**February 2016 – bulletin 2**

**Theft from Transit vans**

Police are warning of several recent break-ins of parked Transit vans at various locations across the East Riding including Pocklington and Market Weighton. Tools and equipment have been stolen. A poster is attached for your reference or to print off to use. You are asked to call 101 if you spot any suspicious activity/vehicles in your area.

**Immobilise Property Register (www.immobilise.com)**

A website recommended by Humberside Police which is a property recording system searchable by all UK Police Forces. Free to register and use and allows Police to check recovered items and locate their owner. Suitable for e.g. cycles, mobile phones, tools, electricals and garden equipment.

**Scams**

A high number of reports of scams are being sent in by Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) groups. These include internet, telephone and door-to-door. The message is:

***Do not give bank/card details or passwords to anyone who calls or emails you.***

The most recent report was: “I have received a call from a villager saying that he had been called by someone claiming to be from the gas board and that his gas bill was renewable from today. He was asked for his Visa and banking details. He told the caller where to go and, sure enough, on checking it proved to be a scam.”

**2 in 1 Burglaries**

Two such burglaries occurred locally at the end of last month, the nearest being Market Weighton. This is where secure properties are broken into so that keys can be removed to enable vehicles to be stolen.

**Keeping your home secure**

Police have issued advice to prevent you becoming a victim of burglary. It is largely an opportunistic crime where the burglar has few obstacles to negotiate. Often, entry is gained via an insecure door or window.

Make your home look lived in by leaving a radio or light on a timer switch. Don’t make it obvious that you are away and don’t leave curtains closed during the daytime. Perhaps a trusted neighbour can close them for you in the evening.

Keep doors and windows locked even when at home and keep valuables and keys out of view. Avoid leaving tools or ladders in the garden which a burglar may use.

If property is stolen, make sure you can describe it by keeping photos, serial numbers and descriptions of make, model etc. Better still, use the Immobilise Property Register described above.