

Case for the forming of a CCTV Owners' Alliance

The crime reports produced by GACC presents crime statistics within the Parish Boundary of Great Ashby.

FoGA suggest that the area within the Great Ashby Parish boundary forms only a part of the total residential area served by Great Ashby Way (**Area B**).

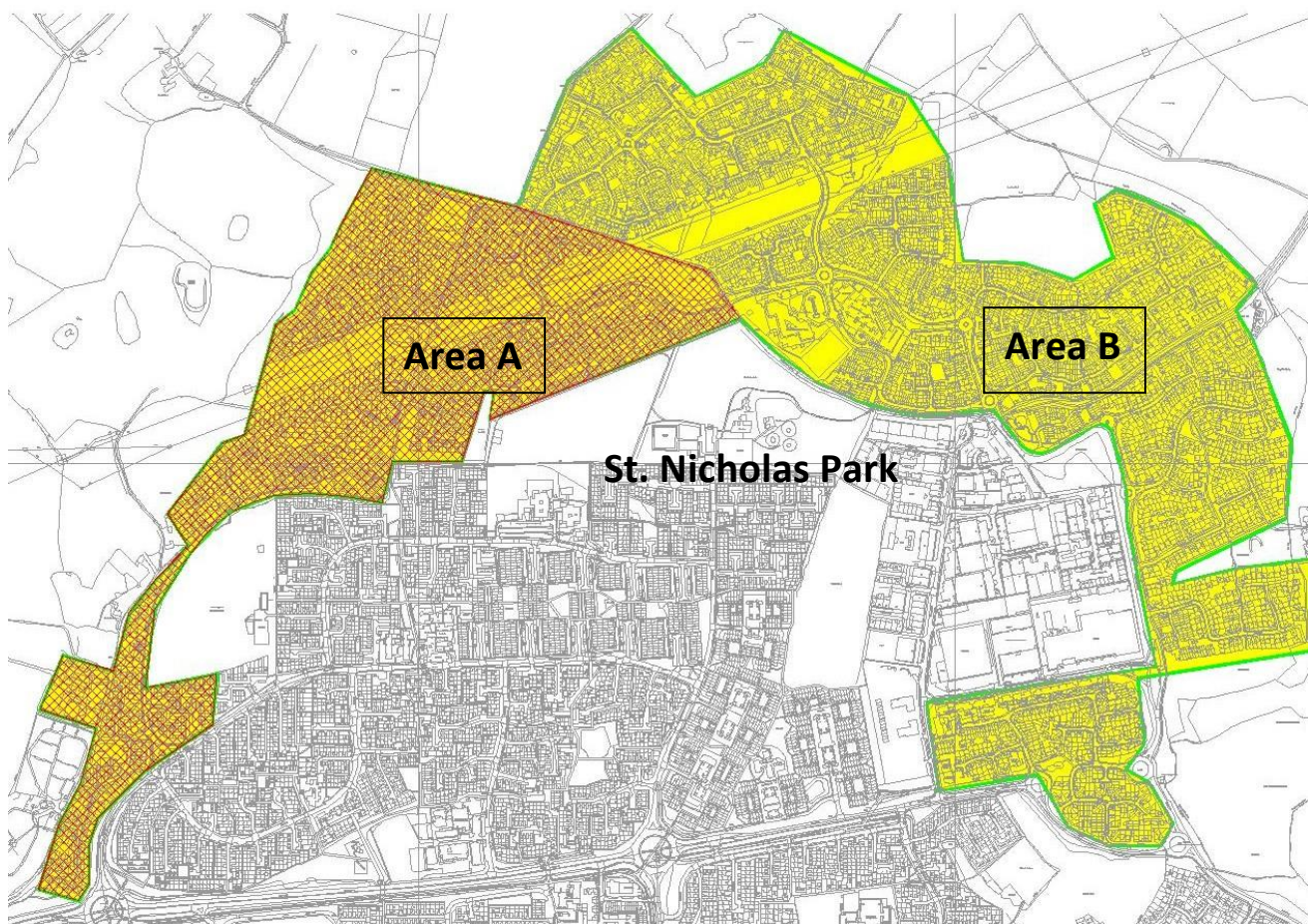
Beyond the SW boundary of Great Ashby Parish lie 22 streets, all of which are accessed from Great Ashby Way. These are:-

St David's Close, Manchester Close, Orwell Avenue, Newcastle Close, Middlesborough Close, Old Bourne Way, Severn Way, Tees Close, Rye Close, Dove Road, Kennett Way, Wensum Road, Dove Road, Kenmare Close, Riccat Lane, Humber Court, Avon Drive, Calder Way, Swale close, Bray Drive, Windrush Close, Tamar Close, Wansbeck Close and Cherwell Drive.

The total area of housing accessed via Great Ashby Way is 118 hectares (**AREA A + B**).

The area (**A**) excluded from the study is 40.43 hectares.

This means that **34%** of the whole residential area served by Great Ashby Way is unrepresented by the crime statistics in the report.



We would be better informed about crimes that take place across the Greater Great Ashby Area i.e. that is into to Woodfield and St Nicholas areas of Stevenage. This is because although Great Ashby is policed as part of Hitchin Rural, Great Ashby is on the edge and forms part of the larger conurbation that is Stevenage.

Although it is clear from another examination of local crime statistics that a larger number of crimes are reported in the Stevenage North area than in Great Ashby area FoGA believe that we should all be more interested in crime prevention than fixating on a notional diving line between political and administrative areas.

Sadly, higher crime areas are not separated from great Ashby by a Trump-style fence whether we like it or not and we have to live with that fact, so it seem petty to adopt an 'I'm all right Jack' attitude to worrying incidents around us.

FoGA argue that residents on both sides of the boundary should feel protected from harm and theft and if that means that we need to encourage cross-boundary cooperation then FoGA see that as a worthwhile goal.

The FoGA proposal is that GACC engage with police serving the two local regions to gauge their interest in a CCTV Alliance of registered voluntary private CCTV owners prepared to share data with the police to fight and solve crimes. FoGA have approached our local police officer PC Pugsley for that purpose.

If successful, FoGA would expect police to assist residents interested in installing CCTV by providing guidance on correct and legal CCTV installation for data collection. For our part, GACC could engage with local installers to negotiate a discount for multiple installation orders.

Given more time to prepare FoGA can plot the locations of crimes in the area on this map.

In the meantime, a copy of the housing area plan is posted together with an analysis which show April 2020 crime based on density of population rather than space. The main areas of Great Ashby are similar to St Nicholas in terms of crime incidence, with crimes reported in Pryor's Wood appearing in the Stevenage Statistics.

Planning for the additional conurbation of Great Ashby through GA1 and GA2 would seem to make sense.

FoGA 30/05/2020.

