

Levington and Stratton Hall Parish Council

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme Membership
Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch Association

Notes from Cllr Sarah Adams received from the Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch Association

“Neighbourhood Watch thrives through engagement of communities, so the main objective is to encourage your residents to join your scheme. It’s all free, so that will hopefully attract membership.

The benefits for registering go beyond just house insurance, a flavour of these can be seen via the [national neighbourhood watch website](#).

To register please go to <https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/joinNW> and follow the onscreen prompts. At this stage you can also set up your scheme as well.

Once you are registered and your scheme set up, I am called upon to approve your scheme. When I approve schemes, we make the Community Policing Team for your area aware. At the same time you should receive a welcome pack via PDF.

Your Community Policing Team is S16 (Martlesham & Orwell). More information can be found [here](#).

It’s entirely up to you how your scheme would operate, and if appropriate you could include or keep separate the Stratton Hall area. Having “deputies” might enable you to cover different parts of the two parishes, but this depends on how you decide to manage the scheme.

Some examples:

You might want to choose to publish your scheme details and encourage people to join via the parish newsletter on your website, or perhaps you might wish to

set up a WhatsApp group or information channel and publicise this to the residents.

You may just want to set up other social media apps to help share information, or you could well decide that holding occasional meetings face to face might work better even. It's really up to you, so no right or wrong way.

Once you register your scheme you can add this sort of detail to your "about this scheme" information, and include references and links to websites, social media etc.

Above all though, we do recommend promoting your scheme and asking your parish residents to join via registration with Neighbourhood Watch. This gives you another method to engage with them, as a benefit of the Alert system is that as the main coordinator you can send messages to your members using the available online tools.

By registering they will all receive messages and information from any of the Neighbourhood Watch Alert partners they choose - such as Trading Standards, Action Fraud, Police etc.

With members registered, it enables future proofing for your scheme. Read the toolkit [here](#). "