, with conditions restricting lighting and protection of certain species. It was noted that the applicant would like to provide a habitat for species such as great crested newts, rather than deter them as advised by the Planning Department. Clerk to circulate the decision notice to councillors for their information.</p> <p><b>07.3 PL/2025/08419 - BRIDGE COTTAGE, 6, WILCOT</b> – fell apple tree Approved by Wiltshire Council since the last meeting.</p> <p><b>07.4 PL/2025/08426 - Pound House, Oare</b> - Change of use of land and construction of a Folly Approved by Wiltshire Council with conditions that the folly must remain ancillary to the main dwelling. Planning Officers had said that a change of use of land was not required. Clerk to circulate decision notice to councillors for their information.</p> <p><b>07.5 PL/2025/08535 - Manor Farm, Wilcot</b> - Proposed Wildlife Building Approved by Wiltshire Council since the last meeting; conditions relating to the conservation of wildlife had been issued, despite the purpose of the proposed structure being to conserve wildlife.</p> <p><b>07.6 PL/2025/09246 - THE ROSARY, RUDGE LANE, OARE</b> – reduce Apple tree by 2m This notice of tree-works had been received since the last meeting; the parish council had submitted no objection and the works have since been approved by Wiltshire Council.</p>	RK/all  RK  RK

# WILCOT, HUISH and OARE PARISH COUNCIL

	<p><b>To review and provide feedback on new planning applications from Wiltshire Council (Town and Country Planning Act 1980, schedule 1, para 8)</b> None received at time of publication of the agenda.</p>	
26/08	<p><b>Project updates</b></p> <p>08.1 A345 safety –speed survey (metro count); Community Speedwatch data Police speed officers continue to regularly enforce the 30mph limit within Oare; in a 35-minute session on 2<sup>nd</sup> December monitoring northbound traffic, eight vehicles were registered, with seven referred to a speed awareness course and one fined £100.00 with three points on the licence. The fastest speed recorded was 43mph.</p> <p>The results of the speed survey strips laid on the A345 between Sunnyhill and Prospect within the 50mph limit yielded mean speeds in both directions of around 40mph and a combined 85<sup>th</sup> percentile of 45.74mph. The highest speeds were recorded during the early hours of the morning.</p> <p>It was noted that the 85<sup>th</sup>% represents the ‘natural speed’ for the road and that attempts to enforce a lower speed can be counter-productive in that drivers become frustrated. It was noted that there are no accident statistics for this stretch of road; accidents within the vicinity have taken place at junctions such as Prospect (A345/C52) and Cross Hayes (C52/C8) at times of reduced visibility, rather than due to excessive speed. It was noted that even if the limit were set at 40mph for this stretch, the 85<sup>th</sup>% of 45.74 would not qualify for Community Speedwatch (46.1mph) or police enforcement (50mph).</p> <p>It was acknowledged that the driveway at Highleaze had been designed to maximise visibility for vehicles entering and exiting that property, but that it was likely that growing vegetation had imperceptibly altered the outlook over the intervening years. It was noted that the criteria for a 40mph limit with respect to quantity of property frontages is not met. Clerk advised that resident of Highleaze had planned to attend this meeting; Clerk to draft a letter for approval by email, advising resident of the results of the survey and parish council deliberations, noting that neither Highways nor Wiltshire Police would support a reduction in the speed limit from 50mph to 40mph.</p> <p>08.2 To discuss report – ‘A Road between us’ A resident had shared a recent report ‘A road between us’, in which the challenges faced by villages split by an A road are outlined, with suggested strategies to overcome them. Clerk to recirculate the report to councillors to ensure all have perused it prior to further discussion.</p> <p>It was agreed that the new bus shelter and dropped kerb crossing at Sunnyhill could be considered as requiring a reduced speed limit, contrary to the results further south as discussed under item 08.1.</p> <p>It was noted that as part of the signage review, fresh road markings had been promised, to be implemented when the A345 through Oare is next resurfaced.</p> <p>It was agreed to pursue the suggestion raised by Senior Highways Engineer Mark Stansby of a priority system at the junction with Huish Lane, which would oblige vehicles to stop rather than try to pass each other.</p> <p>08.3 Bus stop request for Wilcot Further to item 25/79.2, and Cllr Oatway’s report under item 26/05, Wiltshire</p>	RK/all

