

Billingshurst Wardens Monthly Report

August 2022

Patrol hours TOTAL:	209	ASB incidents TOTAL:	11
Foot (high visibility)	161	Noise/Miscellaneous	2
Vehicle	48	Neighbours	0
Notices/warnings TOTAL:	2	Driving/Vehicles/Parking/Bikes/E-Scooters	7
Fixed Penalty Notice	0	Animals/Dogs	0
Yellow card warning	0	Alcohol/Drugs	0
Community Protection Warning/Notice	0	Public order/Crime/Crim Dam	2
Parking alert	2	Clear up/disposal reports TOTAL:	9
Police reports TOTAL:	8	Fly tipping / flyposting	0
Phone (including 101 and 999)	0	Graffiti	0
Email	2	Dog fouling	1
Intelligence report	4	Litter	2
E-CINS (multi-agency reporting)	0	Drug litter	6
Verbal	3	Hazards	0
Media reports TOTAL:	12	Community events attended	4
Press release / Community magazines	2	Reports to Operation Crackdown	7
Social Media	10	Safeguarding referral	0
Admin	25	School contact	0
Visits to vulnerable people (all ages)	10	Youth engagement	68
Signposting	3	Reports to DVLA	1

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.

YP – Young People.

ASB/Crime/Criminal Damage

There have been reports of young people kicking balls around by the shops hitting windows etc. We have engaged with those involved and have moved them on to a green space, educating them as to what the consequences of their actions would be.

Two benches in the garden behind Station Road Gardens were broken. These have now been repaired and patrols by Wardens and PCSOs will continue.

There was a report regarding a theft from Jengers Bakery in the early hours of the morning. The culprits were believed to be in a red Skoda. This vehicle has been also involved with other issues in the village, which the police are looking into. We have visited the bakery for a reassurance visit.

The Billingshurst Leisure Centre is having increased ASB in the evenings, a red Skoda and silver VW have been seen to park in the Centre car park playing loud music and allegedly using balloons to use a drug called Nox. We have visited the Leisure Centre to give advice and reassure them. We will be patrolling all areas to try and deter such activities when we are able, the police are also going to increase their patrols to stop those that are causing the issues and will deal with them in the most appropriate manner.

There has been a further report of door kicking in Penfold Grange, we have informed the PCSO for the area and will see if there is any ring doorbell footage. Patrols in the area have been started again and the PCSO for the area has been made aware.

A vulnerable person is again being targeted by a few young people. This time they were abusive towards him and made him go to the rear of Sainsburys as they would not allow him to enter via the front. Police have now been aware of the issue who will deal with the crime itself, however, we will continue to support the young man and will patrol the bus stop area where the previous offences occurred. This behaviour has impacted on his self-esteem and confidence just when he started to hold his head up high. Sainsburys have CCTV footage of the perpetrators so police will be looking at this to identify those responsible.

Three shops were broken into in Jengers Mead and there were attempted burglaries on three others. We went to all shops concerned as part of a reassurance/ welfare check. There was good CCTV footage from one of the shops which has been given to police as part of their investigation. Crime prevention advice was given to those shops that required it.

Parking/Vehicles/Bikes/E-Scooters

We have reported 1 vehicle to operation crackdown for dangerous driving

We have reported 6 vehicles to Op Crackdown for ASB

We gave a warning to a business vehicle parked illegally in the High Street.

A report was sent to DVLA regarding an untaxed vehicle that was being used by a male going door to door.

Fly Tipping/Littering/Graffiti

There has been a report from a member of the public regarding an increase in dog fouling in Station Road Gardens, which they have kindly been picking up. Further signage will be put up to request that dog owners pick up their own dog excrement. The park is well used by all ages of the community and it's unfair that some dog owners are not being responsible in keeping the park clean for everyone to enjoy.

Graffiti has been reported on the skate ramp, signs, bins and play equipment in the Lower Station Road Recreation Ground, some of which was both racist and obscene. We managed to clean off most of the graffiti with graffiti wipes which worked really well. However, the wipes wouldn't work on the skate ramp, so this was reported to Horsham District Council for removal.

Community Engagement/Events/Meetings

We put out regular Tweets and Facebook posts to engage and update the community. This appears to be working well and people are now recognising us from the posts we put up.

We hold regular drop-in sessions in and around the village which are publicised on Facebook and Twitter. If anyone has an area they would like us to attend please let us know.

The Boxing Programme is still flourishing. The young people are thoroughly enjoying the Programme and have gained fitness, confidence and are a lot more focused. We are also talking to young people around the village to get them to come along. The Programme will now be running until the end of March 2023 and hopefully beyond. Our wish is to have a designated Boxing Club for Billingshurst which will be an inclusive club for all the community. Although a lot of our young people have not been coming to the Boxing during the summer holidays, there have been a few new faces who have joined and who are enjoying the Boxing as well.

