

Billingshurst Wardens Monthly Report

April 2023

Patrol hours TOTAL:	92	ASB incidents TOTAL:	35
Foot (high visibility)	72	Noise	0
Vehicle	20	Neighbours	0
Notices/warnings TOTAL:	3	Driving/Vehicles/Bikes	30
Fixed Penalty Notice	0	Alcohol	1
Yellow card warning	0	Crim Dam/ Crime reassurance	4
Community Protection Warning/Notice	0		
Parking alert	3	Clear up/disposal reports TOTAL:	9
Police reports TOTAL:	5	Fly tipping / flyposting	1
Phone (including 101 and 999)	0	Graffiti	1
Email	1	Dog fouling	3
Intelligence report	1	Litter	1
E-CINS (multi-agency reporting)	1	Drug litter	3
Verbal	2	Hazards	0
Media reports TOTAL:	12	Community events attended	3
Press release / Community magazines	2	School Contact	3
Social Media	10	Youth engagement	70+
Admin	20	Reports to DVLA	1
Vulnerable people welfare checks	7	Reports to Operation Crackdown	26
Signposting	5		

Key:

ASB – Anti-social behaviour

BTP – British Transport Police

101 – Police non-emergency reporting contact number

Operation Crackdown – Joint initiative with Sussex Safer Roads Partnership and Sussex Police to report abandoned vehicles or anti-social driving

WSCC – West Sussex County Council

CEO – Civil Enforcement Officers who deal with parking offences

PSPO – Public Spaces Protection Order

SRCG - Station Road Community Gardens

LSRG - Lower Station Road Recreation Ground

MOP - Member of the Public

ASB

We had an email from the Billingshurst Library who had been informed by a resident that young people were going behind the library. To access they must climb over a very wobbly fence, on the right-hand side is a wall which the young people run along. There is a significant drop, which if anyone was to slip and fall this could cause a possible nasty injury. We went and spoke to the library staff who are reviewing CCTV to see if anything was caught on the cameras. We also advised they put up some signage regarding the danger of trespassing behind the library. We have added this area to our patrol to deter any further issues.

It has been reported that young people have been climbing the scaffolding which has been put up around a part of Truffles. One of them threw something down from the scaffolding which was seen as dangerous due to people walking past or indeed vehicles coming in and out of Jengers Mead. The incident was reported to police by a resident.

We spoke to the people working on the scaffolding to let them know what had happened and to recommend that nothing is left behind that could be thrown or used as a missile. Thankfully the scaffolding was taken down two days later.

On Sunday 16th April around 4pm, on the Amblehurst Estate there was some ASB from a group of approximately 6/7 young people who were very noisy. One of the group smashed a beer bottle on the path close to the Old Mill. Thankfully the glass was cleared up by a resident to prevent any injury to passers-by or dogs/animals.

There were reports of young girls ringing doorbells close to Station Road, and some ASB in Tesco, who had to close their doors to prevent possibly the same young girls from re-entering. We liaised with Tesco about the issues and ensured that they had made police aware.

Parking/Vehicles

We have reported 26 vehicles to Operation Crackdown for parking illegally in the village.

We have reported 1 vehicle to the DVLA for no tax.

We have spoken to 3 businesses regarding parking illegally in the village and a member of the public was given words of advice and signposted to the nearest car park.

A vehicle was stolen in Daux Way in the early hours of Thursday 19th April, police are aware. Ring doorbell footage is being checked by neighbours.

[Fly Tipping/Littering/Graffiti](#)

We came across some fly tipping in a layby in Rowner Road consisting of tyres and black bags with rubbish in them. This was reported to Horsham District Council for them to collect and clear the area.



There has been some graffiti on a seat in the park behind Cleveland Gardens. This has been reported to HDC for removal.

[Community Engagement/Events/Meetings](#)

With the success of the Warm Space Coffee Morning, the Parish Council and the Billingshurst Centre have now decided to carry on the Coffee Mornings every Friday between 10-midday. Barry and Julie, the Wardens, will be there to greet you, so please come along and enjoy the morning with us. We will have different agencies/ groups to come and chat with those attending and we will be inviting the fire crew from Billingshurst to come back and have a cuppa with us all.

