

Billingshurst Wardens Monthly Report

August 2024

Patrol hours TOTAL:	95	ASB incidents TOTAL:	11
Foot (high visibility)	77	Noise	0
Vehicle	18	Neighbours	0
Notices/warnings TOTAL:	4	Driving/Vehicles/Bikes	11
Fixed Penalty Notice	0	Alcohol	0
Yellow card warning	0		
Community Protection Warning/Notice	0		
Parking alert	4	Clear up/disposal reports TOTAL:	41
Police reports TOTAL:	6	Fly tipping / flyposting	2
Phone (including 101 and 999)	0	Graffiti	2
Email	2	Dog fouling	0
Intelligence report	3	Litter	0
E-CINS (multi-agency reporting)	0	Drug litter	35
Verbal	1	Hazards	2
Media reports TOTAL:	12	Community events attended	5
Press release / Community magazines	1	School Contact	1
Social Media	11	Youth engagement	60+
Admin	19	Reports to DVLA	1
Vulnerable people welfare checks	9	Reports to Operation Crackdown	4
Signposting	13		

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

SRCG - Station Road Community Gardens

LSRG - Lower Station Road Recreation Ground

MOP - Member of the Public

HDC – Horsham District Council.

A resident has reported some alleged drug dealing in the parish to us. This area is already on our radar, but we will continue patrolling to try and disrupt/deter this from happening and report anything of note into the Police.

There have been reports that a few young people were seen playing football and smoking cannabis in the allotments. It is believed they have gained access via a garden that backs onto the allotments. We have patrolled the allotments at different times of the day and haven't come across anyone yet. No further reports have been made. We have, however, had some nice conversations with allotment holders, and some tips about growing produce.

The bus stop at the top of the High Street close to Hilland Roundabout had another pane of glass broken. The glass from this was everywhere, which is a hazard to pedestrians, dogs and other wildlife. It has been reported to the police by a resident.

A resident reported that there was broken glass on one of the items of play equipment in Manor Fields, which could have caused a nasty injury if a child hadn't noticed and climbed into it. Thankfully this was cleared very quickly by our wonderful environmental operatives.



We have been assisting businesses in Platts Island with concerns regarding young people who are riding scooters, bikes and running into the area where cars are driving in to access the fuel pumps, car parks and the shops. We have been speaking to a few of the young people about this and will continue to patrol to ensure their safety.

We have also given crime prevention advice as there have been many thefts from the Co-op which have all been reported to the police. There is extremely good CCTV covering the whole shop as well as outside so please give a big smile when you decide to steal anything, as it will have been caught by various cameras.

A dog walker alerted us to a fire that had been set by group of young people in the woods behind Jubilee Fields. The fire service had been called already. Shortly after arriving we came across a group of young boys and girls who said they had lit a campfire and they had put it out. The fire service dampened the area to ensure it wouldn't reignite as it was still smouldering. They also gave words of advice about the setting of fires. We will continue to patrol the area to keep an eye on it.

Parking/Vehicles

Four vehicles have been reported to Operation Crackdown for illegal parking in the village.

One vehicle was reported for driving and overtaking other vehicles dangerously.

One vehicle has been reported to DVLA for no tax.

A car was reported to us as having possibly been abandoned in Jubilee Fields. However, the vehicle has now been moved.

We have spoken to five young people regarding the use of E-scooters and the legalities of riding them on a public footpath and road.

Whilst on patrol we came across an E-scooter that was being ridden dangerously on a road; despite being asked to stop the young person kept going. The rider was going at quite a fast speed and entered a roundabout without looking and then crossed a busy road, again without looking. This incident was also seen by a passer-by who reported it into the police, who have said that they will be visiting the young person at home.

Whilst we understand people's frustration over the use of E-scooters, the police are the only ones that can seize the scooters and deal with any traffic offences. We do speak to the young people regularly and reiterate the law around riding them on pavements and roads.

There have been quite a few complaints regarding vehicles parking on the junction of Forge Way/West Street. The site manager has been spoken to regarding this issue and has said they will ensure their workers do not park in such a way that they are obstructing the view of those vehicles driving out of Forge Way into West Street. We will closely monitor to ensure that they keep away from the junction.

Concerns have been raised over parking in the area of Belinus Drive after an ambulance was unable to drive through to Wicks Road because of vehicles causing an obstruction. Please can you ensure that when you park you leave enough space on the road for emergency vehicles to get access. We have contacted the fire service and we will be working in partnership with them around this type of issue.

Fly Tipping/Littering/Graffiti, Community Engagement/Events/Meetings

A vehicle drove into an area behind the Kings Head/ Morrison's etc, and fly tipped some bags of household waste. It is on private land; however, the informant was signposted to the appropriate agency who will deal with the issue.

There have been reports regarding graffiti to the bridge that leads to Jubilee Fields. This has been reported before, however, it has been reported again for this to be cleaned off.

We came across fly tipping in Newbridge Road West which was reported to HDC for removal. It was removed within 24 hours by the environmental team at HDC.

We have come across thirty five pieces of drug litter including empty cannabis bags in various areas in the village.

Whilst on patrol we came across a fly tip in Rowner Road which was spilling over into the road, this was reported immediately to HDC for its removal. This was again removed within 24 hours of reporting.



There has been some graffiti on the new skate ramp over in Jubilee Fields some of which is not very nice at all. Some of it was of a racist nature and is considered a hate crime by the police – this type of criminal offence is dealt with robustly.

