Doorstep parcel theft – advice from the police

Doorstep parcel theft – Prevention Advice

STOP DOORSTEP PARCEL THEFT

Don't Let Thieves Take What You've Paid For

With the continued growth of online shopping, theft of parcels left unattended outside homes has become an increasingly common crime. Most offenders are opportunistic and target parcels that are visible and easily accessible.

Some examples of parcel theft include:

· Several parcels with a value of approximately £400 are left on a doorstep, victim returns home later in the day to discover the parcels have been stolen
· Parcel delivered to an address and is left by the bins for 2 days. Unknown suspect takes the parcel
· Suspect enters a garden and steals a parcel containing expensive clothing
· A parcel is stolen from a doorstep, with contents valued at £176

Taking a few simple precautions can significantly reduce the risk of becoming a victim.

BEFORE YOU ORDER

 Choose a parcel locker, collection point or click-and-collect service for valuable items.
 Arrange delivery for a time when someone will be at home.
 Ask for deliveries to be sent to a trusted neighbour, family member or workplace where appropriate.

WHEN YOUR PARCEL IS DUE

 Use tracking services and delivery notifications to know when your parcel is arriving.
 Provide clear delivery instructions and identify a secure location out of public view if available.
 Collect deliveries as soon as possible after arrival.
 Avoid having parcels left openly on your doorstep or in communal areas,

IMPROVE YOUR HOME SECURITY

Consider:

 Video doorbells
 CCTV systems
 Motion-activated security lighting
 Secure parcel boxes

These measures can deter offenders, alert you to deliveries, and provide valuable evidence if a crime occurs.

SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY

Be a Good Neighbour

· Keep an eye on deliveries for neighbours when they are away.
· Report concerns and suspicious activity.
· Look out for people following delivery vehicles or checking doorsteps.

IF YOUR PARCEL IS STOLEN

· Contact the retailer and delivery company.
· Save tracking information and delivery photographs.
· Check CCTV, video doorbell footage or witness information.
· Report the theft to West Yorkshire Police online or via 101.
· Call 999 if the theft is happening at the time.

REMEMBER

TRACK IT • SECURE IT • COLLECT IT

Simple steps can prevent parcel theft and help keep West Yorkshire communities safe.

www.westyorkshire.police.uk | 101 | 999 Emergency Only

Planned road works in Collingham

Leeds City Council has advised us that road works to improve the junctions of the A659 with the A58 in Collingham are scheduled to begin on the **9th of November 2026.** Specifically these will be the A58 at Wattle Syke and at the A58 at Harewood Road. Traffic disruption at peak times is expected.

Leeds consultation on admissions to community and voluntary controlled schools

Leeds City Council is running a public consultation on the 2028/29 admission policy for Leeds community and voluntary controlled schools.

You can share your views until 2 December 2026.

Find out more at www.leeds.gov.uk/SchoolAdmissionsConsultations

Thank you in advance for your input, help and support.

Ilkley and District Motor Club Rally 24th and 25th October 2026

This rally event will pass through the parish of Harewood on the weekend of 24th and 25th October 2026. The Ilkley and District Motor Club have held the Ilkley Jubilee Historic Rally since 1991. The route covers around 200 miles of North and West Yorkshire and there will be around 90 cars competing.

The first car should be passing from Arthington, passing through Weardley and Harewood, heading towards Wike from 18:55 hours on Saturday 24 October 2026. Cars will continue to pass at minute intervals for approximately 90 minutes.

The annual event attracts entries from as far away Scotland, Wales and Devon, with vehicles ranging from vehicles manufactured in 1950's to more modern vehicles. Competitors are issued with basic navigational instructions which enable them to plot the correct route on Ordnance Survey maps. They then drive that route, maintaining pre-set average speeds of between 15 and 30 miles per hour. Manned time controls are located along the route and penalties are collected for arriving too early or too late at these controls, or missing them completely.

Harewood Parish Council has been asked to help ensure that the route is properly advertised and notifications are given to rural households and to villages. Each house which is on the competitive part of the route will be visited and provided with a leaflet outlining details of the event and the times that cars will be passing.

All residents near to the route are advised to be cautions when walking or exercising dogs etc.

The route from Weardley to Harewood is non-competitive.

If further information is required, please contact the event secretary, Claire Raven claireraven@outlook.com 07545 343048

An information leaflet about the rally can be accessed using the link below.

Ilkley Jubilee Rally

Emmerdale Planning Applications – Public Consultation

Planning applications are being prepared in connection with the continued filming of the television series at the Emmerdale Village Production Set and new arrangements for facilitating ‘ tours. The latter involves proposals for visitor’s cars to travel to the Emmerdale village and the discontinuation of the use of coaches which have led to problems on the narrow lanes.

