

Billingshurst Wardens Monthly Report

January 2024

Patrol hours TOTAL:	109	ASB incidents TOTAL:	10
Foot (high visibility)	84	Noise	1
Vehicle	25	Neighbours	2
Notices/warnings TOTAL:	2	Driving/Vehicles/Bikes	7
Fixed Penalty Notice	0	Alcohol	0
Yellow card warning	0		
Community Protection Warning/Notice	0		
Parking alert	2	Clear up/disposal reports TOTAL:	13
Police reports TOTAL:	9	Fly tipping / flyposting	2
Phone (including 101 and 999)	1	Graffiti	2
Email	1	Dog fouling	0
Intelligence report	3	Litter	0
E-CINS (multi-agency reporting)	0	Drug litter	8
Verbal	4	Hazards	1
Media reports TOTAL:	13	Community events attended	6
Press release / Community magazines	2	School Contact	8
Social Media	11	Youth engagement	70+
Admin	22	Reports to DVLA	1
Vulnerable people welfare checks	10	Reports to Operation Crackdown	6
Signposting	7		

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

There have been reports regarding young people breaking into a garage behind Coombe Hill, and then congregating and smoking cannabis. The smell was going into residents' homes, also people who were passing also reported a very strong smell of cannabis.

The garage door was repaired by Social Housing late last year but was very quickly broken into again, we were made aware as were the Police, we will patrol the area when on duty to prevent further issues.



A window in the Mens Shed was broken on Sunday the 14th of January, another senseless piece of vandalism. The Mens Shed is a brilliant asset to Billingshurst, it is a community wellbeing project for both men and women to meet up, chat and make things. The shed took hundreds of hours of the volunteer's time to build. So obviously they are extremely upset that they have to pay for a new window.



Three Bus stops on the High Street just after Coombe Hill heading towards Hilland Roundabout were damaged, the damage was believed to have been caused by ball bearings fired from a catapult/ BB Gun. Please could you check any Ring doorbell/ CCTV footage to see anything was captured, however small you may think it may build a picture of may have done this. This occurred on Sunday 21st January/Monday 22nd January exactly a week after the Mens Shed window was damaged in the same way.

Further damage has been done to two of the bus stops, which has now caused a safety hazard for residents, young children, dogs and wildlife. The Parish council has asked the appropriate agency to clean up the glass and to repair the bus stops. This is mindless damage and could cause a nasty injury, so please let Police know if you saw anything.



We helped clear up the glass from the bus stop with John one of the Billingshurst Parish Cleansing Operatives. A lovely resident also came to help with the clearing up, which was very much appreciated.

Reports have been received regarding noise and young people throwing bottles in the Play area in Newman's Way. We will continue patrolling in the area to prevent further issues as will the Police.

A resident had a ball bearing fired from a catapult/BB Gun in Roman Way, through an upstairs window, this has been reported to the Police.

[Parking/Vehicles](#)

There have been six vehicles reported to OP Crackdown regarding illegal parking in The High Street.

A vehicle was reported to DVLA for having no tax on the behalf of a resident.

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

We came across some fly tipping in Lordings road whilst on patrol, which was reported to HDC for removal. This was removed within 48 hours by HDC.

There was further fly tipping in Rowner's Road which was reported to HDC for removal. It is believed a white transit van with Hilux written in black writing on the side of the vehicle may have been responsible.



Some Graffiti was found on the Electric Charger in The Six Bells car park. This was removed by the wardens. The Graffiti was not abusive or offensive, however leaving it would only encourage further episodes of Graffiti.



Horsham District council 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>

There was some Graffiti in the six bells car park which we managed to clean off; other Graffiti has been reported for removal by HDC.

On Tuesday 23rd of January we held our Warden Drop in at Lidl in Billingshurst. We had a lot of customers who came to chat with us about our role, and about the recent damage to the Bus Shelters that had occurred. Some were concerned that any rogue ball bearings could cause damage to house windows or someone in the house where the window is situated. Our next Warden drop in will be on Saturday the 17th of February between 4 – 6 pm inside Sainsburys.



