

## Appendix 4 – reported incidents from local residents

**Subject:** 999 call on St James Mews - 12/05/10

Hi,

My elderly neighbour has asked me to forward this incident on his behalf as he doesn't have access to e-mail

On Wednesday 12th May at around 23:00, he noticed a group of youths systematically trying car door handles from the cars parked outside the house's that are offset from the street directly behind my property on St Mary's Park Approach

My Neighbour called '999' and officers responded within 10 minutes, however the youths were last seen walking towards St James Mews and the ginnel that leads to the 'heights'.

Thanks

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**Subject:** [SPAM( 7 )]Quad Bike and Youths

Hi,

At around 17:00 tonight around nine youths aged between 16 and 22 years old, enter the street drinking and swearing. Two of the youths were on a Quad bike riding through the park area on 'St Mary's Park Approach'. The youths parked on the 'triangle' of grass next to 17 St Mary's Park Approach and then proceeded to walk down St James Mews and through the ginnel.

About 15 minutes later the youths walked back from the ginnel and left the street via the access road at the side of the 'Travellers pub'. None of the youths riding the quad were wearing helmets or had any regard for the children on the street.

Thanks

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**Subject:** [SPAM( 7 )]RE: Ginnel Closure St James' Mews

Hi Alison,

Thanks for the attached letter, I am currently in the process of compiling some of the incidents of anti-social behaviour that have occurred, in recent months / weeks. In order to give you some background in relation to our current situation, I have also passed on your e-mail details to other residents in the street as they have expressed an interest in contacting you directly.

Below are details of an incident that occurred in January of this year, this incident was very upsetting for my two children and involved youths encroaching on my property and examining the contents of both my 'green dustbin' and also that of the resident at 1 St James Mews.

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January – Group of youths walking around estate around 20:00

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January – Between 18:30 – 20:00 around seven to nine youths aged between about 11 and 16/17 entered the estate mainly by the footpath that leads over the railway bridge to the 'Heights Estate'. They seem to mainly congregate around the entrance to the park area on St Mary's park Approach. The youths were running through gardens, swearing and shouting at other individuals walking through the street. The youths were also throwing snowballs at houses this was especially frightening I guess to the elderly individuals that live

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in the bungalows opposite the park. All the youths were wearing tracksuit bottoms and hoodies. The youths kept separating into groups of two's or three's and looking at car's and houses on the street. The youths left around 20:00. I contacted the police however nobody was in the area on that evening.

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January – A group of four youths entered the street at 18:30 from the above footway and turned left from St James Mews onto St Mary's Park Approach. They approached one of the house's that is set back from the street that had no lights on and then were looking for a way round the back. After a minute they continued down St Mary's Park Approach.

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January - Between 18:30 – 20:00 around seven to nine youths aged between about 11 and 16/17 entered the estate mainly by the footpath from the railway bridge. Again they seem to mainly congregate around the entrance to the park area on St Mary's park Approach. The youths were running through gardens, swearing and shouting at other individuals walking through the street. In addition the youths were going through the 'Green Bins' that had been left out for collection the following day. And one youth walked across the road put his hood up and bent down at the side a car and it looked like he was messing with hub cap / wheel. The youths seem to be getting more confident every time that they visit the street. Every time a car approached the youths would again disperse. At 20:00 all the youths left again, I again called the police twice and although I was informed that someone was on route nobody arrived.

Thanks once again for your assistance in this area Alison, I look forward to hearing from you soon

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**Subject:** [SPAM( 7 )]St James Mews - example of anti-social behaviour

Hi Alison,

On the morning of Wednesday 17th February 2010, I went to move my bins to the side of the road as a collection was due that day, as i moved the first bin i noticed that hiding behind the bin were a 'crow bar' and a 'jemmy bar'. What was strange was that these had not been thrown as if someone was in a hurry or had been disturbed. But had been placed up against the wall as if whoever had placed them was planning on returning.

I contacted the Police community office in Armley to advise of the above and for the Police to arrange collection as the items could have been used in previous crimes. The person i spoke to advised that someone would collect them that evening, The next morning nobody had collected the items so i called the Police again only this time to be informed that as they hadn't been used to damage my property the Police weren't interested and i could keep them. The items are currently located in my garage.

Two days later a house three doors away was broken into at 16:00, and the youths ran off through the ginnel to the 'Heights estate'. It is reasonable to suggest that the items above were placed behind my bins by the same individuals that used to ginnel to escape that committed the break-in.

