

Billingshurst Wardens Monthly Report

April 2024

Patrol hours TOTAL:	109	ASB incidents TOTAL:	8
Foot (high visibility)	86	Noise	0
Vehicle	23	Neighbours	0
Notices/warnings TOTAL:	2	Driving/Vehicles/Bikes	8
Fixed Penalty Notice	0	Alcohol	0
Yellow card warning	0		
Community Protection Warning/Notice	0		
Parking alert	2	Clear up/disposal reports TOTAL:	24
Police reports TOTAL:	9	Fly tipping / flyposting	2
Phone (including 101 and 999)	2	Graffiti	0
Email	1	Dog fouling	0
Intelligence report	2	Litter	0
E-CINS (multi-agency reporting)	0	Drug litter	21
Verbal	4	Hazards	1
Media reports TOTAL:	13	Community events attended	9
Press release / Community magazines	2	School Contact	7
Social Media	11	Youth engagement	70+
Admin	21	Reports to DVLA	1
Vulnerable people welfare checks	10	Reports to Operation Crackdown	7
Signposting	8		

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

HDC – Horsham District Council

ASB

We have made aware of two males between 14 – 18 years who were seen with firing slingshots at objects and possibly pigeons. The police have been contacted with some pictures of those involved, so hopefully they will be spoken to and dealt with soon.

The toilets in the library car park have again been vandalised; bottles were put down the toilet and the light fittings pulled down from the ceiling. The front of the toilet roll holder was pulled off and flushed down the toilet. Luckily this was saved from the toilet by one of our Environmental Operatives, which is not a very nice job to have to do. This type of ASB is so unnecessary and very unfair to other residents who want to use the toilet. We have been patrolling the area more frequently and police have been made aware by the Parish Council. The toilets will now be closed at 4pm until further notice.



On the evening of Thursday the 4th of April young people, both in a vehicle and on foot, egged some houses and flats in and around Billingshurst. The vehicle was possibly a white VW Polo with two occupants in it. This has been reported to the police by those who had been affected.

On Friday/ Saturday 5th/6th April windows were broken by a male on the High Street. The old Barclays Bank building had a window broken, as did a window in Cezala Hairdressers. The male was with a small group who were not involved. CCTV was sent to the police alongside a report about the criminal damage. The culprit's first name was called out by a couple of the group, so it won't be long before he is identified by someone. However, hopefully, he will come forward to the police before they come knocking at his door.

There were many reports regarding people on the roof of the Billingshurst Centre on the evening of Saturday the 13th of April. There was some guttering damaged where the young people had climbed up onto the roof, so the centre will now have to get the roof checked to make sure no damage was caused.

A vehicle was damaged during the night-time hours of Thursday 25th April/ Friday 26th April and it appears a ball bearing fired from a weapon such as a slingshot was used. Please can you let the police have any CCTV or Ring doorbell footage you may have.

A vehicle has caused damage to the cricket pitch in Jubilee Fields on the evening of Thursday 26th April. The pitch had been worked on all day to get it ready for a friendly game, however, it was unknown at the time whether it will be ready in time for the match. However, thankfully with hard work and lots of skill the field was ready in time. This was malicious and senseless damage to this cricket field; we will be patrolling the area and so will the police.



[Parking/Vehicles](#)

We have had complaints regarding how parents are parking at drop-off and pick-up time at the Billingshurst Primary School. The Civil Enforcement Officers and the Wardens will be patrolling as often as we can. Please do not park on double yellow lines, across driveways and on corners. It's everyone's responsibility to keep the children and residents safe. We will be speaking to the school about this issue and see if something can be done to alleviate the problems of bad parking.

On one patrol at the Billingshurst Primary School recently, we spoke to a driver who was parked on double yellow lines and also causing an obstruction to other road users. After politely being asked to move, the driver told us that he wasn't parked as he had his engine running and it was a public highway so he could stay there. After a few minutes he got out of his vehicle and swore at us. Both the vehicle details and the driver have been reported to Operation Crackdown. We will continue patrolling as often as we are able in order to keep the children safe.

We have reported 7 vehicles to Operation Crackdown for parking illegally in the village, one vehicle without tax to DVLA and one vehicle to licensing.

[Fly Tipping/Littering/Graffiti, Community Engagement/Events/Meetings](#)

We assisted Billigreen with another litter pick along the foot path adjacent to the A29 and around Jubilee Fields, including the fishing lake. There was a lot less litter this time, probably due to the wet weather. We will be out again sometime in May.

There was some fly tipping close to the junction of Okehurst Road and Rowner Road and in Rowner Road itself which was carried out over the Easter Bank Holiday weekend. This was reported on Tuesday 2nd April to HDC and, again, the fly tipping was cleared within 24 hours by HDC which is amazing.



We have also reported overflowing bins at the back of the Jengers Mead shops. If you notice any bins that are overflowing, including dog bins, please report this to Horsham District Council.

HDC now has a new mobile App that can be used to report things such as dog bin issues, fly tipping, graffiti, litter bin issues, missed bin collection and so much more. See below for the link.