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 at The Billingshurst Centre and runs from 10.00 – 1200 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.

The Friday Coffee morning had a visit by Ben Applin, who is a Rural Engagement officer with West Sussex Fire Service. He chatted with the group about various fire safety issues, which the group found very helpful. Ben will be coming back on Friday the 16th of February to give a presentation about his role and how to keep safe and prevent fire in the home. Everyone is welcome to the presentation so please come along and see what Ben has to say.

Julie and Vanessa Green who is the Head of DaVinci House are holding Parent Support Sessions it is being held monthly on a Wednesday at The Depot 83a High Street Billingshurst between 5pm to 6pm, it will be a safe space for parents to talk to other parents about issues that are worrying 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 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 the 7th of February at The Depot between 5-6pm (we can extend the times if required)

The March session is on Wednesday 6th of March.

We look forward to seeing you.

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

We have patrolled around Jubilee Fields to talk to dog owners and generally check the area, it was lovely to see so many well-behaved dogs (and their owners) enjoying their walk.

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 had been any issues. We will continue patrolling to give advice where required, and to check for any other problems.

Older, vulnerable people and Youth

We 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.

With the extremely cold temperatures that we have been experiencing, we have been visiting vulnerable residents to ensure that they are coping and have everything they need and signposting/ referring those that require extra help.

A member of the public contacted us regarding the sighting of a possible XL Bully in a children's park, which had no muzzle on and was off lead. Advice was given and they were signposted to the appropriate agency who deals with this type of issue.

There was concern raised by a Billingshurst Community transport volunteer, regarding a resident who had requested transport that day. The person concerned didn't come to the door and the curtains were still drawn. The driver asked our advice, which was to contact the Police to conduct a Welfare check, the Police conducted their visit and found that the resident had fallen over, the resident were taken to hospital later that day and is recovering in hospital.

“Horsham Matters, the charity that supports those that are suffering food and household poverty, has launched an initiative to recreate the pandemic community spirit and help tackle the serious issue of isolation in the Horsham District”. We can all make difference; just by saying hello to someone asking how their day has been etc

Billingshurst runs a weekly coffee morning on Fridays between 10-12 midday at The Billingshurst Centre. Everyone is welcome and its donations only for the tea/coffee, biscuits and toast.

The Wardens are also setting up a coffee morning in March/ April in Adversane Hall, day and time is yet to be decided. Again, everyone will be welcome.

[Dog related issues.](#)

There has been a report on Facebook regarding a dog-on-dog attack, this type of incident should be reported to the Police with as much information possible. See the link below for information.

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

[Cycling](#)

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

We visited a resident who wanted to discuss a neighbour issue, advice was given, and we will continue to keep in touch with them to ensure that they have the support they need.

The front number plates were stolen from at least three vehicles on the Amblehurst Green estate, between the 17/18th of January and this happened between 25th/26th of January and also from Roman Way between 30th/31st January.

Please report all thefts to the Police as you will receive a crime reference number, which is essential for both insurance claims and any further issues that may arise due to the misuse of the plates. This may end up with unwanted parking fines for places you have never been to, fuel thefts, or you could be implicated in crimes.

Also inform The DVLA so they can also flag any potential misuse and prevent any consequences for the owner of the number plate. It's always worth contacting your insurance company, even if you don't make a claim. It is another record of the theft and safeguards you if the stolen number plates are used for crime purposes.

One of the sheds in station road gardens was broken into; between Wednesday the 17th of January to Thursday the 18th of January and a shredder was stolen. This was reported to the Police so if anyone heard or saw anything suspicious, please report this on 101.

The next warden drop in is Saturday February 17th between 4-6pm, we will be inside Sainsburys so come and say hello.

“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”.