



Horsham
District
Council

Neighbourhood Wardens' Monthly Report

December 2025 – Billingshurst Parish

The monthly update from your Neighbourhood Wardens, Louisa Hull and Ross Phillips

December has been a little different for us, from our usual activities, due to the addition of Christmas events and both of us being affected by the nasty cold and flu viruses going around and a time of annual leave over the Christmas and New Year period. However, there has still been plenty to report on.

Project Work

Chapel Corner Community Gardens – Trinity United Reformed Church



At the beginning of the month, we held a second planning meeting to discuss the social media and fundraising aspects of the project. We also finalised the schedule of works for the year 10 students from Ingfield Manor School, who will be joining us in a series of work parties starting in January, for a six-week period.

We have also met with a contractor regarding the hard landscaping aspect of the project and received their quotation of works and we are arranging to meet another contractor in January. We have also started to investigate grants and other funding opportunities.

We will be launching our social media channels in January and our campaign for volunteers to join the project.

Due to this being a large project and with lots of people being busy over the Christmas period, we have put some of our other projects on hold until the New Year.

Youth Provision

Youth Boxing Programme Update

December saw a slightly smaller group of students attending the programme due to some sitting exams and others preparing for Christmas events and productions. However, those students who were able to attend enjoyed the sessions, the time with the coaches and working on improving their techniques and confidence.

Once again we would like to express our continued thanks to Billingshurst Parish Council for funding the programme, the Weald School for hosting it and the Billingshurst & District Lions Club for kindly supporting us with t-shirts for our attendees.

For more information about WBC Cares UK, who run the sessions, please visit their website:

<https://www.wbccaresuk.org/>

Events and Meetings Attended This Month

Bi-monthly Warden Team Meeting – Wednesday 3rd December

We attended the bi-monthly warden team meeting at Albery House to give an update on our current projects and issues in Billingshurst. An input was also given at the meeting by the Community Safety Officer for Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) about supporting victims of ASB by working alongside and making referrals to Social Prescribers, Mediation Plus and Horsham District Council's Wellbeing Team.

Christmas Fayre – Saturday 6th December



The Christmas Fayre proved popular once again and it was an excellent opportunity for us to engage with residents and stall holders. We were even lucky enough to have some interesting discussions with Santa about the gifts that the children of Billingshurst had asked him for when visiting the wonderful grotto! We were pleased to assist where needed in the kitchen with refreshments as well as with the setting up and packing away of the event and with the placement of advertising boards around the village on the day.

Walking Nativity – Sunday 21st December

The 2025 Walking Nativity was our first experience of the event and despite the drizzly weather it was impressive to see the number of people from the community involved, whether that was the actors, supporting volunteers or residents enjoying the festivities. Billingshurst definitely knows how to celebrate Christmas!



Future Events

We are currently preparing our 2026 event calendar and volunteer days for our Chapel Corner Garden project. Watch this space!

Discover warden events happening across the district here:

<https://www.horsham.gov.uk/community/wardens-events>

Local Neighbourhood policing events can also be found here:

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/area/your-area/sussex/horsham/billingshurst-shipton-pulborough-and-coldwaltham/meetings-and-events/top-reported-crimes-in-this-area>

Social Media



Billingshurst Wardens Instagram Account

Don't forget we now have our own dedicated Billingshurst Wardens Instagram account.

Please give us a follow at the link below: <https://www.instagram.com/billingshurstwardens/>

We also share a Facebook account with the other Horsham District Neighbourhood Warden Teams so please do follow us at:

<https://www.facebook.com/HDWardens>

Parish Specific/Other

Christmas Coffee Morning – Friday 12th December



We enjoyed a lovely festive themed Friday Coffee Morning on the 12th December with attendees bringing along some Christmas treats to share, and we provided the mince pies and stollen. We held a Dingbats Christmas Quiz and there was lots of chat in the room about people's Christmas plans, whether that was time with family and friends or planned time for rest and recuperation.



Coffee mornings will resume in the new year from Friday 9th January 2026.

Visits To The Elderly And Vulnerable

Often our role involves us supporting vulnerable members of the community with activities, advice, welfare checks and signposting. Some residents who live alone may at times find themselves in need of a little extra support and especially in the run up to Christmas, that can feel a lonely time for many. This month we have spent time supporting a resident with sight difficulties and visiting another resident to let them know about our Friday coffee mornings and about the Christmas Lunch being held on Christmas Day at the Billingshurst Centre by Billingshurst Family Church. This is in addition to other residents that we regularly check in with.

