

Warden Monthly Report

Southwater Parish Report for August 2025

If you witness acts of violence, verbal abuse, drug taking, irresponsible alcohol use or damage to property please report it to Sussex Police via the methods above or anonymously to Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111 or visit their website: <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/>

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

crime-stoppers-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

Patrol hours TOTAL:	121.75	ASB incidents reported to us TOTAL:	9.00
Foot (high visibility)	44.50	Noise	0
Vehicle	77.25	Neighbours	2
Notices/warnings TOTAL:	2.00	Driving/vehicles	3
Verbal Warning	1	Bicycles	1
Parking Alert	1	Alcohol/Drugs	0
Yellow card warning (ASB)	0	Other	3
Fixed Penalty Notice	0		
Community Protection Warning/Notice	0	Clear up/disposal reports TOTAL:	53.00
Police reports TOTAL:	25.00	Fly tipping / flyposting	0/35
In person	11	Graffiti	0
Phone (including 101 and 999)	7	Dog fouling	6
Email	4	Litter	5
Intelligence report	3	Drug litter	3
		Hazards	4
Media reports TOTAL:	2	Community events attended	3
Press release / Community magazines	1	School contact	3
Social Media Posts	1	Youth engagement	31
Vulnerable People Welfare Checks	6	Reports to DVLA	0
Signposting	4	Reports to Operation Crackdown	0
Safeguarding referral	0	Admin	35

Anti-Social Behaviour

Through our partnership working with Sussex Police and the Neighbourhood Watch Association, plus routine monitoring of crime reporting websites for information about suspicious activity, people and vehicles, we are able to understand and respond to emerging trends.

ASB

There are a small number of young people who have been banned on suspicion of theft from one of our retailers. Generally, these bans are respected by most but one person this month had to be told to leave again and thought it was appropriate to verbally abuse a member of staff. If you witness this behaviour and feel able to, please report it to the police or check that the victim has sufficient support.

05/06 – We received reports of two people riding mopeds around the village without helmets on.

06/08 – We received reports of individuals riding electric motorbikes whilst wearing balaclavas.

21/08 – We received a report of suspicious activity where an adult male was captured on camera looking through the front windows of a house and trying the handle of the front door whilst apparently delivering leaflets. Details have been secured and the information passed to the local Police Community Support Officer, but if you have witnessed this or have concerns, feel free to get in touch with us.

27/08 - We received a report of an adult male urinating in public in broad daylight and within sight of a mother and her small child. We encouraged the witness to report the matter to the police as it caused harassment, alarm and distress which is a Public Order offence.

Crime

Some of you may recall that, for a brief time, we had an increase in shop thefts in the village. Two brothers were closely monitored by us and our retailers to disrupt thefts. Through collaboration, we managed to not only get them to surrender items they had stolen from our shops but they soon left the village entirely. We also provided the police with intelligence in support of their investigation resulting in their recent conviction as described in the news:

[Prolific shop thieves sentenced over West Sussex offences](#)

Luke Wolfe-England and Theo Wolfe-England raided shops across the county. Two men who stole nearly £4,000 worth of items from shops have been sentenced. Luke Wolfe-England, 31, and Theo Wolfe-England, 25, stole from numerous stores in West Sussex. The offending for the prolific duo was mainly concentrated in Horsham, Crawley, and Worthing. Luke Wolfe-England, admitted 38 shop theft offences, one attempted shop theft, and one burglary other than a dwelling. Theo Wolfe-England, admitted 34 shop theft offences, one count of vehicle interference, and one burglary other than a dwelling.

07/08 – We received a call from a distressed resident who had been subjected to threatening behaviour from the occupants of a neighbouring property. We provided support until a family member arrived. We are working with Horsham District Council's Community Safety Officer as well as Sussex Police to resolve the matter.

07/08 – We received a report of damage to a house window, potentially caused by either a catapult or air-weapon. We advised them to report it to the police as Criminal Damage.

