

Unauthorised encampment North Street Playing Fields

This message is sent jointly from Theale Parish Council, Thames Valley Police, and West Berkshire District Council.

Thank you for your patience and tolerance over the last 48 hours. Most of you will be aware that following the use of S61 powers, and through engaging effectively, the trespassers on the encampments have now moved on with their vehicles, and have left Theale.

It has been a testing and challenging couple of days, and it is worthy of note that residents were professional enough to restrain from taking matters into their own hands and allow the proper processes to take place – even if these sometimes took longer than you would wish. The consequences of taking your own action could have been illegal and had long term impacts on the community.

This outcome has been reached through the Parish Council, Local Authority, Police and the Englefield Estate successfully and carefully working together.

Whilst we hope that it will not be necessary due to the same circumstances, we would encourage you in the future to check the Parish Council website and the Thames Valley Alerts the accurate messages and updates on what is happening. Whilst Social Media is fast and very appealing, it can also be inflammatory, and can be inaccurate or misleading on occasions.

Police have sent messages out on Thames Valley Alert – if you are not already signed up then please do via their website as the messages are tailored to a local area and will be factual.

Another joint message will be sent out soon to provide an update on target hardening being completed in Theale, together with other information to explain some of the processes that were used.

12th July 2018