Whilst Out on Patrol

Operation Crackdown Report – School Crossing At Billingshurst Primary Academy

Whilst out on our early morning patrols on Friday 5th December we stopped outside the Primary School to monitor the parking, wish the pupils and parents a good day and to liaise with John who performs the School Crossing Patrol. Sadly, we were witness to a vehicle driving through the area and failing to stop for John who had his 'Stop' sign clearly displayed. We obtained the vehicle details and filed a report to Operation Crackdown on our return to the office.

School crossing patrol officers are better known as a 'lollipop' person. They are employed by West Sussex County Council to help children and other pedestrians cross the road safely when walking to and from school.

Failing to stop for a School Crossing Patrol (SCP) in West Sussex is a serious offence under the Road Traffic Act, meaning drivers must stop when the SCP shows their red 'STOP' sign, or face penalties including up to a £1,000 fine, 3 penalty points, and potentially a driving ban. West Sussex County Council advises drivers to obey SCP instructions, stop safely, and wait until the officer and children have cleared the road before moving off.

Operation Crackdown reports for anti-social driving can be made here:

<https://operationcrackdown.org/>

Festive Billingshurst Patrols

It has been an enjoyable month to be out and about conducted our patrols. From finding Santa hanging from the Adversane Beacon to enjoying the Christmas tree on the village green and the beautiful star on the St Mary's spire and the festive window displays in the village centre.



Fly Tipping



We found a dump of Nitrous oxide cannisters and balloons in Jubilee Fields – Nitrous oxide or ‘Nos’ is a Class C drug, which means it is illegal to have for yourself, to give away or sell. Possession can get you up to two years in prison, an unlimited fine, or both. Supplying someone else, even your friends, can get you up to fourteen years in prison, an unlimited fine, or both.

Like drink-driving, driving when high is dangerous and illegal. If you are caught driving under the influence, you may receive a heavy fine, driving ban, or prison sentence.

For more information, see below.

<https://talktofrank.com/drug/nitrous-oxide>

Graffiti

Thankfully, no new graffiti was found or reported to us this month.

Anti-Social Behaviour

We work alongside the Police and encourage victims to submit reports regarding drug use, criminal damage and anti-social behaviour.

Reports can be made online to Sussex Police at:

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/ro/report/asp/asp-v3/report-antisocial-behaviour/>

Criminal Damage To Refuse Bins At Amblehurst Green

This damage was reported to us and residents were encouraged to report the damage to Sussex Police and to the management company for replacement. As part of our ongoing foot and vehicle patrols in and around Billingshurst, we visit the area regularly and increased our visits to the area to keep a watchful eye on it.



Criminal Damage To Bus Shelter At The North End Of The Village

On our patrols we came across damage to the bus shelter at the top of Stane Street near Coombe Hill/The Alders.

The damage suggested the use of a catapult, although no projectiles were found at the scene. This damage was reported to the Parish Council for them to report to Sussex Police as the victim of this criminal damage. Our colleagues in Storrington also advised that they have experienced similar damage too.



Egg Throwing At Vehicles – Billingshurst Railway Station

After reading a post on the local social media pages about eggs being thrown at vehicles near to the railway station we liaised with Sussex Police regarding this matter. We hoped to see if they could access CCTV footage from the area and to ascertain if the eggs were purchased from a nearby store which could help to identify the possible suspects.

Unfortunately, although posted on Facebook, the egging was not reported to Sussex Police, and the therefore did not investigate the incident.

WHO DO I REPORT TO?

Reporting crime and anti-social behaviour

999

- A crime is happening now.
- Someone is in immediate danger or at risk of harm.
- Property is in danger of being seriously damaged.
- A serious disruption to the public is likely.

101

or report online www.sussex.police.uk

- All non-emergency incidents where the crime has already happened or there is no immediate risk of harm.

CrimeStoppers.

0800 555 111

crimestoppers-uk.org

- To report crime 100% anonymously.
- Crimestoppers is not the police – it is an independent charity working to help communities.
- Information given will be shared anonymously with the police.