13/08 – We met with a resident who had been the victim of online abuse via WhatsApp. Having listened and provided reassurance, we supported them to report the matter to Sussex Police. Please be aware that giving your mobile number out to people when selling items on digital platforms can present a risk. The suspect asked to see the item for sale via the victim's mobile phone and then, with the camera active, perpetrated offences.

21/08 – We had a routine catch up with a local business which has suffered an increase in high value thefts. We were able to obtain intelligence in relation to two adult suspects, who, on separate occasions, stole products in excess of £100. On one occasion, a suspect made off in a vehicle almost colliding with two pedestrians which could have been extremely serious.

30/08 – We received reports of attempted theft from one of our retailers by a group of young people. They were challenged and instructed to leave the shop.

Parking/vehicles

We conduct regular parking patrols at key times around our schools and there are a small number of drivers who require encouragement to park appropriately but, this month we have seen a notable reduction in complaints about parking issues due to the school holidays and the completion of the construction work at Charman's Lodge.

01/08 – We received a cause for concern as two vehicles were parking directly next to an electricity sub-station restricting emergency access. We alerted the relevant energy company who agreed to consider installing a bollard and padlock to prevent future unauthorised parking.

07/08 – Following a complaint from a local resident about an unauthorised vehicle occupying their designated parking space, we made enquiries with HDC Parking Services who then issued a PCN. The vehicle has since been moved.

13/08 – Whilst on patrol we located a vehicle in the middle of one of our car parks which appeared to have been abandoned. With help from the Police, the owner was identified and the vehicle moved to a safe position to await recovery following a breakdown.

16/08 – We were asked to assist a resident whose vehicle was hit by another car in Lintot Square. Unfortunately, the driver at fault did not stay and exchange details. This incident, which was witnessed by two others, has now been referred to the police.



For more fun educational activities and information, please visit the following website:

<https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>

Can you spot the dangers?



For anti-social driving, please report to Operation Crackdown at:

<https://operationcrackdown.org/>

To report vehicles being driven with no Road Tax or a valid MOT please use the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/report-untaxed-vehicle>

To report abandoned vehicles please use the link below:

<https://www.horsham.gov.uk/report/abandoned-vehicles>

If you need to contact Horsham District Council for parking related issues, please check the website

<https://www.horsham.gov.uk/parking/report-a-parking-problem> or call the Customer Services team on 01403 215100.

Fly tipping, littering & graffiti

- **Fly Tipping**
Nothing to report
- **Fly Posting**
Following complaints, we removed over 35 illegally positioned commercial advertising signs from street furniture in the village. We also contacted 6 separate estate agents requesting that they remove 8 incorrectly positioned signs.
- **Graffiti**
Nothing to report
- **Litter**
We routinely support our Parish Litter Pickers to keep our village free from litter.



20/08 – We were alerted by a resident that the contents of a recycling bin had been dumped along Marlpost Road, causing a hazard to road users. Due to the quantity, we promptly reported it to HDC for clearance.

If you would like to collect litter in your local area at a time which suits you, Horsham District Council will support you with appropriate equipment through the **Adopt a Street** Scheme:

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

- **Drugs Litter**

This month we have found three items of drugs litter and six empty alcohol bottles in the Mill Straight car park.

If you know about someone you care about being involved in drugs, please check out

<https://www.talktofrank.com/> where you will find useful information about different types of drugs, their effects and associated risks.

Community engagement/events/meetings

12/08 – We visited a well-attended, rounders event, run by Southwater Youth Project and spent time talking to many younger people.

29/08 - We made a brief visit to see John Milne (MP) and Alex Jeffery (Councillor) at their pop-up event in Lintot Square.

29/08 – We joined Sussex Police PCSO Cecil for a high visibility street briefing

Patrols

- We continue patrols of local businesses designed to disrupt shoplifting, ASB and improve engagement.
- We continue to provide high visibility patrols both on foot and in a liveried vehicle throughout the Parish.

Older, Vulnerable People and Youth

We routinely conduct high visibility patrols at times and in areas often used by older residents to offer a reassuring presence plus cover areas previously connected with ASB to act as a deterrent.

