*Dear Residents* **July** **2016 – bulletin 7**

**Crime reports**

Now that the warmer weather is with us, local Police are warning of potential sneak thieves. Muggy nights mean we are liable to leave windows open. While in the garden, we may be out of sight of our unlocked door, perhaps absorbed in mowing the lawn or cutting the hedge. Maybe the garage doors are wide open whilst busy elsewhere or the car windows are left open for ventilation. This is just what the opportunist thief is looking for and we need to ensure we don’t make his day.

More detail can be found in the “On the Beat” page in the Pocklington Post (available at The Old Bus Stop at Burnby) and on the Parish Council website (see above). Drop-In Surgeries are at Pocklington Library on 10 August (10am – 12 noon) and 19 September (2pm – 4pm). PCSO Mike Simpson will be there to discuss community issues and crime prevention advice.

**Potholes**

It is good to see that the promised dressing work in Hayton has been completed. We await similar attention to the short stretch from Railway Cottages to the T junction in Burnby. It looks like we will be reporting potholes for some time yet and an easy way is to go to the Parish Council website and follow the link (*www.haytonandburnbypc.co.uk/home.aspx*).

**The Little Book of Big Scams**

A number of copies of this very informative booklet have been deposited in the Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) section of The Old Bus Stop at Burnby for our use. It is the third and latest edition and has all we need to know to protect ourselves. Many thanks to Sara for arranging this initiative.

**Warnings from the national Neighbourhood Watch network**

**(a) Olympic Games in Rio ticketing fraud** – the games begin 6 August and tickets are available from the Rio 2016 ticket offices. The list of authorised sellers is at [*www.rio2016.com*](http://www.rio2016.com). Also, tickets no longer needed can be sold through Rio 2016 website for 100% reimbursement if the tickets are re-sold.

**(b) Fake letter boxes** – the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) has noticed an increase in reports of fraudsters placing fake letter boxes on residential properties to try to harvest the mail. The resident may be unaware before the box is removed again along with the contents. The mail is used to open lines of credit in the innocent resident’s name. If a victim of identity fraud, consider Cifas Protection Registration at [*www.cifas.org.uk/protective*](http://www.cifas.org.uk/protective)*registrationform*.

**(c) Holiday booking fraud -** bogus travel companies lure customers with low prices and “one time only” offers too good to pass up and request payment by direct bank transfer. No reputable company will use this method. Do not respond to unsolicited calls, texts or emails offering incredibly low prices. Pay for your holiday by credit card to take advantage of its protection and look for “https” and the locked padlock icon in the address bar before entering payment details. If booking your flight/holiday via an agent, feel free to check with the airline/hotel directly that your booking does exist.

Anyone affected can go direct to Action Fraud (0300 123 2040; *www.actionfraud.police.uk*).

*Robert Mills*