

# Billingshurst Wardens Monthly Report

## February 2023

<b>Patrol hours TOTAL:</b>		<b>ASB incidents TOTAL:</b>	
Foot (high visibility)	86	Noise	0
Vehicle	32	Neighbours	0
<b>Notices/warnings TOTAL:</b>		Driving/Vehicles/Bikes	17
Fixed Penalty Notice	0	Alcohol	0
Yellow card warning	0	Crim Dam/ Crime reassurance	4
Community Protection Warning/Notice	0		
Parking alert	2	<b>Clear up/disposal reports TOTAL:</b>	
<b>Police reports TOTAL:</b>		Fly tipping / flyposting	0
Phone (including 101 and 999)	1	Graffiti	1
Email	2	Dog fouling	0
Intelligence report	2	Litter	0
E-CINS (multi-agency reporting)	0	Drug litter	10
Verbal	2	Hazards	
<b>Media reports TOTAL:</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Community events attended</b>	<b>3</b>
Press release / Community magazines	3	<b>School Contact</b>	<b>4</b>
Social Media	12	<b>Youth engagement</b>	<b>60+</b>
<b>Admin</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>Reports to DVLA</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Vulnerable people welfare checks</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Reports to Operation Crackdown</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Signposting</b>	<b>8</b>		

### 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

**SRG** - Station Roads Gardens

**LSRG** - Lower Station Road Recreation Grounds

**MOP** - Member of the Public

## ASB

There have been issues in the public toilets in Mill Way, where it has been reported that there has been damage to toilet holders, burning of toilet paper and the toilets have been blocked with paper etc. Also there has been smoking of drugs in the toilets and not just by young people. Police have been informed by the Parish Office, and we are patrolling regularly to try and deter further issues. The toilets are being locked earlier to prevent the ASB which unfortunately is an inconvenience to the law-abiding members of Billingshurst but necessary at this time to prevent further damage to the toilets.

We liaised with the new owners of the old Barclays Bank building in the High Street after we reported the building was insecure and it had been broken into. The owners wanted us to go in the bank with them and their security team to check the place out which we did. The building should be boarded up shortly and hopefully will be in use in the near future after it's been renovated.

Members of the public have reported to us that young people are smoking weed and doing Nox after school in Jengers Mead. They have also reported this to the police for their information and for them to assist in patrols of the area. Police have been into the area after further reports to them and stopped searched some young people.

It has been reported that young children have been egging cars in Mole's Country Store carpark, we will be going into Moles to chat with staff about this and also show a presence in the area.

There have been further breaks to sheds in the allotments in Manor Fields, at least 8 were broken into. It is not known if anything has been stolen as yet. We went and spoke to some of the allotment holders and took photos of the sheds that had either been broken into or attempts had been made.

## Parking/Vehicles

We have reported 18 vehicles to Operation Crackdown for parking illegally or causing an obstruction in the village.

We have reported 1 vehicle to DVLA for no tax.

We have spoken to 1 business in reference to illegal parking, driver spoken to and advised.

We have spoken to one driver who was parked on double yellow lines in the High Street, and advised to move which they did.

We have reported a vehicle to Operation Crackdown for causing an obstruction not only on a roundabout but also the pavement, whilst one of the occupants decided it was a good idea to go to the cash machine.



We assisted with a vehicle that was parked on the A272 close to the Jubilee Fields entrance. One of the tyres of the trailer towing a car had come off and had gone across the carriage way. We managed to help

the driver get the vehicle off the road so the driver could get some help. Whilst moving the vehicle and trailer; the car on the back started to come off the trailer which could have been catastrophic if the vehicle had still been on the A272. The driver went to get assistance and when we returned an hour later both vehicles and trailer had gone.

### [Fly Tipping/Littering/Graffiti](#)

We were handed 3 empty drug bags that had contained white powder, they were found close to the library. The bags have been disposed of and police have been made aware of this.

We have found drug litter in the Mill Way public toilets, empty drug bags and balloons which are used for Nox. All have been disposed of we are continuing regular patrols of the area.

### [Community Engagement/Events/Meetings](#)

We attended the Cost of Living Drop In at the Billingshurst Library alongside other agencies including Carers Support, Citizens Advice, Age UK and Community Alarm which are being run to help residents with issues surrounding the cost of living crisis. It was well attended and we were able to help a resident who is somewhat socially isolated after a bereavement and a sight impairment. We were able to help them with ideas of what they can do to meet people including the Men's Shed and the Warm Space morning.

We had a chat with Nick from Turning Tides who made us aware of a male sleeping rough in the church area. He has support around him and it is hoped he will be housed in the not too distant future. We will make contact with the male and check on his welfare whilst we are on patrol and will keep Turning Tides updated.