Some of the visits we carried out this month included assisting residents get information on specific care and housing options, as well as helping some struggling at home with a variety of tasks.

We also met with two separate households in an attempt to broker an arrangement to reduce the tension between the families. We listened to everyone's point of view, made some suggestions for them to consider and found a way forwards which we all hope will allow things to calm down and let everyone peacefully enjoy where they live.

Dog related issues

If you find a dog roaming free and not being supervised, please report it to our kennels on **07512 089777**.

If you have lost your dog, please report it to Horsham District Council on 01403 215641 (office hours) or email ehl@horsham.gov.uk.

We have been receiving numerous complaints from residents on Mulberry Fields about a dog being allowed to roam around unsupervised and defecating in peoples' gardens. Having put up additional No Dog Fouling signs, we liaised with Residential Management Group who are responsible for the land and Clarion Housing Group who are responsible for their tenants in order for them to collectively address the issue.

20/08 – We found a dog lose in the road and safely returned them to their owner.

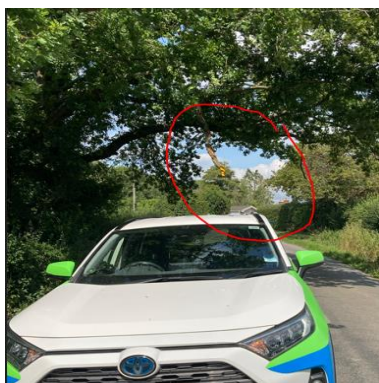
For further information, please refer to <https://www.horsham.gov.uk/environmental-health/stray-dogs>
As with any other incident involving an immediate threat to human or animal life, please call 999.

Parish specific/other

Public Enquiries

This month we responded to 30 enquiries from residents by phone, email or in person and where necessary, signposted them to the most appropriate support services. These enquires included reports of suspicious behaviour, neighbour disputes, a car crash, welfare concerns and overgrown foliage or blocked footpaths.

Hazards



01/08 – We came across a damaged tree branch, hanging dangerously low over Marlpost Road causing a hazard for larger vehicles. We carried out traffic control until West Sussex County Council Highways attended. They put in a temporary road closure before removing the dangerous branch.

05/08 – We attended a property off Cedar Drive to address their hedge obstructing the footpath. The obstruction has now been cleared.

05/08 – We received a call in relation to a very large branch hanging dangerously low on Bonfire Hill. We attended and assisted WSCC Highways, who were already on scene, with traffic control.



07/08 – We received a call from a concerned resident reporting smoke from the wooded area of the Dragons Estate just off the Downs Link. Upon investigation, we located the source - a smouldering tree! A big 'Thank You' to the Horsham Crew of West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service for their swift response and professional handling of the situation. Please remember that during the summer and autumn, there is an increased risk when starting fires outside.

FIRE SAFETY:
Wildfires

Many of us enjoy spending time in the countryside when the weather is good, whether it's camping, going for a country walk, riding bikes or maybe even a picnic or BBQ. So it's important that everyone understands how easily a fire can spread in these environments, resulting in serious consequences both to humans, wildlife and also the natural surroundings of West Sussex woods and heathlands.

In the UK we have some of the only Lowland Heath areas on the planet due to the unique climate, and our countryside provides us with areas for:

- Agriculture
- Horse riding
- Sporting pursuits
- Family holidays
- Walking
- Ecology
- Mountain biking
- Business.

These lowlands are at risk of wildfires during the warmer months; many are accidental but there are unfortunate incidences where people commit arson. Whether that is an attempt to endanger life or the environment, these deliberate acts will not be tolerated and those caught committing arson could face a maximum prison sentence.

Original material created by Surrey Fire & Rescue Service.

To help keep you and our countryside safe, we have come up with a checklist for what to do if there is a fire.