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

The Friday Coffee Morning is going very well. It is a place to sit and chat with a hot drink, biscuits, toast and, sometimes, a nice homemade cake. It is at the Billingshurst Centre and runs from 10.00 – 12.00 midday.

Many new friendships have been made at the coffee morning, so if interested come along and see what you think, you will be made very welcome by us all.

Dan and Clive from Sussex Police came to the coffee and talked about cybercrime and scams to the group on Friday 26th April. It was a very interesting talk and the group had lots of questions for them both.

Julie and Vanessa Green, who is the Head of DaVinci House, are holding Parent Support Socials on a monthly basis on a Wednesday. Meetings are held at The Depot, 83a High Street, Billingshurst between 5pm to 6pm. It's a safe space for parents to talk to other parents about issues that are worrying them about their teenage children. By sharing your experiences, you will find that you are not the only one that is having concerns about their teenage child. We will be led by the parents and, if there is a subject that they would like more information on, we can always get guest speakers to come along. So, what have you got to lose by coming along? We will have the kettle boiled for hot cuppa and biscuits.

The next session is on Wednesday 5th June at The Depot between 5-6pm (we can extend the times if required).

We look forward to seeing you.

We attended the Local Policing for Local People event at the Billingshurst Centre on Saturday the 27th of April alongside the Police, Safer Sussex Roads, Community Speed watch, Neighbourhood Watch and The Community Safety Officer from HDC. The meeting was attended by some of the community of Billingshurst. Interesting questions and discussions were had, hopefully those that attended went away with a better understanding of policing in Billingshurst and Horsham in general.

Ross the Pulborough Warden, Barry and Julie, went along to the School Council at The Weald. It is led by the Sixth Form Prefects, who help form the agenda and lead discussions/ conversations around subjects that were brought up at previous meetings. The group are highly motivated and articulate and it is always interesting listening to what they have to say.

[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 see if there are any issues we can help with.

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

Our 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 Green Estate (both of which have previously had issues). If there any areas that you feel may need patrols, please let us know.

Parish Councillor Sandy Duck came out for a foot patrol with us, we walked from Amblehurst Green Estate down past the railway station to Station Road Community Gardens. We visited the Men's Shed to have a

chat with them about the brilliant work they are doing, and we dropped into the railway station to catch up with one of the ticket office staff members, we will be visiting there a lot more often to patrol again. We then ended the patrol walking around the village and talking to staff in the local shops.

Whilst on a patrol to the rural farms, we were approached by one of the farmers who told us that over the Easter Weekend two of their week-old lambs were stolen. Without hand-rearing the lambs will probably have died. Sadly, the distressed mother of the lambs had to be shut away with very little food to aid the drying up of her milk. Such a horrible thing to have happened as the lambs were not big/old enough to be taken away from their mum and not big enough to be eaten. The farmer is unsure as to why they were taken, which is quite worrying and upsetting.

Older, Vulnerable People and Youth

We make doorstep visits to check residents' Careline and smoke alarms. Whilst there, we also check to see if there are any other welfare issues that we can help with or signpost to the various agencies that are available and who have the experience to guide residents 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 library staff asked us if we would check on a vulnerable person they were concerned about, we spoke to the man who is known to us. He had just come out of hospital after a nasty fall and was resting before going back to where he is staying. We liaised with the agencies who are supporting him, and we will continue to check in on him to ensure he is keeping well.

Dog Related Issues.

None have been reported to us this month. Please look at the link below as this will give you some guidance on reporting any issues.

<https://www.horsham.gov.uk/report/dog-attacks>

Cycling

A warning was given to a young person who we saw riding an E-scooter in the High Street. Words of advice were given on this occasion and guidance around the legislation regarding the use of an E-scooter.

Parish Specific/Other/Railway, Social Media/Press

We use social media quite a lot to advertise our Warden drop-ins, Parent Support Socials, Games Café and The Journey – The Autism and SEN group, among many other things as well.

We held a Warden drop-in at the Billingshurst Surgery on Thursday 18th April. We spoke to several residents and felt it was a very positive drop-in so hope we get invited back again.

We held our first SEN and Autism session on Monday the 22nd of April and we had a small group of parents come along. There was lots of support and advice given to each other about the different behaviours of their children, the ECHP process, schools and much more. The next group is on Monday the 20th May between 09.30 – 10.30am at the Depot, which is next to Moo Scoops. I will be at The Depot at about 0900am so you can come straight after you drop your children at school.

A Community Gardening day was held at Station Road Community Gardens on Saturday 27th April. It was lovely to see volunteers come together to weed, cut back, dig etc, to make the gardens look tidy and nice to look at. The scouts came along to give a helping hand and did an amazing job clearing a patch of garden, which took a lot of hard work. Refreshments were at hand in the Men's Shed, which were kindly donated by Tesco. (Thank you to Sandy Duck for approaching Tesco and securing the donation). This is such a worthwhile community event another one will be held later in the year so, if you are interested, please come along.



The next warden drop-in is at Jubilee Fields on Tuesday 21st May between 08.30 – 10.30am. Bone Canis will be with us so, if you have any questions regarding your dogs, then please ask. We will be there to discuss any issues you may have, so come along and have a chat.

“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”.