**WILCOT, HUISH and OARE PARISH COUNCIL**

	<p>Council has issued a briefing note explaining the setting up of the new bus stop infrastructure team. It is assumed that the request for Wilcot will be at the top of the list for consideration, once the team begins processing projects. Clerk to follow up in due course.</p> <p><b>08.4 LHFIG – new SID pole for Alton Road</b>  The request has been submitted for inclusion on the agenda for the next LHFIG meeting to take place on 18<sup>th</sup> February. The request was shared with Colin Gale of Rushall, who oversees the SID cooperative.</p> <p><b>08.5 Greensward update – Tree Circle project</b>  The school has been invited to take part in a project to plant a circle of trees linking all the villages located in a certain circumference around Anglesey. The parish council agreed that a tree could be planted in the Greensward, with Greensward committee members to be involved in discussions as to species and siting.</p> <p><b>08.6 Footpath audit – WILC21/WILC14 and HUIS5</b>  A complaint has been received about the closed end of WILC21, with hedging preventing walkers crossing the A345 on to WILC14 on the western side. It was noted that the crossing place is dangerous and safety improvements would be required by Highways. Clerk to refer complaint to Senior Rights of Way Officer Stephen Leonard.  Stephen Leonard had confirmed that an informal diversion to HUIS5 is in place, which he has deemed to be adequately marked.  Cllr NR reported a recent incident of sheep worrying by HUIS5.</p> <p><b>08.7 Councillor vacancies</b>  Clerk had not received any enquiries about the role in response to the plea issued in the December parish newsletter for residents of Oare to come forwards. It was agreed that a separate, specific leaflet should be issued to Oare residents if nobody comes forward before the next meeting.</p> <p><b>08.8 Post box at Sunnyhill Lane</b>  Clerk had written to Mr Harriman of Hillview inviting him to take part in discussion about where to locate a special collection box. The Royal Mail Customer Collections Operations Manager, David Jones, has not yet contacted residents to arrange a discussion; Clerk to continue to follow this up.</p> <p><b>08.9 Defibrillators</b>  New electrode pads had been ordered for Oare, Huish and Wilcot. All defibrillators are up to date as 'emergency ready' on The Circuit. It was noted that the Huish cabinet is rusting in one corner; resident Dawn Wilson volunteered to paint it as necessary.</p>	RK RF
26/09	<p><b>Clerk's Report</b></p> <p><b>09.1 Parish Steward</b>  Parish stewards were diverted to gritting duties at the end of December and the service continues to be temporarily suspended with all stewards diverted to filling pot holes. Clerk to report two pot holes mentioned at the meeting.</p>	RK

