

Warden Monthly Report

Southwater Parish Report for July 2026

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 below 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:	128.25	ASB incidents reported to us TOTAL:	15.00
Foot (high visibility)	40.75	Noise	0
Vehicle	87.50	Neighbours	1
Notices/warnings TOTAL:	7.00	Driving/vehicles	7
Verbal Warning	5	Bicycles/E-scooters	3
Parking Alert	2	Alcohol/Drugs	0
Yellow card warning (ASB)	0	Other	4
Fixed Penalty Notice	0		
Community Protection Warning/Notice	0	Clear up/disposal reports TOTAL:	17.00
Police reports TOTAL:	31.00	Fly tipping / flyposting	3/1
In person	10	Graffiti	0
Phone (including 101 and 999)	16	Dog fouling	6
Email	2	Litter	2
Intelligence report	3	Drug litter	2
		Hazards	3
Media reports TOTAL:	3.00	Community events attended	8
Press release / Community magazines	1	School contact	4
Social Media Posts	2	Youth engagement	31
Vulnerable People Welfare Checks	14	Reports to DVLA	0
Signposting	1	Reports to Operation Crackdown/Sussex Police	0
Safeguarding referral	0	Admin	35

Local Youth Show True Integrity

An older resident recently shared a great story with us about our local youth.

While out walking near the COOP in Lintot Square, the resident accidentally dropped some money. Two girls from a nearby group of young people noticed the dropped cash immediately. Instead of keeping it, they ran after the resident to return it. The resident was so grateful that they insisted the girls keep the money as a reward. The girls took the money and ran back to their friends. However, the story does not end there.

After a quick discussion with their group, the girls ran straight back to the resident and politely but firmly refused the reward, handing every penny back to its rightful owner.

A massive thank you to this fantastic group of young people, especially the two girls involved. You are a credit to our community, and you have made us all incredibly proud.

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.

Anti-Social Behaviour

We continually have conversations with both young people and adults about e-scooters. For the avoidance of doubt, e-scooters are illegal to ride anywhere in public unless it is part of an authorised scheme. It does not matter how old you are, how fast they go, if you were or weren't on a pavement/road or if you are wearing a helmet which are all reasons we have been given by parents to justify why their child was riding an e-scooter in public. Please be aware that e-scooters fall under the Road Traffic Act and offences committed whilst on them can impact your driving licence and insurance both now and in the future. They can be seized by the police. If you wish to report any incidents involving e-scooters, please contact Sussex Police.

02/07 – A group of youths were causing anti-social behaviour in the library and were asked to leave.

07/07 – We received numerous reports of children throwing eggs at cars around Lintot Square and the Village Hall. The matter was reported to Sussex Police as Non-Permanent Criminal Damage and CCTV footage from several businesses provided excellent images which have been passed to the police.

13/07 – Following a complaint regarding individuals entering private land, we identified the young people involved and provided words of advice. The individuals offered a full apology for their actions.

22/07 – We spoke to a group of young people to highlight the legal regulations of operating electric scooters. Additionally, we engaged with a small number of parents to ensure they are fully informed about the lawful and safe use of these vehicles.

31/07 – Following a call to police from a local resident about someone suspected of possessing Cannabis in the Dinosaur Island play area, we attended and identified the suspect. Our presence was sufficient for them to leave so we provided intelligence to our local PCSO to ensure safeguarding concerns were flagged with the necessary authorities as the suspect appeared to be responsible for two children at the time.

31/07 – We were alerted to people fishing on the jetty at Southwater Country Park. We attended, moved the group on and directed them to the correct lake. The incident was also reported to Sussex Police and the Environment Agency.

Crime

This month we saw an escalation in thefts committed by adults.

One resident was responsible for nearly 50% of the total number of recorded incidents of shop thefts. They have been identified and numerous offences were reported to Sussex Police for consideration.

Southwater Parish Council kindly arranged a meeting for affected retailers to meet with the Neighbourhood Policing Inspector for Horsham to describe, first hand, the impact this is having on their staff and businesses.

Sussex Police have confirmed that a Community Protection Warning with specific conditions has been issued to the principle suspect and this appears to have had a positive effect. We urge anyone affected to report each incident to the police so that they can collate all the information required to meet the thresholds for further Court Orders in the future if needed.

We also saw an increase in high value 'drive-offs' from Texaco petrol station. This is when drivers fill their car with fuel but omit to pay. Please be advised that Texaco have very good CCTV and are proactive in prosecuting offenders. If you think you may have 'forgotten' to pay, please promptly return to Texaco and pay for your fuel before either the police or debt recovery agents (or both) turn up at your home.

We were also made aware of a newly installed parking prohibition sign on a lamppost on private land in College Road. To avoid scams, we are in contact with the land management company to check that it is valid.

Parking/vehicles

We continue to receive reports relating to the anti-social use of vehicles particularly at school pick-up and drop-off times, presenting a risk to children. We regularly patrol at these times and routinely try to gain the cooperation of parents some of whom positively engage having genuinely not seen the problems they are causing.

06/07 – We received a complaint from a resident that a vehicle had been parked on their private road for at least two days. Even though one tyre was completely flat, and a note had been left in the window explaining that they had hit a pothole, the residents wanted to know if it could be removed. The owner soon returned, the wheel was changed and they drove it home.