Aaron Barton the Operations Manager for the Billingshurst Surgery came along to the Coffee Morning to have a chat with the group. He was with us for the whole 2 hours, talking to people and answering any questions that they had. Aaron has very kindly said he will come back again in the future (so he obviously wasn't frightened off).



We went along to the Student Council at the Weald; the topic of conversation was around the domestic violence lessons and how the format can be changed to make them more age-related. Lots of good and honest discussions were had. The students' ideas will be taken to the tutors to see how they can be used in the future domestic violence talks.

Our Warden Drop In was held at the entrance to Mole Country Store. We had quite a few engagements from the community and we were able to give advice to a resident regarding an issue they were having.

Our next Warden Drop In is on Saturday 27th May between 11.00 – 1pm at Billingshurst Railway Station.

Patrols (foot/visible and car)

We go out on foot patrols daily so that the residents can stop and speak to us about any issues that they are having or just to have a chat. We also visit businesses, shops, the school, the railway station etc to make sure that there are no problems they need to discuss with us.

We have been conducting car patrols for the purposes of fly tipping and to cover the outer areas of Billingshurst such as Adversane and Five Oaks.

Our car patrols also cover the ASB hotspots including the High Street, Jengers Mead, Jengers Passage, Mill Way toilets, the Library, all the parks, Marringdean Acres and the Amblehurst Estate (both of which have previously had issues).

We are still conducting the dog poo patrols and spraying the offending excrement with paint to prevent others treading in it and to highlight the issue. We have not seen anyone who hasn't picked up their dog's mess when out on our patrol. If we were to observe this, then we would deal with it in the appropriate manner.

Older, vulnerable people and Youth

We have been continuing to make doorstep visits to check residents Careline and smoke alarms. Whilst there, we also check that the resident doesn't have any other welfare issues that we can help with, especially with the cold weather and the cost-of-living crisis. Anyone that we do meet that requires further help is always referred to supporting agencies who have the experience to guide them through the appropriate channels. We also go back and revisit the resident a couple of weeks later to check that they are ok and getting the help that they need.

The Boxing Programme continues to flourish, the young people enjoy the classes, in fact one young person said that that they wished that the Boxing was on every day because they enjoy it so much.

We held a Bushcraft event in Jubilee Fields where the young people learnt about the different trees. They then carved a fox's head from a stick and learnt how to light fires and, more importantly, how to put them out safely and leaving the area in the same condition as when you arrive. Everyone enjoyed themselves which was obvious by their muddy and dirty clothes but that's what being a child is all about. We hope to hold another Bushcraft event soon.

Whilst on patrol we came across an elderly male who was struggling with his shopping. We gave him help and carried the bags for him. One young man who is known to us asked if we were ok and if we needed help with the bags. Now this may not seem much to most people, however this young man showed such

compassion and caring for the elderly person we felt it needed to be highlighted as young people do sometimes get bad press. But there is good in everyone and we see this all the time.



A resident asked for advice with a personal issue, they were signposted to the appropriate agencies that will be able to help with the problems.

[Dog related issues.](#)

There has been a report from a resident regarding increased dog fouling in the park behind Cleveland Gardens we have conducted a patrol and sprayed the dog excrement with water-based spray paint to prevent anyone treading in it. It takes a couple of seconds to pick the poo up, let's keep Billingshurst clean and safe for everyone.

[Cycling](#)

A resident contacted the Parish Council about the use of electric scooters. When we are able, we do talk to those people using the scooters to explain that they are illegal and ask them to walk the scooter. However, police can deal

with those using electric scooters so if it is a particular problem in your area please contact them on 101 or online on the Sussex Police Website.

[Parish Specific/Other/Railway, social media/press](#)

We regularly put-up Facebook and Twitter posts regarding events that we are holding i.e.: Warden Drop Ins, Boxing, Bushcraft and the Coffee Morning. Or other information that maybe of interest to the Community of Billingshurst.

A resident was given words of advice regarding a neighbourhood issue and was signposted to the relevant agencies who will assist with the issues discussed.

“We work various shifts on weekends and weekdays between the hours of 0800am and 9pm. However, this is subject to change and dependent on the needs of the parish”