

# Billingshurst Wardens Monthly Report

## March 2023

<b>Patrol hours TOTAL:</b>		<b>ASB incidents TOTAL:</b>	<b>23</b>
Foot (high visibility)	80	Noise	0
Vehicle	38	Neighbours	0
<b>Notices/warnings TOTAL:</b>	<b>5</b>	Driving/Vehicles/Bikes	20
Fixed Penalty Notice	0	Alcohol	0
Yellow card warning	0	Crim Dam/ Crime reassurance	3
Community Protection Warning/Notice	0		
Parking alert	5	<b>Clear up/disposal reports TOTAL:</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Police reports TOTAL:</b>	<b>4</b>	Fly tipping / flyposting	2
Phone (including 101 and 999)	2	Graffiti	0
Email	0	Dog fouling	0
Intelligence report	1	Litter	0
E-CINS (multi-agency reporting)	0	Drug litter	3
Verbal	1	Hazards	0
<b>Media reports TOTAL:</b>		<b>Community events attended</b>	<b>4</b>
Press release / Community magazines	2	<b>School Contact</b>	<b>4</b>
Social Media	10	<b>Youth engagement</b>	<b>70+</b>
Admin	28	<b>Reports to DVLA</b>	<b>1</b>
Vulnerable people welfare checks	9	<b>Reports to Operation Crackdown</b>	<b>20</b>
Signposting	6		

### 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 Recreation Grounds

**MOP** - Member of the Public.

## ASB

Whilst on Patrol, Sainsbury's staff made us aware of issues that are happening within and outside the shop. One of the issues is that young people are coming into the shop with their balaclavas on and running through the shop swearing etc. Which can be upsetting to some people, especially those that feel intimidated by the masks. We have been patrolling within the shop after school hours to try and deter such activities.

On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March in the evening there was a further report of young people kicking a door in Penfold Grange, this has been reported to the Police by the victim. Ring doorbell footage of the group has also been sent to police for their info. We will be visiting the aggrieved for the purposes of reassurance and will continue high visibility patrols in the area.

We have had a report from a concerned resident about young people smoking drugs in one of the parks on one of the new builds. Patrols have been focussed on the area and the resident has been advised to report any incidents to the police so they can also come and patrol the area.

There were reports of a young people playing football in the carpark at the rear of the Billingshurst Centre one evening. The ball had hit the fence and gone over the fence into a resident's garden which one of them promptly went over the fence and into the garden to get it. CCTV was reviewed with the Centre Manager, and we were able to identify four of the young people concerned. As there had been no damage on this occasion we gave words of advice to the young people and advised them not to come back to the Centre to play football and why it wasn't a good idea to play football in an area so close to houses and the Centre. So far they have not been back and have hopefully heeded our words of advice.

## Parking/Vehicles

We have reported 20 vehicles to Op Crackdown for parking illegally or causing an obstruction in the village. We have also reported 1 vehicle to DVLA for no tax.

1 vehicle has been reported to Operation Crackdown for crossing solid double white lines on the A272.

We were made aware of a vehicle that has been parked on double yellow lines for the last two days. It wasn't causing an obstruction but was however making it difficult for the homeowners to get out of their drive. The vehicle was photographed and sent to the CEOs for them to go and ticket the vehicle when they were able. The vehicle was moved later that day.

Whilst we were on patrol, we noticed a vehicle parked with hazards on, on the bypass hard shoulder. The driver said they were just on the phone they were advised that this wasn't the safest place to stop and use their phone and they were asked to find somewhere else to park up and use the phone. The Driver moved off after a few minutes but was reluctant to do so.

We issued 5 parking alerts issued to drivers causing an obstruction to other road users in Billingshurst.

## Fly Tipping/Littering/Graffiti

When we were on a fly tip patrol, we came across some fly tipping on Lordings Road in Billingshurst. There were boxes with items used for the cultivation of cannabis and black bags with the remains of some

cannabis plants (leaves) in. We called the police to inform them of this; police went to the area to check the boxes etc and we arranged for it all to be picked up by HDC, which was done the next day.

