

Billingshurst Wardens Monthly Report

October 2024

Patrol hours TOTAL:	104	ASB incidents TOTAL:	10
Foot (high visibility)	76	Noise	0
Vehicle	28	Neighbours	0
Notices/warnings TOTAL:	2	Driving/Vehicles/Bikes	10
Fixed Penalty Notice	0	Alcohol	0
Yellow card warning	0		
Community Protection Warning/Notice	0		
Parking alert	2	Clear up/disposal reports TOTAL:	56
Police reports TOTAL:	13	Fly tipping / flyposting	3
Phone (including 101 and 999)		Graffiti	4
Email	4	Dog fouling	0
Intelligence report	5	Litter	1
E-CINS (multi-agency reporting)	0	Drug litter	48
Verbal	4	Hazards	0
Media reports TOTAL:	15	Community events attended	6
Press release / Community magazines	1	School Contact	4
Social Media	14	Youth engagement	70+
Admin	27	Reports to DVLA	4
Vulnerable people welfare checks	7	Reports to Operation Crackdown	6
Signposting	14		

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.

ASB

A housing association has reported that young people are meeting in an enclosed area and smoking drugs and leaving lots of rubbish. We litter picked the area to prevent any issues with rats etc as there was uneaten food as well as other rubbish.

There have been several reports regarding a male who sits outside shops begging, the Police are aware and when we see him on our patrols, we ask him to move along, which he always does with no issues. If you do see the male, please ring it into the Police on 101.

A resident reported to us that two males were seen with slingshots appearing to shoot into trees. This was the green area going towards the Zip Wire park close to Penfold Grange. We went to look for the two young males but didn't come across them. If you do see this type of incident please call Police immediately and call us, as if we are on duty, so we can go and conduct an area search for those involved.

There have been further sightings of two young males with slingshots shooting into the trees, they were seen close to the Weald Leisure Centre on this occasion. This is public land with lots of children and adults around, if anyone was hit by the ball bearings it could cause a nasty injury as well as injuring/killing wild birds, squirrels etc.

Parking

Words of advice were given to a young rider of a motorcycle who got into an altercation with another motorcyclist about their behaviour. They had been heard and seen shouting in an agitated manner and were seen to drive off and come back a few minutes later. However, we managed to calm them down and speak to the other motorcyclist to give words of advice regarding the situation.

There have been six vehicles reported to OP Crackdown regarding illegal parking in and around the village, for speeding and careless driving.

We have reported four vehicles to DVLA for having no tax.

Words of advice were given to a company regarding one of their drivers parking illegally.

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

We attended an event at Parkside in Horsham to showcase what Wardens do and how we can work in partnership together with other HDC Departments. We had some very interesting discussions with some of the various teams, we found it to be a really positive event.

Two smashed up E scooters have been reported to Horsham District Council to be picked up. Owners for the scooters have not been found. The scooters were picked up by HDC within 24 hours of reporting.

There has been further graffiti on the skate ramps at Jubilee Fields, most of which looks like it has been done by young people and is offensive in nature. This will be removed by the Parish environmental operatives. However, if you see anyone who is doing this please call the Police as it is a criminal offence. Young children use the ramps, and it is not fair for them to see such things. We patrol as regularly as we can, but can we ask if you see criminal damage occurring call the Police with descriptions of those doing

this. The Skate ramps cost a lot of money and is a community asset, so please don't let the minority ruin for everyone else.

We came across a tree that had been graffitied with offensive language in the park along the Church Path. This has been reported to the Parish who will get the graffiti removed/covered.

Graffiti was reported on the bus top and electrical cabinets, which we managed to clean off with our graffiti spray and wipes.

A fly tip was reported by a resident, this was strewn all over Okehurst Road which could have been dangerous if someone had been driving down the road in the dark. Some thoughtful person swept the rubbish into three piles. We have reported this to HDC for them to collect, the fly tip was removed the following day by HDC.



A Fly tip in Natts Lane was reported for removal to HDC which has now been removed.



We reported a further fly tip in West Chiltington Lane to HDC for removal. This was removed the following day.



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>

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. Also, some of the group does jigsaws and plays board games. It is at The Billingshurst Centre and runs from 10.00 – 12.00 midday.

Many firm friendships have been made at the coffee morning, so much so that they meet up outside the coffee morning and go to lunch etc. So, if you are interested please come along and see what you think, you will be made very welcome by us all.