# WILCOT, HUISH and OARE PARISH COUNCIL

	<p>09.2 Police report The quarterly report had been received and is attached as an appendix to these minutes. The Police and Crime Commissioner is consulting on a proposed increase of £15.00 per household for his 2026/2027. Wiltshire Police has acquired six acres of land at Old Sarum for a new county policing hub. Clerk to share links to survey and articles.</p> <p>09.3 Forth-coming road closures 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> January – Stowell road off C8 – crack healing procedure 9<sup>th</sup> February – Cross Hayes and Hare Street – closed for patching works 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> March – Canal Close, Wilcot – closed for resurfacing</p> <p>09.4 Grit bins Clerk to report to Highways that there are four grit bins in the parish, not five as held on their mapping system. All to be topped up and the solid grit broken up.</p> <p>09.5 Wilcot noticeboard Clerk had enquired about replacing the doors on the noticeboard, as the backing frame is in good condition. After a productive initial dialogue, the company had failed to respond further; Clerk to pursue.</p>	RK
26/10	<p><b>Exchange of information</b> <b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January – PCAP</b> – 7pm Shalbourne – Cllr RL to attend. <b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February – LHFIG</b> – 2pm online – Cllr RF to attend. Clerk reported that Manningford parish council has received the report from a speed limit review which if supported and pursued, could result in the implementation of a 20mph limit at the southern end of the C52. This would hopefully reduce the volume of traffic using the C52 as a Pewsey by-pass. It was agreed that Cllr RF should express support for the measure at the LHFIG meeting due to the benefits it would bring to this parish by reducing traffic volumes and the consequent wear and tear and along Hare Street, and accidents at Cross Hayes. <b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March – Area Board</b> – 7pm venue to be confirmed – Cllr NR to attend.</p> <p>Wiltshire Council has launched a Digital Platform for residents to report poor connectivity.</p> <p>Dawn Wilson of PCAP noted that the Household Support Fund is still available; Clerk to put the link and information how to apply on the parish website.</p> <p>The emergency plan will be reviewed at the next meeting.</p>	RL RF NR RK RK RK/all

Planning Committee meetings will be held as required. All meetings will start at 19.00hrs unless otherwise advertised.

Provisional dates and times of next meetings 2025/2026:

Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Wilcot
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2026 – annual meetings	Oare

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Transaction Date	Transaction Type	Transaction Description	Debit Amount	Credit Amount	Balance @ bank	Income	Hire of halls	Grants (\$137)	Community expenditure	Newsletter	Salary	Accountancy	Auditing	Admin	Subscriptions	Transfers
Balance at 1 April 2025					3888.12											
01/04/2025	PAY	Bank service charge	4.25		3883.87									4.25		
07/04/2025	FPO	Wilts Council (payment)	370.00		3513.87											
07/04/2025	FPO	Wilcot Village Hall - Grant	1000.00		2513.87			1000.00		370.00						
07/04/2025	FPO	Wessex Print - newsletter	50.00		2463.87					50.00						
07/04/2025	FPO	P Emery - repair to sign	160.00		2303.87						160.00					
