

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Good news again, **as far as I am aware**, there has, once again, been no physical crime carried out in the village this year, ie. thefts, assault, damage, robbery etc. This means, as far as the police are concerned, Melbury still has a 0% Crime Rate.

However, there have been many and varied attempted scams, arriving either by email, text or telephone. The type of scams this year have included:

Council Tax/Energy Rebate Scam – access to bank details via need for Direct Debit

Email from ‘Friend’ – confirming email address

Remote Access Scam - something wrong with your computer, needing Microsoft Expert assistance via remote access

Parcel Delivery Scam - access to bank details via need for additional payment for delivery

Covid Vaccination Scam – private appointment, therefore access to bank details

Covid Passport Scam – fast track access to Covid Passport – access to bank details

TV Licence Scam – TV licence has run out – access to bank details

Amazon Prime – unexpected costs appeared on your account – access to bank details

Bank Account in Danger Scam – move money to ‘Safe’ account - access to bank details

Some of these are repeats from last year – see below:

TV Licence – Licence Expiry - This netted the scammers, nationally, £5.3 million!

Post Office – Underpaid Package Postage/Missed Package Delivery

Amazon Prime – Money taken out of account or Subscription Expiry

National Insurance Number – Fraud Scam/Money Laundering

Covid Passport – 40,000 suspicious emails have been reported re: Covid, either passport or jab!

Covid Jab appointments – speedy appointments bought privately.

Bank Accounts – money taken out of accounts, checking it is account holder. Account holder asked to move money to ‘safe’ account to protect contents.

There have also been NW Warnings re:Catalytic Converter Thefts, Dog Thefts and Thefts from Churches – nearest one to us was Corscombe and it was, thankfully, only ‘Attempted’.

The 'Little Book of Big Scams 5', displayed alongside the NW Membership Form in the NW Noticeboard at the Village Hall, was originally ordered for residents with no access to email. However, if anyone would like a copy, please let me know. (83745) or go online, link below;

http://www.melburyosmond.co.uk/Homewatch_2746.aspx

I'm sure there were more, but this gives you a flavour of the extent and breadth of the deceptions! All of these have been received by Melbury Residents to a lesser or greater degree.

Thank you to those residents who reported scams to me so I could share to others.

SERCS – SUSPICIOUS EMAIL REPORTING SERVICE – report@phishing.gov.uk have removed 43,000 Scams and 84,000 malicious websites!

There have been 5.8 million suspicious emails posted up to 9/6/21

Scam Texts can be forwarded to 7726.

Frauds can be reported to Action Fraud.

I forwarded an email on 9/6/21 containing all this information.

Anna Roxburgh

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator

14/6/22