





Neighbourhood Wardens' Monthly Report

June 2025 – Billingshurst Parish

A June update from your Neighbourhood Warden, Louisa Hull

Project Work

An exciting new update to the church garden at Trinity United Reformed Church.



On Saturday 14th June I was welcomed back to the Dementia Café, and I was joined by my colleague, Storrington Warden, Chris Poore. This year the church celebrates its 210th birthday and what a wonderful cake they had to mark the occasion.

During my visit I had an interesting conversation with Meredith who, knowing my involvement previously with the Pulborough Community Allotment, asked if I could assist them with a community project that they would like to start soon at the church – a new church garden. After some discussion it was thought that a sensory area, including lavender and herbs, would be a wonderful addition and also a small growing area for produce such as tomatoes, lettuce and cucumbers that could then be given to congregation members and Dementia Café attendees as well as the wider community. Raised beds made out of railway sleepers were thought to be an ideal addition.

It's an exciting project, which we hope local residents and businesses will also join in with.



The church garden as it is now

A reminder that the Dementia Cafe operates on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month in the hall at Trinity URC from 10.00am-12.00pm. More information can be found on their website: https://billingshursturc.co.uk/dementia%20cafe.html

Journey Support Group – The Depot, 83a High Street

The number of attendees to our Journey support group has sadly been low and, due to some warden staff changes and moves, it was decided to postpone our sessions. After speaking with a few local parents, I have decided to re-launch the group in September after the school summer holidays. Other sessions are running in neighbouring villages in July that Billingshurst parents and carers are welcome to attend.

Ashington Journey ashington.wardens@horsham.gov.uk A support group for Friday 2nd May | 10am - 11am Friday 13th June | 10am - 11am Friday 11th July | 10am - 11am Parents and Carers of Ashington Church, Church Lane, RH20 3JX Autistic and SEN Children Come along this month to any of our sessions and meet with other parents Storrington & Sullington on a similar journey to you. Storrington-Sullingtonwardens @horsham.gov.uk No diagnosis required, no pressure, just a free cuppa and a chat. Tuesday 13th May | 10am - 11am Tuesday 10th June | 10am - 11am Tuesday 8th July | 10am - 11am Storrington Library, (North Street) Car Park. 6 North Street Storrington, RH20 4NZ Southwater Southwater.wardens@horsham.gov.uk Thursday 29th May | 10:30am - 11:30am Thursday 26th June | 10:30am - 11:30am Thursday 10th July | 10:30am - 11:30am Beeson House, 26 Lintot Square, Fairbank Road Southwater. RH13 9LA Billingshurst billingshurstwardens@horsham.gov.uk Temporarily postponed. Further dates to follow







Friday Coffee Morning

Friday Coffee Mornings continue to be well attended and over recent weeks it has been wonderful to hear the laughter in the room. A particularly difficult jigsaw puzzle has been completed by two lovely ladies and a new one started. We've also made the exciting addition of some toasted tea cakes and crumpets, as well as toast being available!

Please do help us to promote this brilliant facility, that we are able to operate thanks to the kindness and support of the Billingshurst Centre and the Parish Council. Everyone is welcome!



Board Games Café

The board game café continues to run on the last Thursday of the month, although numbers of attendees has been low. This may be due to the great weather we have been having and people wishing to spend more time outdoors.

I have been in discussion with Assistant Parish Clerk, Richard Plant, about an exciting new group that may start fortnightly on Thursdays ... so watch this space!

If anyone has any board games at home that they no longer play, we are more than happy to accept donations.

Family Activity Day – Jubilee Fields – Saturday 9th August

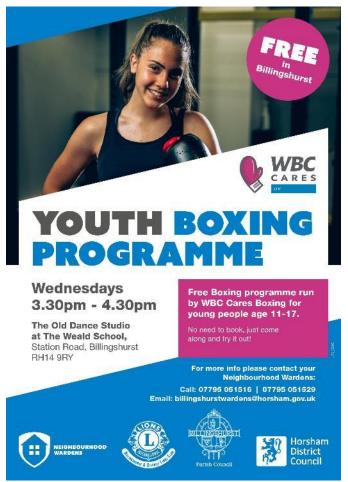
Exciting plans are well underway for the Family Activity Day on 9th August at Jubilee Fields. There will be fishing and bushcrafts sessions held during the afternoon, childrens rides, a climbing wall, skate park demonstrations, face painting, Punch and Judy shows, balloon workshops and many more exciting activites.

Please follow the event page on Facebook for updates and help spread the word by sharing the poster.

https://www.facebook.com/events/1289272822912726/?active_tab=discussion



Youth Provision



Youth Boxing Programme

Our youth boxing programme continues term-time only in the Old Dance Studio at The Weald School. As the end of the school year approaches I have held discussions with coaches, Khumo and Gio, about how we can best promote the sessions.

Coaches will be carrying out demonstrations about both the forthcoming Weald Fest held in the school grounds on Saturday 19th July and at our Family Activity Day on 9th August. We will also be attending class assemblies in September and have made contact with Billingshurst Primary Academy to promote the sessions to their year 6 children.

For more information about WBC Cares UK, who run the sessions, please visit their website: https://www.wbccaresuk.org/

Potential New Youth Provisions

June has included meetings and discussions about future youth provisions at The Depot in the High Street, a potential youth club and some activities/events such as a Warhammer group, Pokémon events etc. Funding opportunities are currently being looked into. We look forward to being able to update further in the future.

Events and Meetings

Horsham Peer Group Conference – 19th June

On 19th June I joined the Peer Group Conference to talk about some local young people. The meeting is used to discuss, in a multi-agency environment, vulnerable young people who are coming to the attention of the Police for anti-social behaviour or who are at risk of being exploited.