The graffiti will be cleaned off next week (week beginning 2nd of September). The graffiti was not something anyone should have to look at, in particular the young children that use the skate ramps, so please report anyone that is doing this to police on 101 and the Wardens for our information. Some of the graffiti was cleaned off by one of the local councillors which was very much appreciated.

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's a place to sit and chat with a hot drink, biscuits, toast and sometimes a nice homemade cake. It is held 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.

On Friday 16th August we had a talk from the Stroke Support Association which was not only very interesting but also thought provoking. It was interesting to hear how a stroke survivor started the journey from the stroke itself and the recovery they went through.



The Board Game Café went well on Friday 16th August. Julie even played Scrabble (very badly), and Louisa the lovely Warden from Pulborough came over to visit us and we soon found out that she is very good at scrabble. It has been decided that we will run it twice a month if the September session goes well.

The next one is on Friday 13th September and thereafter it will be every other Friday between 3.30 – 4.30pm if it continues to be well attended.

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

The allotments in Manor Fields have been patrolled on a few occasions, we spoke to some allotment holders on our way round to see if there has been any issue. It has come to light that there have been some young people in the allotment with a football, no damage has been caused although the allotment is not the appropriate place to kick a ball about. Plus, there has been reports regarding a strong smell of cannabis coming from a garden that backs onto the allotments. We will be continuing our foot patrols in the allotments; the Parish Office have also made the police aware so they can keep an eye on the area as well.

We assisted a driver who was looking for a development on Amblehurst Green. The address he had been given was wrong but, after driving around for quite a long time, he was happy to have found the correct destination.

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. 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.

We have continued our visits checking that the older and more vulnerable of our community are coping ok with the heat and to make sure that they don't need anything.

Billingshurst runs a weekly coffee morning on Fridays between 10.00 – 12.00 midday at The Billingshurst Centre. Everyone is welcome and it is donations only for the tea/coffee, biscuits and toast.

The Adversane Coffee Morning is a small but lovely group of residents who meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month between 10.30 – 12.00 midday. All are welcome for a hot/cold drink and biscuits.

We will be holding a weekly drop in for Year 7 students from the Weald at The Depot, we will be providing pizzas, paninis and hot and cold drinks. This will be in partnership with HDC and Billingshurst Parish Council and will be held on Tuesdays from 10th September.

Doors to The Depot will be open from 3.00 - 5.00pm - please spread the word to your children about this.

Dog related issues.

There have been several reports regarding the owner of a dog encouraging it to bite the swings in Manor Fields and Cherry Tree Close play area. There has been quite extensive damage to the swings - the plastic seating was left with jagged edges (potentially harmful to a small child), which has required parts of the swings to be replaced. There haven't been any further reports as far as we are aware so hopefully this has now stopped.

However, if you see this happening please report to the police on 101.

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

Cycling

Parish Specific/Other/Railway, social media/press

Billingshurst Parish Council and the Wardens held their very first Billingshurst Family Activity Day on Saturday 3rd August in Jubilee Fields. It was a resounding success, and everyone enjoyed themselves. Thank you to all those who took part in the activities including; Nick who held Bushcraft Sessions, Billingshurst Angling Society, Horsham Sports Services, the Fire & Rescue Service, Billingshurst Sports and Recreation Association for the penalty shoot-out, Billingshurst Community Responders, Billingshurst Lions and their human fruit machine, magician and balloon man, the face painting, Alfie and Yusef from WBC Cares boxing,

Dempsey Irish Dancing, VMA Dance, a climbing wall, archery and axe throwing, tea cup rides and Ice cream van plus the BBQ. Not forgetting the skatepark - Caelan Mumford held an amazing Skate Jam.

Thank you to everyone who made this such an incredible day, including the businesses that donated raffle prizes - Billingshurst Butchers, The Chef Thai, Curry Village, In Clover, Master Fryer fish and chip shop, Leonardo's, Morrison's Daily, Kings Head, Billi Tap, Mansell McTaggart, Meadows Wellbeing, Morgan Hairdressers, Coco's Hairdressers, Little Bean Café, Starbucks and Tesco in Pulborough.

To those that won raffle prizes please can you come and pick up your prizes please.

We assisted a colleague from Ashington with the Ashington Festival which was a brilliant day/night with lots of music, fairground rides, food, fireworks, etc. The day went off very well without any issues and everyone enjoyed themselves.

The next Warden drop-in for September is on Tuesday 24th between 10.00 – 12.00 midday at Sainsbury's, High Street, Billingshurst.

The Friday Coffee Morning is every Friday between 10.00 – 12.00 midday at The Billingshurst Centre. Come and join us at this friendly, welcoming group for lots of chatting, laughing and fun.

The Adversane Coffee morning is held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at Adversane Hall, Adversane Lane between 10.30 – 12.00 midday. The next one is on Tuesday 10th September. Everyone is welcome.

The Parent Support Social is back on Wednesday 4th September between 5.00 – 6.00pm at The Depot which is situated at 83A High Street - next door to the Women's Hall. This is parent-run session to discuss anything that is concerning them about bringing up a teenager.

The Journey – The SEN and Autism Group is on Monday 23rd September between 09.30 – 10.30am at The Depot which is on the High Street next door to the Women's Hall. The doors will be open at 9.00am, so please pop in on your way home from dropping your children at school and have a cuppa.

The Games Café is on Friday 13th September between 3.30pm – 5.30pm again at The Depot. Please bring games with you if you wish. This is an intergenerational event so all welcome, although young children will need a parent with them.

"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".