

Warden Monthly Report

Southwater Parish Report for January 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	101 or report online www.sussex.police.uk	CrimeStoppers. 0800 555 111 crimestoppers-uk.org	British Transport Police 0800 40 50 40 Text 61016	Horsham District Council communitysafety@horsham.gov.uk
<ul style="list-style-type: none">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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All non-emergency incidents where the crime has already happened or there is no immediate risk of harm.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">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

L24 CS09

Patrol hours TOTAL:	132.25	ASB incidents reported to us TOTAL:	39.00
Foot (high visibility)	39.00	Noise	1
Vehicle	93.25	Neighbours	0
Notices/warnings TOTAL:	35.00	Driving/vehicles	35
Verbal Warning	12	Bicycles/E-scooters	0
Parking Alert	23	Alcohol/Drugs	0
Yellow card warning (ASB)	0	Other	3
Fixed Penalty Notice	0		
Community Protection Warning/Notice	0	Clear up/disposal reports TOTAL:	24.00
Police reports TOTAL:	26.00	Fly tipping / flyposting	1/1
In person	11	Graffiti	0
Phone (including 101 and 999)	11	Dog fouling	6
Email	1	Litter	5
Intelligence report	3	Drug litter	1
		Hazards	10
Media reports TOTAL:	3	Community events attended	5
Press release / Community magazines	2	School contact	6
Social Media Posts	1	Youth engagement	48
Vulnerable People Welfare Checks	6	Reports to DVLA	0
Signposting	8	Reports to Operation Crackdown	2
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.

Anti-Social Behaviour

We were contacted by a resident who had their home pelted with eggs by two, young, male presenting teenagers. Further investigation has secured footage which may enable the suspects to be identified, and the matter has also been referred to Sussex Police.

We were alerted to an incident where again, a resident had their front door forcibly kicked on more than one occasion, luckily not causing permanent damage, but triggering considerable distress to the young children that live there. Due to a great community spirit and neighbourly concern, the two suspects were challenged by residents and their parents called. The matter has been resolved with the appropriate words of advice being issued in conjunction with the police, and the boys delivering a suitable apology together with assurances that it would not happen again.

24/01 – We were alerted to an organised gathering of car enthusiasts at Oakhurst Business Park due to excess vehicle noise and ASB driving. The matter was referred to Sussex Police.

27/01 – We received reports of a group of young people causing a disturbance in Lintot Square. The police were called and the group were identified and challenged. Their details were obtained and their parents informed. They are all now banned from a specific premises in the square and will be individually met by police for follow-up action.

Crime

We were made aware of an overnight incident where three people were seen between 0000-0500 hours gaining access to insecure vehicles and stealing items of value from them. If you have been a victim or have any usable CCTV images, please contact Sussex Police and they will take you through a simple process to give them your footage. If you ever notice suspicious activity, and are able to, please report it to the police at the time so that an appropriate response can be achieved.



For the last two months we have been working with some of our local commercial advertisers to reduce the amount of unlawful signage on display in the parish. During the course of our investigation, we located a number of signs which were not only illegally sited, but some had been bolted into the composite road-name signs causing permanent damage. We provided the offenders with written guidance and instructed them to stop. As one company has since re-offended on at least 2 occasions, the matter has been reported to the Police as criminal damage and HDC are consulting on legal action to recover costs relating to repairs.

22/01 – We received a report alleging that a male presenting adult made racist remarks to shop staff. Incidents like this are completely unacceptable and should be reported to the police. If you were present at the time and witnessed the incident, please contact Sussex Police.

Parking/vehicles

We continue to receive reports relating to the anti-social use of a vehicles, especially 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. There is a constant minority who want to enter unproductive debates about the definition of being 'parked'. For clarity, if your vehicle is stationary on a zigzag, on a double yellow line or in a bus stop you are committing an offence, and a Fixed Penalty Notice can be issued.

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 on 01403 215100.

Fly tipping, littering & graffiti

- **Fly Tipping**

06/01 – We responded to a report of a dumped safe. Having made the necessary enquiries, it was removed by HDC.

- **Fly Posting**

16/01 – We removed a sign from Worthing Road that was contravening the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005.

- **Graffiti**

Nothing to Report

- **Litter**

We routinely support our Parish Litter Pickers to keep our village free from 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 'hot spots'. Incidents of drugs litter or paraphernalia remain at a consistently low level.

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

We regularly attend Southwater Youth Project sessions at The Ghyll to strengthen our connection with the local youth. These visits offer a valuable opportunity for young people to share their perspectives and discuss any issues impacting them in a supportive environment.

We maintain a consistent presence at the weekly Games Afternoon club, which serves as a valuable forum for attendees to discuss matters of concern in an informal setting. During recent sessions, several issues were identified, and we have since successfully provided the necessary follow-up assistance and support.

A warm welcome to the residents now settled at Charmans Lodge! To support their integration, the Lodge Manager has organised regular meet-ups in the Owners' Lounge. We have been invited to join these informal meetings, allowing us to build relationships with our new neighbours, listen to their feedback and provide any necessary support.

Southwater Village Hall
in partnership
Southwater Neighbour Network



Games Afternoon

Every other Wednesday afternoon 2 - 4.30pm at Southwater Village Hall. Come and join us. You will be really welcome. We play Rummikub, Scrabble, Dominos, and other board and card games. We also have knitting and crochet if you fancy giving it a try.

If you don't like playing games or knitting, why not just come for tea and a chat. We are a very friendly group. There is a small charge of £2.

If you have difficulty getting to the Village Hall, we may be able to help with transport.