This group is not intended to discuss young people who are already involved in the Criminal Justice System, regularly going missing or who have an allocated Social Worker. Instead, this project targets individuals for early intervention with the aim of diverting young people away from potential criminal activity and exploitation.

This project is a Community Safety Partnership initiative, and meetings are chaired by a Horsham District Council Community Safety Officer.

Billingshurst Show – Sunday 29th June

It was wonderful to be a part of the Billingshurst Show and Carnival. The day started for me with a meeting of all the volunteers who were helping with the road closures in the vicinity of the High Street. My point was at the West Street Roundabout by the United Reformed Church. This area was a busy place to be, and the warden vehicle came in useful to close the road off to traffic. I assisted in directing traffic, turning vehicles around, helping pedestrians cross the road and assisting when a member of the public collapsed due to the heat. I watched the amazing floats pass by and then joined the procession behind the West Sussex Fire & Rescue crew.

The afternoon was then spent patrolling the show ground, speaking to residents, visitors and exhibitors. I was also joined by PCSO Graham Foster from Horsham Neighbourhood Policing Team, and we conducted a joint patrol.



Parish Specific/Other

Ice Cream Van - Trading in Carpenters

After receiving some complaints about an ice cream van trading in Carpenters at the end of the school day, I have carried out enquiries and established that under the Public Health and Licencing Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 there are streets within the district that are prohibited streets for the purposes of the control of street trading. Under this act Billingshurst has eight streets that are designated as prohibited streets. Carpenters is one of these streets. A complaint has been sent to the licencing team at Crawley Borough Council, under which it is believed the vehicle is registered, for them to take the appropriate action.



During June we were contacted by local residents concerned about people being homeless in the area. One was a male believed to be sleeping rough around the Jengers Mead area and another was a female believed to be sleeping in her vehicle. We will always try to speak to individuals and offer help and signpost them to organisations and agencies that offer support. However, residents can make a report direct to the organisation StreetLink. In Sussex, StreetLink work alongside Turning Tides to provide food, shelter and assistance where possible.

More information can be found on the StreetLink website. If you are homeless, you can also use the site to self-refer.

https://thestreetlink.org.uk/

Neighbour Dispute and Welfare Visits

This month there have been neighbour issues reported to me and I have been liaising with the Housing Association responsible for the area and the local Police Community Support Officer, Tom Fontyn.

A concern call was also received from a resident who had not seen her neighbour for some time and a welfare visit was carried out.

Vehicle Parking in Newbridge Road East

I have received a complaint about a commercial vehicle being parked daily in an area of Newbridge Road East, which is leaking oil regularly on the road surface. I have made a report to West Sussex County Council Highways who have attended the area and advised that they will put sand on the highway but cannot carry out any enforcement action. I have also contacted the Traffic Commissioner's Office and Sussex Roads Policing, and I await their responses.





Whilst out on patrol

Fly-Tipping

Unfortunately, whilst out on patrol in West Chiltington Lane, I discovered a large quantity of fly-tipped household waste along with a bag of cement! This was reported to HDC's street cleansing team and promptly removed.



Graffiti

Sadly, some rude graffiti has been drawn on walls at Briar Lane. The housing manager for the area has requested the graffiti is removed and patrols have been conducted in the area.



Useful links for reporting litter, fly tipping or graffiti:

You can report litter issues to HDC at the following link: <u>https://www.horsham.gov.uk/waste-recycling-and-bins/litter-and-street-cleaning/litter</u>

You can report a damaged or overflowing litter bin here:

https://www.horsham.gov.uk/waste-recycling-and-bins/litter-and-street-cleaning/report-a-damaged-oroverflowing-litter-bin

If you witness fly tipping in action, please call Sussex Police and, if possible, provide them with the registration of the offending vehicle and subsequently any relevant dash cam footage you may have. You can also report it direct to HDC at: <u>https://www.horsham.gov.uk/waste-recycling-and-bins/litter-and-street-cleaning/fly-tipping</u>

Abandoned shopping trolleys can be reported on the 'Trolleywise' website at: <u>https://www.wanzl.com/en_GB/360-degree-service/TrolleyWise</u>

You can report incidents of graffiti direct to Horsham District Council via their website: <u>https://www.horsham.gov.uk/waste-recycling-and-bins/litter-and-street-cleaning</u>

Horsham District Council App

HORSHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL			
Setting	s 🗘	△ Notifications	
News	Social	Report It	
Councillors	Waste Collections	Recycling Info	
Find My Nearest	Eating Out	Contact Us	

Did you know that HDC have a very handy app that can be used to find out lots of information, report litter, fly-tipping and graffiti, and you can even set up handy reminders about your waste collections too?

The app can be downloaded from the Google Play store and Apple app store.

More information and links to download are available on the HDC website:

https://www.horsham.gov.uk/mobileapp

Dog Related Issues

Dog fouling can be reported via the HDC website: https://www.horsham.gov.uk/waste-recycling-and-bins/litter-and-street-cleaning/dog-fouling

Any attacks by dogs need to be reported immediately to Sussex Police. Their advice is that if there is an immediate threat to human or animal life to call 999. Otherwise report to the police on 101 or via the Sussex Police website reporting form.

https://www.sussex.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/

Dogs Roaming Free

If you find a dog roaming free and not being supervised, you may wish to consider reporting it to Horsham District Council's approved contractor on 07512 089777 and they will come and collect. *This is a 24/7 service, but the dog does need to be contained for them to collect.*

*** Please note Horsham District Council does not have dog wardens ***

Rough Sleepers and Homeless Persons

https://thestreetlink.org.uk/ connecting people sleeping rough to local services.

Social Media

Please do follow us at:

https://www.facebook.com/HDWardens

https://twitter.com/HorshamWardens