Public Consultation exercises for both of the proposals are being held.

11th May 2026 – Harewood Village Hall 1pm to 4pm
12th May 2026 – Alwoodley Community Hall 4pm to 7pm

Further information may be found on ITV Studios Public Notice

and by visiting the Emmerdale Planning Proposals web site.

The problems caused by coaches through Weardley have been raised several times with Harewood Parish Council. ITV Studios hope that their proposals will alleviate the situation.

Wigton Moor Summer Band

Concert Sunday 26th July

Steel Concordia

Harewood Parish Council Summer Band concert in collaboration with Leeds City Council

Date – Sunday 26th July

Venue – Wigton Moor Primary School Barfield Crescent LS17 8RU

Time – 2.30pm – 4.30pm

Free entrance

Harewood Parish Council are delighted to welcome to Wigton Moor “Steel Concordia” Band, a steel band made up of professional members spanning over 40 years experience of steel pan passion in Leeds. Steel Concordia are a mix of teachers and seasoned players who have been performing in steel bands for years. They will be playing a selection of vibrant sounds with a Caribbean flavour for everyone young and old to enjoy. Bring a picnic and the family and enjoy a wonderful fun filled afternoon and remember it is FREE.



Learn more about the band – go to [Steel Concordia]

Jewellery / “Family Gold” Burglaries

West Yorkshire Police are currently seeing a rise in burglaries across Leeds where offenders are specifically targeting gold jewellery. With gold prices remaining high, this type of property has become a key target for organised burglars.

Offenders are mainly entering through rear doors or windows and heading straight for bedrooms to search for jewellery. Victim reports show that a significant number of those targeted in Leeds are from the Asian community, where family gold is often kept inside the home.

How to protect your home and valuables:

• Keep jewellery in a secure, fixed safe.

• Consider off site secure storage for high value or sentimental gold.

• Use alarms, CCTV, timer lights, and improved locks to deter offenders.

• Leave your home looking lived in if you are going out.

• Don’t show off any jewellery in social media posts.

• Report suspicious behaviour or vehicles in your local area.

If you see anything concerning, please call 101, or 999 if a crime is in progress.

Harewood Cemetery Plots

Taking account of the rate at which plots in the cemetery are being used, Councillors have resolved that from 1st April 2026, they will now only be available for use by persons living in the parish at the time of their death or recent death. This measure is to enable cemetery provision to be available for parish residents for the foreseeable future. Full size plots for burials have not been sold to non residents for some years. This decision suspends the sale to non residents of half and quarter sized plots used for the interment of cremated remains. The Council

will continue to make provision free of charge for ashes to be scattered in the memorial garden at the cemetery.

Yorkshire Water sewer repairs in Harewood

Yorkshire Water have provided the following information concerning their works which are currently requiring one way traffic management on the A61 immediately to the north of Harewood village.

> *Unfortunately, there is a blockage in the syphon sewer in the village of Harewood. In order to prevent pollution impacting the local watercourse and environment, we are tankering whilst conducting the needed remedial works.*
>
> *In order to conduct these essential works as safely and efficiently as possible, we are attending site under two-way traffic lights on the A61, enabling us to carry out the work on Fitts Lane Access Road.*
>
> *We do appreciate how disruptive traffic management measures can be and sincerely apologise for any inconvenience. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all local residents and road users for their continued patience. We are proactively looking to remove the traffic management measures as soon as it is safe to do so and they are no longer required, to improve traffic flow.*
>
> *Again, we apologise for any disruption and are working hard to resolve the issue, returning the sewer to normal operation, as swiftly as possible.*

Overnight Road Closure on A659 Harewood Road 16th – 17th January

Leeds City Council Forestry Department are planning to remove or prune the trees infected by Ash Dieback disease along A659 Harewood Road night closure on Saturday 17th January between 19.00 and 5.00 in the morning next day.

In order to carry out the works safely there will be full road closure in place on Harewood Road between junction with Lumby Lane and Crabtree Lane.

A diversion route will be available via:

- For eastbound traffic: A659 Harewood Road, A61 Harrogate Road, A6120 Ring Road Moortown, A6120 Ring Road Shadwell, A58 Wetherby Road, A58 Leeds Road, A659 Harewood Road
- For westbound traffic: A659 Harewood Road, A58 Main Street, A58 Wetherby Road, A58 Leeds Road, A6120 Ring Road Shadwell, A6120 Ring Road Moortown, A61 Harrogate Road, A659 Harewood Avenue

Essential access to properties and emergency access will be maintained at all times.

The location of the works is shown at link to

https://one.network/?tmi=GB42888281