09/07 – We assisted a resident with a parking dispute regarding an unauthorized vehicle in their allocated space.

30/07 – We were asked to assist the local bus company as a large vehicle was causing access difficulties on a route in the village. The vehicle in question was legally parked and therefore could not technically be obstructing the Highway. Being aware of your surroundings when parking may alert you to your impact on other road users and could save valuable time especially if access is required by the emergency services.

Obstructions of pavements can be reported to Sussex Police by visiting:
<https://www.sussex.police.uk/ro/report/asb/asb-v3/report-antisocial-behaviour/>

For anti-social driving, please report to Operation Crackdown at:
<https://operationcrackdown.org/>

If you suspect a car without MOT or tax is being driven or is parked on the public highway, you can report it at::
<https://vehicleenquiry.service.gov.uk/>

A vehicle without MOT can be reported to Sussex Police using their website:
<https://www.sussex.police.uk/ro/report/no-mot/road-tax-and-mot-certificates/report-a-vehicle-without-an-mot-certificate/>

An untaxed vehicle can be reported to the DVLA using the following website:
<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 on 01403 215100.

Fly tipping, littering & graffiti

- **Fly Tipping**

07/07 – Pallets/broken furniture and other large items were dumped on Fairbank Road.

09/07 – Oven found on Church Lane.

15/07 – Armchair on Marlpost Road.

- **Litter**

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**

We continue to monitor key areas within the parish to identify any 'hotspots'. Incidents of drugs litter or paraphernalia remain at a consistently low level.

07/07 – We located two used 'deal bags and some material used to 'wrap' powdered drugs.

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.

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.

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

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.



Community engagement & events

We maintain a regular presence at local events, including the Welcome Club, Games Afternoon, Computer Club and activities at Charmans Lodge. These sessions provide residents with an informal environment to engage with us directly. This month we also attended the Meeting of Electors held at the Village Hall.

Dungeons & Dragons Update:



SPC Councillor, Jeff Villis presented our team with a selection of resin miniatures designated for the upcoming launch of our D&D Club here in Southwater. We express our gratitude to **Forged Terrain** for making these valuable materials available to the club. We would also like to thank **HDC Cabinet Member, Belinda Walters** for her ongoing support and donation of the beautiful dice.



https://forgedterrain.co.uk/?srsltid=AfmBOoqlOI4K3zmQv8bkipEJVcye8ceXOhG7xQyMNMgYJoe-Dgd_4dt9

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. By undertaking home visits to vulnerable residents, we are also able to sign post support services.

08/07 – We were alerted to a person acting suspiciously near a bus stop on Worthing Road. We attended and maintained a physical presence in the area to ensure the safety of the public until the individual left the area.

08/07 – Early in the morning, we received a report from a concerned resident about an occupied tent found in a children's play. Because of the extreme weather, we immediately attended and undertook a welfare check on the occupants. We had a lovely conversation with three young adults who were safe and well. We talked about more appropriate places to pitch a tent but realised the options for young people to explore the natural world around Southwater is actually quite limited. They agreed that it was not ideal and soon packed up to find a better spot.

15/07 – In line with a police request to report sightings of a vulnerable individual, we contacted local authorities regarding a specific adult they needed to speak to.

23/07 – Whilst on patrol we noticed an older person holding on to a lamp post and appeared to be unwell. We approached and engaged them in conversation. They had planned an excursion with a local coach operator but had been waiting over an hour and had not been collected. We tracked down the company and having discovered that their website had listed the wrong bus stop as a collection point, they apologised and provided an immediate refund. We could not catch up with the coach trip by then so we took the stranded visitor back to their car and made sure they could get home safely.

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 topics such as how to obtain a key safe, items being thrown at vehicles, dogs dangerously out of control, e-scooters and of course, parking.

Hazards

07/07 – We reported a large water leak in a rural part of the Parish to Southern Water.

22/07 - A member of the public made us aware of an injured sheep in a field. We reported the matter to the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) who initiated an investigation into the situation.

How to Report a welfare concern about a farm animal

For urgent concerns about the welfare of a farm animal, call APHA on 03000 200 301

For non-urgent, please use the online form: [report a farm animal welfare concern using the online form](#).

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/get-help-with-animal-and-plant-health#report-a-welfare-concern-about-a-farm-animal>

23/07 – We removed a plank of wood that was resting on branches of a tall tree located on Mill Straight.

Meetings:

01/07 – Steering Group meeting with Councillor Chris Pearce and Team Leader Ross Spanton to discuss local issues.

03/07 – We attended a meeting with Horsham Town Neighbourhood Wardens to discuss local issues.

09/07 – We met Steyning/Bramber/Upper Beeding Wardens to discuss our planned D&D Club for Southwater.

10/07 – We were delighted to have HDC Cabinet Member Belinda Walters join us for a patrol of the parish.

16/07 – We met with Veronika Toth, the Southwater Parish Council, Community Engagement Officer

23/07 – We held a meeting with our Warden Team Leader, Ross Spanton to discuss local issues.

23/07 – We attended a meeting with West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service.

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**

**YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD
WARDENS**
Southwater Parish


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07789 943193


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If you wish to speak to us in confidence, please give us a call or email
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 @HDWardens  @HorshamWardens



**NEIGHBOURHOOD
WARDENS**

**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.

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In an emergency always dial 999