British Transport Police

0800 40 50 40

Text 61016

- Non-emergency incidents on a train or at a station can be reported direct to the British Transport Police online: www.btp.police.uk/reportcrime.
- There is also a Railway Guardian app.

Horsham District Council

communitysafety@horsham.gov.uk

- Report general anti-social behaviour and repeated public nuisance to the ASB team at Horsham District Council.
- You can also report litter, fly-tipping, graffiti, dogs and dog fouling online: www.horsham.gov.uk/report.

See it. Report it.

Reporting crime and ASB means we can work together to reduce it.

Horsham District
Community Safety
Partnership

Horsham District
Council

Sussex Police Website:

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/>

Useful links for reporting litter, fly-tipping, or graffiti:

You can report litter issues to HDC at the following link:

<https://www.horsham.gov.uk/waste-recycling-and-bins/litter-and-street-cleaning/litter>

You can report a damaged or overflowing litter bin here:

<https://www.horsham.gov.uk/waste-recycling-and-bins/litter-and-street-cleaning/report-a-damaged-or-overflowing-litter-bin>

If you witness fly-tipping in action, please call Sussex Police and, if possible, provide them with the registration of the offending vehicle and subsequently any relevant dash cam footage you may have.

You can also report it direct to HDC at: <https://www.horsham.gov.uk/waste-recycling-and-bins/litter-and-street-cleaning/fly-tipping>

Abandoned shopping trolleys can be reported on the 'Trolleywise' website at:

https://www.wanzl.com/en_GB/360-degree-service/TrolleyWise

You can report incidents of graffiti direct to Horsham District Council via their website:

<https://www.horsham.gov.uk/waste-recycling-and-bins/litter-and-street-cleaning>

Horsham District Council App



Horsham District Council have a useful app that can be used to find out lots of information, report litter, fly-tipping, and graffiti, and you can even set up handy reminders about your waste collections too. The app can be downloaded from the Apple or Google Play stores. More information and links to download are available on the HDC website:

<https://www.horsham.gov.uk/mobileapp>

Dog Related Issues

Dog fouling can be reported via the HDC website:

<https://www.horsham.gov.uk/waste-recycling-and-bins/litter-and-street-cleaning/dog-fouling>

Any attacks by dogs need to be reported immediately to Sussex Police. Their advice is that if there is an immediate threat to human or animal life to call 999. Otherwise report to the police on 101 or via the Sussex Police website reporting form.

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>

Dogs Roaming Free

If you find a dog roaming free and not being supervised, you may wish to consider reporting it to Horsham District Council's approved contractor on 07512 089777 and they will come and collect. ***This is a 24/7 service, but the dog does need to be contained for them to collect.***

*** Please note Horsham District Council does not have dog wardens ***

Rough Sleepers and Homeless Persons

<https://thestreetlink.org.uk/> connecting people sleeping rough to local services.



YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS
Billingshurst Parish

Ross Phillips
07795 051516

Louisa Hull
07795 051529

If you wish to speak to us in confidence, please give us a call or email billinghurstwardens@horsham.gov.uk

@HDWardens **@HorshamWardens**

  



THE WORK WE DO IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Based within the community, your Neighbourhood Wardens work alongside partner agencies to improve the quality of life for everyone and promote community cohesion and resilience. The Wardens undertake a number of activities, ranging from enforcement to community development.

Neighbourhood Wardens can help the community in the following ways:

- Meet the needs of the community and improve the quality of life for the residents, through engagement, promotion and support.
- Develop projects that benefit the local residents, to tackle community safety issues and promote inclusivity.
- Promote community cohesion, resilience and solidarity to encourage and empower communities to resolve issues.

Support vulnerable members of the community with activities, advice, welfare checks and signposting.

- Engage with residents daily to get to know their local community and become a trusted friend to offer advice and guidance.
- Offer education and advice when required, before taking enforcement action.
- Contribute to the delivery of the Community Safety Partnership plan by working with other agencies.
- Provide a highly visible and reassuring uniformed patrolling presence.
- Provide an effective eyes and ears service aimed at reducing the fear of crime and improving quality of life.
- Work alongside the Police and submit reports regarding drug use, criminal damage and anti-social behaviour.

In an emergency always dial 999

L26.C802

  