In the same layby there was cooking oil drums and containers strewn into the bushes. This was reported to Horsham District Council for the items to be removed, this was also removed the same time as the above.



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

The Warden drop-in inside Sainsbury's on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March was very successful, we had at least 20 positive engagements with residents which is the most we have had.

We had a table at the Billingshurst Showcase on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March, this was a very successful event where we met lots of voluntary groups all from the Billingshurst area. It was a great opportunity for networking and chatting with other agencies/groups.

In the evening we went to the Race Night which had been run by Billingshurst Lions and Scouts Group. The monies are going to be divided between The Scouts for their World Jamboree which is being held in South Korea in 2024 and the Billingshurst Boxing Programme. It was a fun evening with friends and other residents of Billingshurst with thanks to the Lions and Scouts for organising this fantastic event.

On Wednesday March 21<sup>st</sup> we were invited to a networking event at the Chanctonbury Leisure Centre in Storrington. There were wardens from Pulborough and Storrington as well as other agencies such as: West Sussex Fire Service, Age UK, Health and Wellbeing, West Sussex Mind, Careline alarms, the volunteer services and many more. It was another event which has helped us touch base with other agencies who we can work with in our parishes.

The Warm Hub coffee morning which is on Fridays between 10.00 – Midday is becoming a place for old friends and new to connect and enjoy having a chat, cup of tea/coffee, jigsaw, chess, draughts and lots of laughter. The Friday morning is for anyone male/female and any age to come together and spend 2 hours having fun.

With the success of the Warm Hub coffee morning, the Parish and the Billingshurst Centre have now decided to carry on the Coffee Mornings every Friday between 10-midday. Barry and Julie, the Wardens will be there to greet you, so please come along and enjoy the morning with us.

### 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 did not see or have any 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 High Street, Jengers Mead, Jengers Passage, Mill Lane toilets, 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. We have not seen anyone not pick up their dog's mess when out on our patrol. Needless to say, if we were to then we would deal with it in the appropriate manner.

Whilst on patrol we came across two males with red tabards with British Red Cross across the front knocking on doors in Forge Way. However, neither man had identification on, so we stopped and spoke to them both. They said they had left the ID badges in the car, we stayed in the area until both men had their badges, we also checked with British Red Cross to ensure they were supposed to be in the area, this was confirmed so both men went on their way. It is important to remain vigilant, and if someone does not have any ID then challenge them to make sure they are who they say they are. You can always contact Barry and Julie, because if we are in the area we will come and check for you

### Older, vulnerable people and Youth

We have been continuing to make doorstep visits to check residents care line 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.

One of the homeless people that was being supported by us and the Billingshurst community has now been given a place to stay in Horsham. They contacted us to thank us, the Billingshurst Centre, the Library and the community of Billingshurst, for all the help and support they were given, the people of Billingshurst always display such kindness and compassion to those that need help which goes to show that community spirit in Billingshurst is alive and thriving.

The Boxing Programme continues to flourish, the young people enjoy the classes, in fact one young person said that they wished that the boxing was on every day because they enjoy so much.

## [Dog related issues.](#)

## [Cycling](#)

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

A car was vandalised between the hours of 8.30pm – 11pm on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March. The vehicle was parked behind the St Catherine's Hospice shop. This was reported to the police by the victim.

Reports have been made that there were possibly 3 males trying door handles of vehicles and in some cases theft from vehicles. There has been quite a lot of ring doorbell footage which showed one male trying vehicle doors and entering some vehicles and stealing items from them. The areas so far that had issues are Pond Close, Morris Drive, Berral Way and Honeysuckle Drive. This has been reported to the police by the victims with CCTV footage of the three males. We have conducted reassurance patrols in the areas of the thefts from vehicles.

The Weald also sent footage of four people possibly males who were trespassing around the school grounds both on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March and Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March.

A blue Fiat was stolen in Billingshurst on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March, at the time of writing this the vehicle is still missing. We have patrolled various areas where we felt the vehicle may have been parked up by the perpetrators and will continue to keep an eye out for the vehicle.

**“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”**

