

# Police hunt group of youths following fire at farm in Athelstaneford



Police are appealing for witnesses following a suspicious fire at a farm in Athelstaneford, East Lothian which took place around 9.05pm on Friday 27th July.

A grass verge next to a wheat field was set alight, resulting in the flames spreading to an area of around 30-40 metres squared.

As a result crops worth in excess of £100,000 were completely destroyed.

Inquiries are ongoing and officers are keen to trace a large group of youths aged between 16 and 19, who were seen in the area prior to the fire.

Constable Craig Purves from Haddington Police Station said: "While no one was injured as a result of this fire, the financial impact on the farm is likely to be devastating.

"We would urge anyone who can help us trace those responsible for this reckless act to contact police immediately.

“In addition, anyone with any further information relevant to this investigation should also get in touch.”

Those with information can contact Haddington Police Station via 101 and quote incident number 4512 of the 27th July. Alternatively, an anonymous report can be made to the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.