We have monthly meetings with Billingshurst Fire Service to discuss issues in Billingshurst and how we can work together to make Billingshurst a safer place to live, particularly with the increase in the lighting of small fires around Billingshurst. We regularly discuss with the Fire Service what can be done to educate young people around keeping safe and to prevent injury to those involved with lighting the fires and preventing damage to the countryside of Billingshurst. The Fire Service now patrol the hotspot areas to try and prevent and deter the setting of fires.

We assist with Billingshurst Speed Watch on an ad hoc basis as and when required. They are needing other volunteers to assist them in this very worthwhile cause.

We attend a residents association meeting and chat about issues that are concerning some of the residents, giving advice where we can. We update the residents at the next meeting.

We regularly attend a quiz afternoon at one of the local sheltered accommodations. It can be a slightly competitive afternoon however it is enjoyed by staff, residents and us with the residents who also thoroughly enjoyed the quiz. Unfortunately, the August Quiz was not being held as the staff member who usually puts the quiz together and asks the questions was not available. One of the residents if we could still hold the Quiz, so Julie took some questions from trivia books and cards and set up a quiz. It wasn't as good as usual however the residents seem to enjoy it and at least it meant they had some socialising time together.

At our Drop In we had two residents from another parish come and talk to us about an issue they are having with a neighbour. We were able to signpost them to agencies that could assist them with the problem. The couple were very appreciative of us listening to them and giving them advice.

Our first Sports Session was very well attended - they even got Barry and I to play cricket! There was archery, disc golf, juggling and cricket. Next week we will have other sports to entertain the young people.

Our second Sports Session went very well, the activities were archery, disc golf, football and cricket. It was a great afternoon but extremely hot!

Our third Sports Session was very good, the activities were archery, football, golf, dodgeball, catching tennis and juggling, which was far easier all those years ago when we were young.

Our fourth and last Sports Session for this summer was again well attended, there was archery, football and boxing from the coaches who are delivering our Boxing Programme here in Billingshurst. Dan Fairchild who is the Youth Provisions Officer for Horsham District Council, plus Greg Burt the Parish Clerk for Billingshurst also came along to see what was going on.

We had an informal meeting with one of the members of the Allotment Committee to discuss crime prevention advice, after the break-ins to some of the sheds on the allotments. We have given them some ideas which they will take to the allotment holders and we have also said that we will patrol the allotments at various times to provide a visible presence in the area.

We attended the Multi – Agency Community drop in at The Billingshurst Centre. It was two hours of networking with other agencies which will be very beneficial to the work that we do. A few members of the public did come along but not as many as had been hoped although, being the summer holidays, it may be because people are still away. It is hoped that this type of Multi – Agency drop in will be repeated in the future.

Patrols

We carry out patrols (foot/visible and car)

We carry out parish-wide patrols and fly tipping checks in known hot spots.

We continue to regularly patrol the green spaces around the village to act as a deterrent and give a visible presence.

Conducting weekly patrols of the High Street to visit shops and check the area.

Regular patrol of Jubilee Fields/ Manor Fields/Cleveland Gardens/Station Road areas.

Regular patrols of Penfold Grange and Ingfield Manor.

Regular patrols of the Daux Road area and fields at rear of the industrial estate.

Regular patrol of local farms for reassurance.

Monthly patrol outside schools with CEOs and school staff to try and prevent dangerous and illegal parking.

Elderly and Youth

We meet with the school council on a regular basis, where young people discuss issues of the day or anything else, they want to talk about. This brings about a lot of interesting discussions which all students on the council engage with and enjoy.

We are continuing to make doorstep visits to check residents' Careline and smoke alarms and to see if there are any other welfare issues that we can help with.

We attend two seniors' coffee mornings as often as we can. It gives the residents time to talk to us about any issues they may be having and we also are able to sign post them to the appropriate agencies if needed.

We go into the Weald School at lunchtime once a week which is proving very beneficial to both us and those students who were not aware of us and what we do.

We are also going into the Billingshurst Primary School at the year 6 lunchtime to get to know those young people who will be joining the Weald in September. It will hopefully help with the young peoples' transition to the Weald and they will know our faces if they ever need any help or assistance.

After repeated thefts from a local shop, we have now begun patrolling inside the shop at various times to hopefully prevent/deter any further issues.

Licensing

Animals/Dogs/Cats

Cycling:

We gave gentle words of advice to a young person who crossed the road on their bike without looking. They were thankful for the advice, albeit a little embarrassed.

Parish Specific/Other/Railway

Pulborough and ourselves have been working together as part of reciprocal working. This works very well as we get to know the hotspot areas that Pulborough has and those young people who frequent both areas. It also means that the Pulborough Wardens will also know the areas that we have issues with so that if we are not on duty but need support they will come over to assist.

"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"