07/04/2025	FPO	Clerk's salary (Mar)	369.03		1934.84							369.03				
07/04/2025	FPO	HMRC (PAYE)	61.40		1873.44							61.40				
23/04/2025	BGC	Wilts Council (precept) 1st inst.		7062.50	8935.94	7062.50										
24/04/2025	DD	Charlton Baker (accountancy)	16.50		8919.44								16.50			
06/05/2025	PAY	Bank service charge	4.25		8915.19									4.25		
12/05/2025	FPO	R Harriman (defib power)	50.00		8865.19											
12/05/2025	FPO	Clerk's salary (Apr)	235.11		8630.08							235.11				
12/05/2025	FPO	WALC subscription	244.30		8385.78										244.30	
12/05/2025	FPO	Manningford PC - contribution to SID	300.00		8085.78											
27/05/2025	FPO	Clerk's expenses - defib	346.80		7738.98											
27/05/2025	DD	Charlton Baker (accountancy)	18.00		7720.98								18.00			
03/06/2025	PAY	Bank service charge	4.25		7716.73									4.25		
09/06/2025	FPO	Andy Sexton -	85.18		7631.55											
09/06/2025	FPO	Clerk's salary (May)	234.91		7396.64											
24/06/2025	DD	Charlton Baker (accountancy)	18.00		7378.64											
04/07/2025	PAY	Bank service charge	4.25		7374.39									4.25		
10/07/2025	FPO	Community First (insurance)	443.78		6930.61										443.78	
10/07/2025	FPO	HMRC (PAYE)	41.80		6888.81								41.80			
10/07/2025	FPO	Clerk's salary (June)	234.91		6653.90								234.91			
10/07/2025	FPO	Clerk's expenses	73.36		6580.54										73.36	
25/07/2025	DD	Charlton Baker (accountancy)	18.00		6562.54								18.00			
25/07/2025	DD	ICO (subscription)	47.00		6515.54										47.00	
04/08/2025	FPO	Clerk's salary (July)	234.91		6280.63											
04/08/2025	FPO	Wilts Council - signage Oare	1437.79		4842.84											
04/08/2025	PAY	Bank service charge	4.25		4838.59									4.25		
25/08/2025	DD	Charlton Baker (accountancy)	18.00		4820.59											
27/08/2025	TFR	From savings acct		2221.85	7042.44											2221.85
28/08/2025	FPO	Bawden Contracting	4789.03		2253.41											
28/08/2025	FPO	Clerk's salary (Aug)	234.91		2018.50											
02/09/2025	PAY	Bank service charge	4.25		2014.25										4.25	
24/09/2025	DD	Charlton Baker (accountancy)	18.00		1996.25											
25/09/2025	BGC	Wilts Council (precept) 2nd inst.		7062.50	9058.75	7062.50										
01/10/2025	TFR	To savings acct	5988.29		3070.46											-5988.29
01/10/2025	FPO	Clerk's salary (Sept)	318.71		2751.75											
06/10/2025	PAY	Bank service charge	4.25		2747.50										4.25	
27/10/2025	DD	Charlton Baker (accountancy)	18.00		2729.50											
03/11/2025	PAY	Bank service charge	4.25		2725.25											
05/11/2025	FPO	Clerk's salary (Oct)	248.91		2476.34											
05/11/2025	FPO	Wilts Council - election exps	250.00		2226.34											
24/11/2025	DD	Charlton Baker (accountancy)	18.00		2208.34											
02/12/2025	PAY	Bank service charge	4.25		2204.09											
05/12/2025	FPO	Clerk's salary (Nov)	248.91		1955.18											
05/12/2025	FPO	Wessex Print - newsletter	50.00		1905.18											
29/12/2025	DD	Charlton Baker (accountancy)	18.00		1887.18											
05/01/2026	PAY	Bank service charge	4.25		1882.93											
07/01/2026	TFR	From savings acct		6036.84	7919.77											6036.84
08/01/2026	FPO	Clerk's salary (Dec)	248.91		7670.86											
08/01/2026	FPO	Wilts Council - Oare bus stop	6284.26		1386.60											
<b>Total</b>			<b>24885.21</b>	<b>22383.69</b>	<b>1386.60</b>	<b>14125.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	<b>13823.06</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>2712.42</b>	<b>160.50</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>809.64</b>	<b>291.30</b>	<b>2270.40</b>



