



Over the past few months the Parish Council have received a lot of comments and concerns from residents about an apparent rise in the number of burglaries and thefts within the parish.

Any crime is awful and though the Parish Council has no statutory responsibility or authority around policing or crime prevention we fully recognise the concerns of the community with regards to these matters.

Going forward the Parish Council recognises more can be done, especially to deter burglary and theft. Working with the Police we have studied a number of other communities to identify the actions they have undertaken to successfully reduce these types of crimes. The one solution that stood out as being a successful and affordable solution for a Parish Council to roll out was the community wide use of Smartwater.

Smartwater is an invisible, non-toxic substance that can be permanently applied to anything you own. It can be easily detected by a special pen that is carried by most Police and enforcement officers. Each bottle of Smartwater produced is absolutely unique to your address allowing your items to be traced back to you. The most successful Smartwater schemes are those where every home in a community uses a unique kit registered to them. This approach proved very successful in places such as Cleobury Mortimer where burglaries have fallen by more than 60 percent after the Smartwater roll out.

To ensure success everyone in the parish needs to participate. As such, the Parish Council are in the process of purchasing enough Smartwater kits to supply every home in Clent without charge.

More details about the distribution and use of Smartwater will be provided closer to the roll out date.

In the meantime if you are suspicious that a crime is being committed in Clent please help your community and contact West Mercia Police to report it. In an emergency use 999. However or less urgent matters please ring 101.