We went along to visit the residents of Osmund Court where we discussed the memory box and memories they have growing up.

We visited the Men's shed to see how they are getting on, as usual they were very busy making items for the Billingshurst Xmas Fayre which is on Saturday the 7th of December which is being held at the Billingshurst Centre.

We went along to the Billingshurst Library to speak to volunteers from West Sussex County Council about the Digital Voice Switchover that will be taking place in the future. Letters will be sent out to householders to inform them of the changes, so nothing will happen for now. A number residents arrived to find out more about the switchover.



Patrols (foot/visible and car)

We go out on foot patrols daily so that the residents can stop and speak to us about anything and sometimes just to have a chat. We also visit businesses, shops, the school, the railway station etc. to see if there is anything 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 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 have been any issues. We will continue patrolling to give advice where required, and to check for any other problems.

We conducted an after school patrol at Billingshurst Primary School, in response to complaints of bad parking and the obstruction of driveways. The parking has definitely improved since we started the before and after school patrols, and we have had very positive comments from parents and residents which is always nice.

We patrolled Platts Meadow and spoke to the businesses there, it appears vapes are still be stolen from the CO-OP, however there is very good CCTV which we hope will help the Police.

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, 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.

We have safeguarded a resident regarding their health and wellbeing, we will also keep an eye on them to ensure that they are ok.

With the colder weather on its way we will want to make sure that residents have working heating and access to food etc. If they require assistance, we will then refer them to the appropriate agencies who can then continue to support them with their individual needs and requirements.

It was lovely to visit the Dementia Café on Saturday the 12th of October and being able to chat with those who go along. We will be going back again soon to this friendly and welcoming group of people.

We went along to the MacMillan morning at the Kings Head which was very well attended by the community of Billingshurst. Thank you to all those involved, and we hope you made lots of money for a brilliant cause.

Every week we visit The Weald School to conduct a lunchtime patrol and at the moment we are focussing our time on the year 7s. This is so, we can get to know them and them us, and slowly but surely that is happening which is brilliant. As they are now recognising us whilst we are out on patrol and say hello or wave.

Dog related issues.

If you have any queries on who to contact regarding dog related incidents, please look at link below.

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

Cycling

Nothing of note at the present time.

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 Parish received a call about a cow that was out of its field near to Longhurst Drive and wandering about, thankfully the cow made its own way back to the field before we got there.

Reports from residents that there were people going into resident's back gardens, driveways and cars. This was reported to Police by residents however please vigilant and lock all cars and back gates. There was some CCTV and Ring doorbell footage which has been sent to the Police to help with their investigation.

We use social media including Facebook and X to inform the community of events we are holding and any relevant information that we feel is important for the community to know.

We attended a Dementia Refresher update in Storrington arranged by a colleague; the update was very interesting and is something we can use in our everyday work as Wardens.

We held a Warden Drop in on Saturday the 26th of October in the new service station at Platts Meadow. We had lots of positive engagement with residents and young people who were visiting the eateries there.

The next Warden Drop in is on Saturday the 23rd of November where we will be at the Christmas Market at The Billingshurst Centre between 1.30pm to 5pm. If you have anything you wish to discuss or just want to say hi then come along and see us.

The Journey SEN and Autism Group is a wonderful place for parents/carers to discuss issues around bringing up a child with SEN/ Autism. There are lots of barriers and hurdles that parents must navigate around to get the help and support their child needs. However, the advice and support they give each other is amazing, as each one is on a different part of the journey, so the sessions are invaluable.

The next Journey- SEN and Autism Group session is on Monday the 18th of November at The Depot between 09.30hrs to 10.30hrs.

The Board Game Sessions are now beginning to take off, we have some people who bring their own games with them. These sessions are for any age (parents with young children must stay). The next session is on Friday the 8th of November between 3.30pm – 5.30pm at The Depot which is situated on the High Street next door to The Women's Hall.

The fully funded Boxing Sessions are held on a Wednesday between 3.30 – 4.30pm in the Old Dance Studio at the Weald. The sessions are run by WBC Care from Brighton and Hove. If your child is between 11-17 years old and is interested, then they are welcome to come along. All they will need is a change of clothes and a bottle for water.

“We work various shifts on weekends and weekdays between the hours of 8am and 9pm. However, this is subject to change and dependent on the needs of the parish”.