



Dartmoor Forest Parish Council

Anti social behaviour/dangerous driving

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Surveillance Camera Project

24th November 2020 – Part 1

Project Update

Project sub-group: Cllrs. Stones, Manning & King, Parish Clerk.



Anti-social behaviour Issue:

- During snowy & icy conditions the parish of Dartmoor Forest, and in particular the village of Princetown, is visited at night, by car drivers who use the conditions to race their cars, perform stunts and drive significantly in excess of safe, legal speeds. This anti-social behaviour endangers the people, property and peaceful existence of the parish.
- This activity has significantly affected Princetown over a number of decades.



Background to CCTV Scheme

- In June 2018, to try and understand the scale and impact of the issue, the parish council surveyed local residents and received over 40 responses which demonstrated the level of disruption and concern this behaviour caused.
- The parish council then presented the results to representatives of Devon County Council Highways, West Devon Borough Council (WDDBC), Devon and Cornwall Police and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall (OPCC). The objective was for them to understand the impact of this anti-social behaviour and explore what could be done to significantly reduce this behaviour.



High Level Scheme:

- Devon and Cornwall Police advise that they will always try and attend to reports of this behaviour, however there are often many other urgent calls that they need to prioritise. They also have significantly less resources available.
- However, if the Police have evidence of cars being driven dangerously then they can take the matter further.
- In addition, WDBC can also issue 'Community Protection Notices'. These are written warnings, issued to drivers of vehicles reported to be causing nuisance, anti-social and sub-criminal behaviour.



High Level Scheme:

- The information about cars driving dangerously could be reported by members of the community. However, this can place residents at risk, especially in dark and dangerous driving conditions.
- During discussions with Devon & Cornwall Police, the OPCC and WDBC it was agreed that a CCTV/Surveillance Camera operation could act as an effective deterrent.
- The information recorded on CCTV could either be accessed directly by the Police and WDBC, or downloaded by the Parish Council and passed onto them for follow up action.
- The use of CCTV would need to be reinforced by strong governance arrangements, highly visible signage and an effective, ongoing communications strategy.



Project Requirements:

- Permissions – from relevant authorities
- Consultation – with local community and other interested parties
- Governance – to ensure that system is used legally and correctly
- Specialist Contractor – to install and maintain system
- Finance – to fund and maintain any solution



Permissions:

- Planning – Chris Hart, DNPA Planning, has advised verbally that planning permission will not be required. However, all solutions propose that cameras are sited on the Visitor's Centre. This is a Historic Building and therefore any installation will need to be sited sensitively. Planning will need to approve this. However, it does not require a formal planning application.
- DNPA – have given permission as tenants of the Visitor's Centre for cameras to be sited on the building if owner, Duchy of Cornwall, approves.
- Duchy of Cornwall – Tom Stratton has confirmed that the Duchy permit the cameras to be sited on the Visitor's Centre.



Consultation:

- Community – the Parish Council wrote to all Princetown households in December 2018 and notified residents that the council were considering a CCTV solution.
- Community – the Parish Council held a consultation drop in event to gauge resident's opinions. This was attended by 4 parish councillors and 2 members of the public.
- Community – propose that an update on the project is provided on the council's website and Facebook page.
- Devon & Cornwall Police – Inspector Sloman, West Devon Sector Inspector, has reconfirmed his support for the project.
- WDPC – John Ward, ASB Officer has previously expressed his support for the project. Clerk due to discuss on 23rd Nov.



Governance:

- Significant governance obligations when installing and using a surveillance camera solution.
- Regulated by the Surveillance Camera Commissioner:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/surveillance-camera-commissioner>
- Key actions & documents to review:
 - Registration of system with Devon & Cornwall Police & ICO
 - Surveillance Camera Commissioner Buyer's Toolkit (completed)
 - Surveillance Camera Commissioner's Code of Conduct
- Key documents that DFPC must produce:
 - Risk Assessment (completed)
 - Data Protection Impact Assessment
 - Operational Requirements
 - Operating Manual

Adverse event (threat)	Likelihood	Impact	Risk rating (Likelihood x impact)	Control Measures	Comment
Noise and disturbance to local community caused by anti-social driving	4	4	16	Public call the Police to report the incidents, however they rarely are able to attend at the time. Police have written to registered owners of vehicles that are reported driving anti-socially.	This has been an ongoing issue for many years. Please see DFPC survey for further evidence of impact.
Criminal damage to property caused by anti-social driving	4	4	16	Public call the Police to report the incidents, however they rarely are able to attend at the time. Police have written to registered owners of vehicles that are reported driving anti-socially which has had some impact.	No evidence of damaged vehicles or property, however due to the speed and behaviour of vehicles being driving dangerously there is a strong likelihood this could happen.
Personal injury or loss of life to perpetrators or members of the public caused by anti-social driving	3	5	15	Public call the Police to report the incidents, however they rarely are able to attend at the time. Police have written to registered owners of vehicles that are reported driving anti-socially.	Public have reported how unsafe they feel, either in their own homes or driving through the village, when this behaviour is occurring.
Lack of available Police resources to visit scene to witness or stop anti-social driving at time it is committed	5	4	20	Devon and Cornwall Police advise they will try and attend to incidents, however there are often many other urgent calls that they need to prioritise. They have not been able to attend any incidents in recent years.	The level of Police resources in West Devon is not expected to increase in the short to medium term.
Lack of ability to investigate an incident due to lack of evidence	4	4	16	Without reliable eyewitness or surveillance camera footage the Police are limited on what further action they can take.	
Lack of ability to record incidents due to dark and adverse weather conditions.	4	4	16	Members of the public have recorded the necessary information for the Police to write to owners of vehicles. However, need to consider the risk of injury or confrontation if witnessing dangerous driving in potentially dark, snowy & icy conditions.	
Scores for likelihood and impact	1	2	3	4	5
	Very low	Low	Medium	High	Very high



Commercial:

- It is proposed that due to the confidential nature of the commercial proposals that require review that this is discussed by the Council in Part 2 of the meeting.