

Appeal - Were you a witness?

It has been reported to us that on the morning of Sunday 17th May 2020 at around 10:45-11:00am, a gentleman was shouted and sworn at in Sence Valley Forest Park, Ibstock by a male and a female after trying to encourage them to put their dog on a lead around some nesting swans.

Were you at this location around this time and did you see or hear anything that was possibly connected with this incident? If so, please make contact with us on 101 quoting reference number 20*259449 and raise it for the attention of PC 237 Emma HOLMES from our Rural Crime Team or respond to this message.

Unfortunately this isn't the first incident reported to us regarding dogs being loose around wildlife and this is of concern to us. For those of you who aren't familiar with The Countryside Code it states the following -

When you take your dog into the outdoors, always ensure it does not disturb wildlife, farm animals, horses or other people by keeping it under effective control.

This means that you:

- keep your dog on a lead, or
- keep it in sight at all times, be aware of what it's doing and be confident it will return to you promptly on command
- ensure it does not stray off the path or area where you have a right of access

Special dog rules may apply in particular situations, so always look out for local signs –

For further guidance regarding keeping your dogs under effective control, please view - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code/the-countryside-code>

NW RURAL CRIME TEAM