

**Autumn Update from  
Julie & Barry  
Billingshurst Neighbourhood Wardens**

The summer has been a busy one for us with lots of foot and car patrols, all over the Billingshurst parish, engaging with local residents.

Although Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) has been lower than in previous years during the summer holidays, there has still been the odd incident with sling shots being used to break the new wooden bus shelter windows and a bus stop information panel. Why people feel the need to do this is not known, and what they get out of doing this type of criminal damage is also a mystery. However, for the law-abiding residents it is frustrating and can cause injury to pedestrians, children, dogs, cats and wildlife. The incidents are being looked at by Police but if you have any information of who may have done this, please contact them on 101.

The Billingshurst Allotments site has also been affected by ASB, and we have patrolled the area as often as we can and will continue to do so. Whilst there, we have chatted with allotment holders about any issues they maybe having. We also learnt a lot about growing vegetables and other produce.

There has been offensive and racist graffiti on the brand-new wooden skate ramp over at Jubilee Fields, this is a Hate Crime and Police will be looking into this, as this kind of crime is taken very seriously.

We are aware of the frustration over the use of E-Scooters, and we do understand this, however the Police are the correct service to contact to deal with this issue. We have spoken to several young people using the scooters and given advice about the law surrounding riding them and the consequences of using them on a footpath/road. So if seen, please contact the Police on 101 to log the issue as the more calls the Police get, the more likely they will come and patrol and deal with those riding them.

We have been looking at projects which we hope will be supported by the community of Billingshurst. This includes Parent Support Social for parents/guardians of teenage children who may have concerns about them or issues that they are hearing about such as drugs, carrying of knives, child's mental health, safety in Billingshurst etc. We may not be able to answer all the questions, but we will find someone that can. It's a safe place for you to share what's its like bringing up a teenager, as it can be a challenging time. It can be exhausting, stressful, and worrying and it feels like life will never be the same again, but it will get better it just takes time. Or if you just want to come and have a chat with other parents then please do so, its your session so talk about whatever you want to.

**Parent Support Socials:**

These are held monthly at The Depot (83a High Street, opposite Rhodes & Sons), and the upcoming sessions are noted below. Please come along and have a chat with other parents, there are refreshments (tea/coffee, cold drinks and biscuits) Julie the Warden and Mrs Green the Head of DaVinci House will be there to serve your drinks and assist where needed. Upcoming dates are as follows:-

- Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 5.00pm - 6.00pm
- Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 5.00pm - 6.00pm
- Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 5.00pm - 6.00pm

### **The Journey – SEN and Autism Group:**

These sessions are held for parents/guardians/grandparents of young people with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and a group for those who would like to share their journey of bringing up a child with SEN or Autism, no formal diagnosis is required. Our group is friendly and non-judgmental, and many are at different stages of the Journey. Therefore, we have lots of experience to share with other parents. Come along and have a cuppa and chat you will be most welcome. Once again, the venue is The Depot, (83a High Street, opposite Rhodes & Sons). The sessions start at 9.30am, but we will be at the Depot by 9.00am, so come in to see us on your way home from dropping your children at school. Upcoming dates are as follows:-

- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 9.30am - 10.30am
- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October 9.30am - 10.30am
- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 9.30am - 10.30am
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 9.30am - 10.30am

### **The Board Game Café:**

The café is a place for people of all ages to come together to play board games. All sessions are held at The Depot, (83a High Street, opposite Rhodes & Sons). Upcoming dates are:-

- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 3.30pm - 5.30pm
- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November 3.30pm - 5.30pm

If all goes well with the Board Game Café, we will then hold them every other week.

### **Adversane Coffee Morning:**

Seeing how successful the Coffee mornings have been, held at the Billingshurst Centre on Friday's, between 10.00am – 12 noon, we have also started holding a coffee morning at Adversane Hall. Upcoming dates are:-

- Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 10.30am - 12 noon
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 10.30am - 12 noon
- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am - 12 noon

### **The Billingshurst Boxing Programme:**

This initiative has been running since February 2022, the group has grown in numbers, and it is great to see how much the young people have developed. They have shown motivation, dedication, discipline and focus, it has been such a privilege to watch them grow and mature into well rounded young men/women. The sessions are for young people aged between 11-17 years old and is fully funded by Billingshurst Parish Council and supported by The Billingshurst Lions. So, if interested please call us or come along on a Wednesday between 3.30pm & 4.30pm, sessions are held at The Weald School, in the Old Dance Studio.

### **Billingshurst Family Activity Day:**

This was held on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August, and was in conjunction with Billingshurst Parish Council. It took place at Jubilee Fields, and activities included: a climbing wall, penalty shoot-out, fishing, bushcraft, archery and axe throwing, Horsham Sports Services were in attendance and a 'skate jam' arranged by a local BMX enthusiast, was also held at the new wooden skate ramp. There was also dancing, boxing, magic/balloon shapes, facepainting,

a tea-cup ride, an ice cream van, BBQ. Finally, the event was supported by Billingshurst Community Responders (BEAT), Billingshurst Fire Service, and the Billingshurst & District Lions with their human fruit machine. The day went extremely well for a first attempt, and it was great to have the help and advice from Parish Council officers. Thank you to all those that donated raffle prizes and to the community of Billingshurst, your support really made the day such a happy, family event. We are hoping to be back with another Family Day next year, so watch this space.

### **Warden Monthly Drop-In Sessions:**

We hold Warden Drop ins in various places which are usually well attended, these are held so the residents can come and have a chat, talk about concerns or issues they are having or just to come and say hello. If you have a particular area, you would like us to hold a drop in then please let us know. The next few Drop-In dates are as follows:-

- Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 10.00am - 12noon Sainsburys
- Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October 4.00pm - 6.00pm Co-Op, Platts Roundabout Service Station
- Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1.30pm - 5.30pm The Christmas Market at the Billingshurst Centre
- Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December 1.30pm - 5.30pm Lidl Stane Street.

### **Contact Us:**

If you ever need to contact us, the info is below

**[billingshurstwardens@horsham.gov.uk](mailto:billingshurstwardens@horsham.gov.uk)**

**Julie: 07795 051529**

**Barry 07795 051516**



If one of us doesn't answer, then please try the other number as it may be one of us is off on annual leave/sick. The Warden Scheme isn't a 24/7 service, but we will get back to you as soon as we are able.