

NO JUSTICE FOR ELLIE

CPS decide not to proceed with theft case

By Ivor Story

A furious dad whose four-year-old daughter's wheelchair was destroyed after thieves torched the car in which it was stored has today slammed a decision by the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) to drop the case.

David Sherwood (35) of Shepton Green, Salperton branded the CPS "a disgrace" after lawyers decided not to prosecute two youths arrested in connection with the crime.

Last month we reported how Ellie Sherwood was left unable to leave her home after the car in which her wheelchair was being stored was stolen from outside Barclays Bank in Salperton on 6 January and then later set alight. Following an appeal by police a number

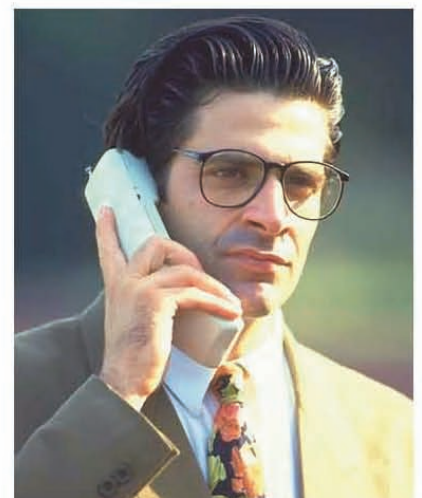
of witnesses, including Mr Sherwood, reported seeing two men driving the car along West Street shortly afterwards. The police arrested two people the following day in connection with the incident.

A file was passed to the Crown Prosecution Service, which has since decided not to charge the two suspects on the grounds that there was "insufficient evidence".

Let down

Mr Sherwood (35) of Shepton Green, Salperton said that the crime had "devastated their family" and they now feel let down by the criminal justice system.

He said "I can't believe it. I saw two youths steal my car with my daughter's wheelchair in the boot, they set fire to it and yet today we've found out no-one is going to be punished for the offence.



Mr Sherwood wants justice for Ellie

It's an absolute mockery of the criminal justice system.

"It feels like we've been robbed twice – once by the thieves who took Ellie's wheelchair and again by the CPS who have robbed us of the chance to see justice for Ellie."