

Elford Parish Council

Elford Parish Council, having discussed Smartwater with the Police, neighbourhood watch and other parishes, think Smartwater is a very good deterrent against crime and would like to pass this opportunity to all Elford households. Please read the following from neighbourhood watch and make up your own mind. If you would like to take this opportunity up, please fill in the form below and post it into the Parish Council post box with your cheque for £20.00 made out to 'Lichfield District Neighbourhood Watch Association'. The Parish Council will send off for the Smartwater on your behalf to ensure the discounted rate, see below, and when you have received it, with full instructions on how to use it, you register your unique bottle to your address with Smartwater directly, and neighbourhood watch will also keep you aware of relevant incidents.



You may be aware of the crime-prevention product Smartwater, this is used in two ways:

1. Smartwater can be used to mark any property (including jewellery, electrical items, phones, bikes, tools etc.) with a permanent code, visible under uv light. Every single bottle of Smartwater is unique, registered to a single address.
2. Smartwater spray is used in vulnerable premises and when active in a burglary sprays any intruder with Smartwater, which will not wash off, and links them to that crime.

A police-led operation to mark property in hundreds of homes in the Stonnall and Shenstone areas is proving successful. Several other areas in the Lichfield District are also using it. Criminals are known to be very wary of any properties where Smartwater is in use, Staffordshire Police are enforcing this message by routinely scanning property, anyone arrested is now automatically scanned for Smartwater spray when they enter custody suites and routine checks are made at car boot sales with a uv pen on the lookout for stolen goods.

Smartwater is available to members of the public to mark their own property – however it can be expensive, the costs are normally £60 per house plus an annual administration fee, however, as a member of neighbourhood watch, we are making this available at a one off cost of £20 per household, with no annual charge. This provides sufficient property-marking liquid for all your property (you only use a tiny amount), plus stickers to display on doors or windows. A lamppost sign will also be provided, showing that Smartwater is in use in the area where a minimum of 10 addresses are protected. The stickers and signs themselves are believed to be a significant deterrent. The impact of having several neighbouring homes protected, or ideally whole roads or areas, has been shown nationally to not only reduce burglaries, but other crime as well. We understand, some insurance companies offer a discount on household policies where Smartwater is in use.

Staffordshire Police is sufficiently confident in the impact of this product that all officers are being issued with uv torches to search for evidence, for example every time a suspect vehicle is stopped. All custody suites are also equipped with uv lights. However, it is quite possible that offenders may be displaced from areas where Smartwater is in use, to areas where it is not.

If you are interested in taking up this offer, and taking positive action to reduce the likelihood of crime in our area, please return the slip below.

I am interested in the Smartwater scheme in our area. Please register my details below as a member of Neighbourhood Watch, so I am kept aware of relevant incidents.

Name.....

Address.....

Email..... Phone.....