

Rolvenden Neighbourhood Watch report for 24 April 2025 Rolvenden Annual Parish meeting

Apologies that I could not attend the last 2 Parish Council meetings. Thank you to residents for your help in looking after yourselves, your family and friends. We all need to work together to keep our community safe. The most important message is to be vigilant and report crime (details at the end of the article). Information can also be found in my regular Parish Magazine articles.

Report from 20 March 25 meeting updated below – this will be detailed in the Parish magazine

Further to a member of the public reporting anti-social behaviour at the council meeting on 20 February 2025: pellets smashing a window, likely to be catapulting; I passed this on to Ashford Neighbourhood Watch volunteer, Peter New. He met with one local MP and has requested another meeting. This problem persists across the whole Ashford district area including villages. I encourage you to sign this petition:

Make the sale of catapults/ammunition and carrying catapults illegal

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/701064>

Update: At the time of writing (24 April 25), it has over 21,000 votes which means there will be a government response. Please sign and share widely with friends and family.

If you see anyone using a catapult, report it with the date, day, time, location, information about the culprits: gender, approximate age, physical description (height, weight, hair colour, complexion, including any special features, clothes and if there were any other witnesses.

Once you sign the petition, you will receive an email to verify your signature.

E-scooters

These are classed as motor vehicles under the Road Traffic Act 1988. This means the rules that apply to motor vehicles, also apply to e-scooters including the need to have a licence and insurance.

If you own an e-scooter, you can only use it on private land, such as in a garden but you must have the permission of the landowner to do so.

If you see anyone riding an e-scooter on the pavement or road, please report this.

Further advice regarding e-scooters is available via the link below:

<https://www.kent.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/rs/road-safety/advice-escooters/>

Ongoing and new Fraud/Scams to be aware of

Information in my monthly Rolvenden Parish magazine article and sent to Rolvenden Neighbourhood Watch members.

Investment scam

Ticket fraud

Romance scams

Blue badge scams

Rogue traders – be wary of cold callers

Charity fraud

HMRC scams

Voice cloning to commit fraud

Courier fraud (posing as police officers)

QR code scams (search for this in your browser rather than scanning a QR code)

Bank branch closure scam

Stop! Think Fraud campaign. Always report

Action

If you think that you may have been a victim of this or any other type of scam, then contact your Bank immediately, which you can do by calling 159 and report it to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or call 0300 123 2040.

Remember our **scam awareness message** of **ABC** and **Never Assume** or **Never Believe a call** is genuine and **Always Confirm**. If you get a call from a company, always ring them back via a trusted number and confirm that the offer is genuine.

Reporting crime to the police

Serious crimes in progress dial 999, other incidents via 101 (phone) or online using Live chat: <https://www.kent.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us/>

Hearing or speech impairments. If you are deaf or have a speech impairment and you've pre-registered with the emergency SMS service, you can use the textphone service: 18000 or text 999.

Siân Reeves (Rolvenden Neighbourhood Watch)