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**Subject:** [SPAM( 7 )]St James Mews theft and youths

Hi,

Just wanted to let you know regarding a theft from my neighbours garden 47 St

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Marys Park Approach. My neighbour has been on holiday for the past two weeks on his return he noticed that part of his water fountain in his back garden has been stolen. The occupants neighbour at 1 St James Mews noticed everything was fine on the Thursday evening however the next day he noticed part of the water feature missing, this happened the same day as the slates were taken from the house opposite.

The owner at 47 St Mary's Park approach is going to report the incident in the next couple of days and will be attending the next 'PACT' meeting with myself on the 21st June.

Also on Saturday night the owner noticed three youths with a dog stood at the side of his house 47 st mary's park approach - it was evening and raining very heavily. when the youths saw that my neighbour had seen them after about 10 minutes the youths left via the ginnel to the heights estate.

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**Subject:** [SPAM( 7 )]St James Mews

Hi Alison,

On Friday 16th April at around 23:00, i was disturbed by swearing and a dog barking outside. I looked out of the window to see three youths aged between 18 and 22 walking through the street, from the direction that they were walking it was obvious that they had come from the ginnel that leads from the heights estate. The youths were accompanied my a large dog. As the youths walked through the street they were looking at cars and walking across the gardens opposite my house one of the youths then threw a can of beer on the garden of one of the residents. The youths then walked off through the estate.

The following evening Saturday 17th April 2010, at 18:30 four youths aged between 18 and about 20 walked through St James mews onto St Mary's Park Approach, it was obvious that the youths had used the ginnel from the 'Heights estate' from the direction that they were walking. The youths stopped at the end of St James Mews and threw four empty cans of lager on the street and a used packet of cigs. The youths were swearing and spitting as they were walking. The youths then left in the direction of the 'Travellers pub'.

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**Subject:** [SPAM( 8 )]St James Mews

Hi Alison,

An elderly Resident who lives at 47 St Mary's Park Approach has asked me to inform you of an incident that happened last September. This is an elderly Lady who lives alone and is currently recovering from treatment for cancer, the above incident was witnessed by myself.

About 20:00 one evening a gang of around six youths entered St James Mews from the Ginnel that leads from the 'Heights estate. Two of the youths knocked on this individuals door while the rest of the group looked as though they had bent down and were hiding round the corner against her fence. The youths informed the resident that someone was trying to set fire to her fence and that she needed to come and have a look, however luckily the lady realised that the youths were trying to gain access to her house (hoping that the lady would leave her door open and go look at the fence). After suffering some verbal abuse the lady shut the door, the youths then tried to set the fence on fire and the damage caused is still visible now. The gang then ran of back through the ginnel.

It is very fortunate that both the lady didn't leave her house as i am convinced the youths would have entered and also lucky that the fence didn't cause an actual fire that could have easily spread.

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**Subject:** [SPAM( 7 )]St James Mews

Hi,

At 19:30 three youths aged between 13 & 15 ran very quickly passed the front of my property after entering the estate from the ginnel that leads from the 'Heights estate' about 30 seconds later my neighbour at 9 St James Mews chased after the youths who had run into the park on 'St Mary's Park Approach'. The youths had thrown or kicked an object at his front window and then ran off.

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**Subject:** St James Mews

Hello Mr Brady

I am a resident of St James Mews, Armely, Leeds 12 and I am emailing you with regard to the letter we received yesterday about the proposed fence to block off the end of the footpath between 21 & 28 St James Mews.

I actually live at number 28, and have for over 11 years and for us as a family this news could not be more welcomed!! The footpath between our house and 21 is a constant source of trouble for us. Youths spend many evenings gathered, sitting on the wall of number 21, being noisy, smoking and we have even had to remove needles from the footpath and from the side of our house in our actually grounds. Our wall (as you can see on the photo that is enclosed with the letter) is constantly being used as a 'blank page' for people to graffitti on. We have on odd occasions telephoned the police to come and remove these youths, but they go sometimes before the police actually arrive and run off down the path at the back of our house! It's very dark there and so a perfect 'breeding ground' for trouble makers. We have had garden furniture stolen, washing and eggs thrown numerous times at the conservatory to name but a few instances. My husband has had to put fencing up to protect our home!