If you would like to come call Teresa on 07957 449701 or Chris on 07854 826724

RETIREMENT APARTMENTS & COTTAGES FOR SALE, EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE OVER 60s



JOIN US FOR
Brunch & Bubbles

WEDNESDAY 18th FEBRUARY
11AM TO 1PM

Southwater
Charmans Lodge, Worthing Road RH13 9JF

Discover Churchill Living and chat to our Owners about the lifestyle here. Bring along a friend or relative too.

Spaces are limited, call 01403 582708 or email charmans.lodge@crl.co.uk

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

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 received a report of an incident that took place on Sunday 4th January 2026 around Cripplegate Lane, and the Country Park where a resident was bitten by a dog. This caused injury and a serious infection developed. The matter has been reported to the police. If you witnessed this incident and have not yet spoken to the police, we would ask you to consider doing so, as your information could be helpful.

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 15 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 ASB, welfare concerns, hazards and help reporting crimes.

Hazards

02/01 – We attended 3 road traffic collisions within the parish following the change in weather. We checked on those involved and supported traffic management, and vehicle recovery where needed.

03/01 – We were alerted by a resident to a knife that had been discarded on a grass verge in one of our residential streets. We liaised with our local PCSO, recovered the knife and handed it to the police for destruction.

07/01 – Whilst on patrol, we located a broken-down car in the live lane exiting the Hop Oast roundabout on the A24. Due to its location and our risk assessment, we called the police for a prompt response to avoid any collisions. They came out and the matter was resolved safely.

20/01 – Whilst on patrol, we became aware that one of the Parish Council's CCTV cameras for the Stakers Lane Skate Park had been moved reducing effective coverage. The matter was reported and adjustments made.

20/01 – We became aware of an outdoor tap owned by Horsham District Council which was leaking profusely, allowing water to run on to the pavement presenting a risk of ice in cold weather. It has been reported for repair.

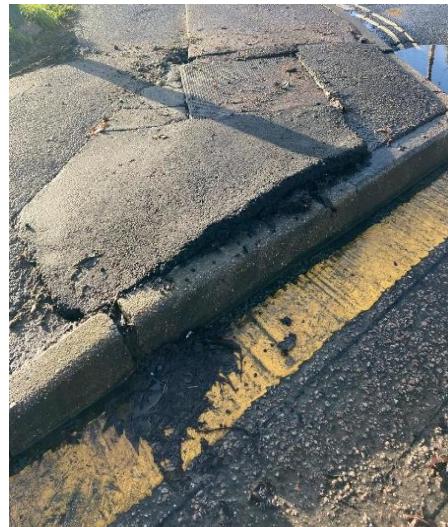
26/01 – We became aware of debris from building works obstructing the footpath and reported the matter for consideration by West Sussex County Council who undertook a site visit, provided words of advice and attempted to improve the temporary situation.

27/01 – We undertook an area search for a dog seen running in the road around Marpost Road, Southwater.

28/01 – We reported the failure of a previous repair to the pavement near Budgens to WSCC Highways.

30/01 – We supported a local resident following a non-injury road traffic collision to ensure they could safely get home, and one vehicle recovered following the exchange of details.

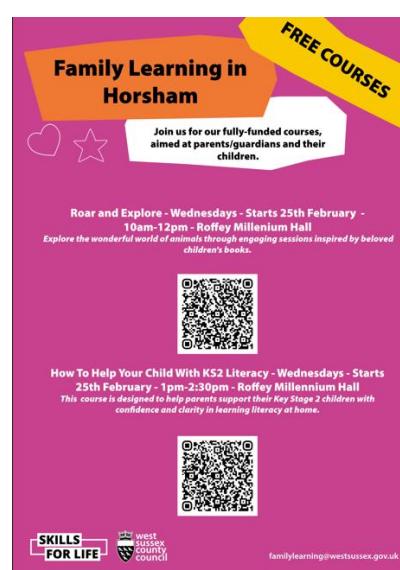
31/01 – We were approached by a resident in relation to broken glass all over the pavement near Southwater Junior Academy, and we attended and made the area safe.



In other news:

West Sussex Adult Learning Service are offering free Family Learning courses in Southwater and Horsham. Check out their website - booking is required:

<https://www.webenrol.com/westsussex/?page=list&catID=2&lang=&>



The Horsham Family Hub offers a range of support, information and guidance to parents, carers and young people as part of the Early Help service.

Southwater Journey Support Group:

Established in November 2024, the Journey Support Group offers a dedicated space for Southwater parents and carers of children with SEN (Special Educational Needs). Meeting regularly at Beeson House in Lintot Square, the initiative is led by us, in partnership with Southwater Parish Council.

As of January 2026, the group is transitioning to a specialist-led format. While sessions will occur less frequently, they will now feature expert guests providing direct professional guidance and service information. Attendance remains free, friendly, and requires no formal diagnosis. Follow the Facebook pages below for upcoming session dates.

- Horsham District Council Neighbourhood Wardens: www.facebook.com/HDWardens
- Southwater Parish Council: www.facebook.com/southwaterpc

Our next Journey meeting in Southwater is scheduled for **Thursday 5th March at 10:30am**.

We are pleased to announce that we will be joined by **SendIAS**, an organization providing impartial information, advice, and support to children and young people with SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities), as well as their parents/ carers. <https://westsussexsendias.org/>

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

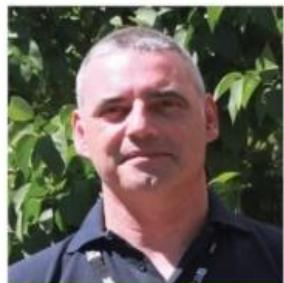


Your Neighbourhood Wardens

- 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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 [@HDWardens](https://facebook.com/HDWardens)



Horsham District
Community Safety
Partnership



Horsham
District
Council