We have been made aware of another person who is homeless in Billingshurst. We have contacted them and offered support and advice. Again, it is hoped that they will also be housed fairly soon and are having support from various agencies including Turning Tides. The Billingshurst Centre are also helping them by giving cups of tea and hot food and a place to sit and keep warm.

At one of the Warm Space mornings we had the privilege of having 6 firemen plus a fire engine from the Billingshurst Fire Station. They came along to have chat with some of the ladies who had attended about safety in the home. This went down with everyone and at least 6 have signed up for free visits from the Fire Service to check their homes for any safety issues and to see if any smoke or carbon dioxide alarms are required. We have also been invited to the Fire Station for one of the coffee mornings in the near future.



The Jengers Mead Warden Drop In was an evening event where we had quite a few chats with residents about what our role entails and gave out our contact leaflets. It was a little quieter than normal, due to it being very chilly, however it was still good to see and speak to some of the community of Billingshurst.

### [Patrols \(foot/visible and car\)](#)

We carry out two fly tip patrols a week to ensure that any fly tipping is dealt with as quickly as possible by reporting to Horsham District Council. Last month was a good month and we had no reports of fly tipping.

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 train 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.

### [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, we always refer them 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 has resumed at the Weald School. We had a very good attendance, and the young people were very pleased to see the boxing back again as well as their coaches Matt, Alfie and Tyler. We have also had some new people join the programme and they appeared to have enjoyed themselves. We

are very lucky to have the support from the Billingshurst Lions who are sponsoring T-shirts for the young people. The young people are at this moment coming up with some design ideas for the T-shirt.

This week (8<sup>th</sup> February) we had the Chairman of WBC Cares UK, Scott Welch, visit the Boxing Programme, he talked with the young people and helped with the training. The young people enjoyed their time with Scott, and he will be coming back again to see how the young people are getting on. For those who are not aware who Scott is; he was a heavyweight boxer who won 22 fights out of 26 and not only was he a bodyguard for Mike Tyson he is still friends with him. Scott has a gym in Brighton and Hove and is keen to put back into the community. He started WBC Cares to use boxing as a way to improve the lives of young people that improves their self-control, self-esteem, anger management and confidence and assist them to learn from positive role models.

We attended the quiz afternoon at Osmund Court, which was a nice event, with lots of chatting and laughing. This time Flo won the overall afternoons entertainment, with Kay coming close 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The Weald lunchtime patrol has been going well. We have lots of positive engagement with young people who we already know, but now we also are getting to know those students who joined Year 7 last September.

We have also been into Billingshurst Primary School at lunchtime to speak with the Year 6 pupils, so that when they go up to the Weald in September, they will already know who we are.

## [Dog related issues.](#)

## [Cycling](#)

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

Sandy Duck, one of our Parish Councillors, came out on patrol with us both which was for a couple hours of, including a fly tip and farm patrol. We managed to speak to a couple of the farm owners and were pleased to hear that issues they were having last year with ASB have now subsided and they have no complaints at the present time.

Sarah Wilson, another of our Parish Councillors, came out for an evening patrol with us, covering Amblehurst, Marringdean Acres, Jengers Mead, High Street and Penfold Grange.

We have been using Facebook and Tweets regarding the Boxing Programme, Warm Space and bushcraft event that we are hoping to hold in February half-term, plus anything we feel the residents of Billingshurst may need to know. Unfortunately, the bushcraft event had to be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances, however, it is hoped that we can put the event on in the Easter holidays.

We put an article in The Village Tweet this month it was again about the Warm Space, the Healthy Wellbeing Walks and again the dates of our next drop ins.

We have had another report regarding the Amazon 'phone call which is a scam. The resident had a phone call from someone claiming to be from Amazon advising them that £90 had been taken from their bank account as the Prime subscription had expired and asking for them to respond. As the resident didn't have an Amazon Prime subscription, they put the phone down. It has been reported to Action Fraud and the

police. Be aware, the number may come through as an 01403 number however it is a scam so, please do not respond to the call and always report it to the police and Action Fraud.

It was reported to us that there were concerns regarding a local residence as the windows and curtains were very black from damp. After talking to neighbours, we were reassured that the person was fine and that they see them every day before they go to work and when they come home.

The old Barclays Bank building in the High Street has had a window removed from the front of the building. People have been getting in and smashing other windows and graffitiing some of the walls inside. With the help of the Parish Office, we managed to find out who the new owner of the building is and contacted them to alert them to the issue. The owners have now boarded up the windows again to prevent any further damage. The local Billingshurst Fire Station was also made aware due to the vulnerability of the building.

There has been a report made about the theft of a catalytic converter just off Forge Way here in Billingshurst during the early hours of Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February. This follows similar reports in West Chiltington, Pulborough and Horsham.

**“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”**