

**Anti-Crime Initiative For Church Aston & Longford** - the Parish Council has joined forces with West Mercia Police and Smartwater Limited to launch a 'free' anti-crime initiative in Church Aston & Longford.

The Parish Council is funding this project and therefore every household in Church Aston and Longford is eligible for a Smartwater Kit with roll-out of the initiative starting on 9<sup>th</sup> February (more details below).

Smartwater is a forensically coded liquid provided in a small container (about the size of an eyeliner bottle). Each container is uniquely identifiable so that if any of your prized possessions are stolen a simple test will trace the item(s) back to your address. The system has proved hugely successful in recovering stolen items but more importantly in deterring theft in the first place.

The kits include the Smartwater liquid, instructions for use, stickers to show that individual items are marked, and stickers to display in your windows so that callers know you are using Smartwater.

#### **Where can I get my 'free' Smartwater kit?**

One Smartwater kit will be issued and registered per household and may be collected from Church Aston Church Hall at the following times / dates:-

- 10.00 am till 12.00 noon on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2019
- 10.00 am till 12.00 noon on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2019
- 10.00 am till 12.00 noon on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2019
- 6.30 pm till 8.00 pm on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2019

In order to verify your eligibility we are asking you to **bring along a household bill or similar to provide proof of address.**

Finally, if you know of someone that is eligible but who may not be able to personally collect their Smartwater Kit due to age, infirmity or disability then please let us know and we will make special arrangements to ensure they can benefit from the scheme.

**New Multi-Use Games Facility Completed** - a new ball court facility widely consulted on by the Parish Council has been completed earlier than anticipated, and it has proved a bit hit with local youngsters.

Most of the funding for this initiative came from Telford & Wrekin Council Section 106 Planning Conditions applied to several new local housing developments with a contribution by Church Aston Parish Council and this helped make the project viable.

Pictured below at a recent formal opening of the new facility are Parish Cllr Paul Evans, Borough Cllr Andrew Eade, Parish Cllr Brian Richards, Borough Cllr John Minor and APT Group Project lead Derek Owen.

Ball court lining of the new facility and grass seeding of surrounding areas are to be completed in the spring once the weather has improved.

The Parish Council are now exploring options to fund community events and organised sports on the facility this coming summer.



**Dog Fouling Problem Returns** - whilst there are a few issues of dogs fouling on footways in Church Aston village during the summer months the problem frequently increases during the cold, dark winter evenings.

The Parish Council urge all dog owners to be responsible and to fulfil their obligations to clean up after their dog(s).

Meanwhile a range of enforcement options are being considered, along with joint initiatives to catch offenders.