What to do:	What not to do:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Do not try and tackle the fire yourself.● Call 999 and request the fire service.● Give an accurate location of the fire eg.<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Name of the nearest road■ Access points■ Visible land marks (pubs, farms, power lines etc)■ Locally known names■ Map grid references (Ordnance Survey ideally or an A to Z).● Move to a safe area and contact the local land manager if possible.● If the fire is in a remote area, please meet emergency services at the access point so that you can guide them to the location.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Don't discard cigarettes.● Don't have BBQ's in unauthorised areas.● Never leave a BBQ unattended.● Don't start camp fires out on the commons.● Don't discard rubbish - particularly reflective materials.● Don't burn off garden rubbish during hot periods or if you live close to woodland or heathland.● Don't have bonfires on hot days or during prolonged periods of dry weather.

Remember prevention is the key!
It's taken thousands of years to create the unique habitats that we have in the UK - a wildfire could destroy these in hours. Help West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service keep you safe this summer.

Created by the Communications Design Team, 03/05/2018, 19.

How you can help prevent wildfire....



30/08 – Whilst on patrol we located a metal signpost which had been pushed to the ground causing damage and creating a trip hazard. This has been reported to HDC for repair.

Meetings

01/08 – We met with Parish Councillors Chris Pearce and Jeffrey Villis

05/08 – We attended a staff briefing held by Horsham District Council

12/08 – We attended a Community Services meeting at HDC

20/08 – We attended the Southwater Parish Council Steering Group meeting to discuss village priorities

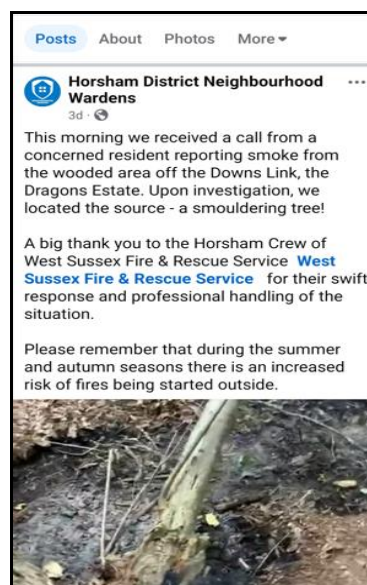
22/08 – We contributed to the training of a new warden from Pulborough by inviting them to Southwater

Training

13/08 – We received training from the charity, Change Grow Live in relation to addiction services in the district

Social Media/Press

<https://www.facebook.com/HDWardens> and Twitter: <https://twitter.com/HorshamWardens>



Our monthly reports are available on the Southwater Parish Council website:

<https://www.southwater-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-wardens>

If you know of someone who would be interested in reading our monthly report, but they do not have access to the internet, please contact us and we will be happy to deliver a printed copy to them:

Bettina Long – 07789943156

Dominic Woodhead – 07789943193

Southwater.Wardens@horsham.gov.uk

**NEIGHBOURHOOD
WARDENS**

**Community
Safety Scheme
Accredited**

Your Neighbourhood Wardens

- We meet the needs of the community to improve the quality of life for the residents through engagement, promotion and support.
- We develop projects that benefit the local residents to tackle community safety issues and promote inclusivity.
- We promote community cohesion, resilience and solidarity to encourage and empower communities to resolve issues.
- We support vulnerable members of the community with activities, advice, welfare checks and signposting.
- We engage with residents daily to get to know our community to become a trusted friend to offer advice, guidance and educate.
- We offer education and advice when required before taking enforcement action (Fixed Penalty Notices for Public Space Protection order and Environmental Crime offences)
- We contribute to the delivery of the Community Safety Partnership by working with other agencies to provide a highly visible and reassuring uniform patrolling presence.
- We provide an effective eyes and ears service aimed at reducing the fear of crime and improving quality of life.
- We submit reports to the police to reduce incidents of drug use, criminal damage and anti-social behaviour (101 in non-emergencies and 999 in emergencies) and work alongside them to tackle anti-social behaviour.



Bettina Long
07789 943156



Dominic Woodhead
07789 943193

**IN AN
EMERGENCY
ALWAYS DIAL 999**

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

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**Horsham District
Community Safety
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