# Wilcot, Huish and Oare

Quarter 4 2025

## **Crimes and incidents**

Wiltshire Police record crimes and incidents in accordance with the National Crime and incident recording standards. Not all incidents that one would consider a crime are necessarily classified as a crime for recording purposes.

NB- The below statistics do not account for incidents that police respond to but do not need any formal follow-up. (Road traffic incidents, minor incidents of anti-social behaviour)

**From 1<sup>st</sup> October 2025 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025**

**3** crimes and **2** incidents have been recorded in the Wilcot, Huish and Oare parish area. There have been **0** reported dwelling burglaries in the parish area. There have been **1** reported vehicle offences.

Having reviewed the crime data for the area – There are no apparent trends that are presented or a series of crimes that are linked.

## **Speed enforcement**

The Speed Watch Enforcement Team have conducted several pro-active checks in the local area over the last quarter including targeted activity at areas previously identified as a concern such as Easton Royal, Oare and Avebury.

- **01/10/2025- Avebury Sports and Social Club- 30 mph limit. Highest recorded speed was 43 mph. 4 drivers will be offered a speed awareness course or face £100 fine and 3 penalty points.**
- **13/11/2025- Easton Royal, Burbage Road- B3087- 30 mph limit. Highest recorded speed was captured at 47mph. 11 drivers will be offered a speed awareness course or face £100 fine and 3 penalty points.**
- **02/12/2025- A345 Oare- 30 mph limit. Highest recorded speed was 43 mph. 8 drivers will be offered a speed awareness course or face £100 fine and 3 penalty points.**
- **02/12/2025- Avebury Sports and Social Club- 30 mph limit. Highest recorded speed was 52 mph. 11 drivers will be offered a speed awareness course or face £100 fine and 3 penalty points. 1 driver has been reported to Court for excess speed.**



## Recent updates

- The last couple of months have been a busy time for the Neighbourhood Policing Team. The week commencing the 10<sup>th</sup> November was dedicated to '**Safer Business Action Week**'. This a nationwide initiative in conjunction with the National Business Crime Centre (NBCC) and Police forces across the country to focus resources on tackling retail crime.
- The week commencing 17<sup>th</sup> November was dedicated to '**Operation Sceptre**'. This a nationwide, twice-yearly national police campaign led by the National Police Chief's Council to tackle knife crime through intensified enforcement (searches, surrenders), education (schools, youth), and community engagement (retailers, youth), aiming to remove weapons, deter carriers, and reduce serious violence by removing knives from streets and changing attitudes, involving all UK police forces.
- The week commencing 24<sup>th</sup> November was dedicated to '**Operation Scorpion**'. Operation Scorpion is a collaboration between the South West's five police forces (Avon and Somerset, Dorset, Devon and Cornwall, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire), alongside their respective offices of Police and Crime Commissioners, the British Transport Police and South West Regional Organised Crime Unit (SW ROCU) which sees resources combined to tackle drug supply and make the region a hostile environment for organised crime groups.

During a week of coordinated activity, police officers and staff worked collectively to apprehend suspected dealers, seize drugs and weapons, and safeguard vulnerable people. In **Wiltshire**, there were:

- **17 warrants carried out**
- **45 people arrested, with four people since charged and one convicted**
- **£11,930 cash seized**
- **£60,000 worth of Class A and Class B drugs.**
- **14 people safeguarded**
- **15 cuckooed addresses visited**
- **5 closure orders granted**
- **11 weapons seized included an imitation firearm, machete, zombie knife, knuckle duster and a large hunting knife**
- **Numerous assets seized including 9 mobile phones, 3 vehicles, clothing and counterfeit cigarettes.**



- On the evening of Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025, Officers from the Neighbourhood Policing team joined the dedicated Rural Crime Team, Specialist Operations and local farmers and landowners for targeted proactive patrols in the **Marlborough** and **Pewsey** area to target hare coursing in response to a recent influx of illegal activity that has seen numerous vehicles and dogs seized.
- Officers from the local Neighbourhood Policing Team attended the Remembrance Sunday Parade in both Marlborough Town and Pewsey on 09/11/2025. It continues to be a very respectful and well supported event hosted by our local communities.
- Officers have also attended other recent key local events such as the Marlborough Christmas Lights Switch-On and Marlborough Mop Fayres.

### **Community Alert**

We are urging our communities, particularly in the East of the County to be vigilant following a series of high value burglaries in the area that form part of a wider series across other neighbouring forces. An Organised Crime Group appear to be targeting isolated large estates. The offenders have specifically targeted safes within properties containing high value items such as jewellery and cash. We are urging our local residents to check their home security and to report any suspicious activity regarding persons or vehicles to us as soon as possible. Officers from the local neighbourhood policing teams have been increasing patrols in the area and have since managed to locate a stolen vehicle from one of the burglaries which has been returned to its rightful owner undamaged. Enquiries are on-going in relation to this investigation.

### **Community consultations**

Further community engagements happening in the local area will be advertised in due course. If you are aware of any other local community events in the area, please let us know via our email address- **[devizesareanpt@wiltshire.police.uk](mailto:devizesareanpt@wiltshire.police.uk)**

The following engagements scheduled for the **Pewsey** area are as follows;

- **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026- 11:00-12:00- The Royal Oak, Wootton Rivers**
- **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026- 10:30-11:30- Meadow Court, Pewsey**
- **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2026- 11:00-12:00- The Royal Oak, Wootton Rivers**