

# Warden Monthly Report

## Southwater Parish Report for April 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](http://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](http://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](http://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

<b>Patrol hours TOTAL:</b>	<b>122.25</b>	<b>ASB incidents reported to us TOTAL:</b>	<b>21.00</b>
Foot (high visibility)	41.00	Noise	1
Vehicle	81.25	Neighbours	1
<b>Notices/warnings TOTAL:</b>	<b>15.00</b>	Driving/vehicles	15
Verbal Warning	3	Bicycles/E-scooters	3
Parking Alert	12	Alcohol/Drugs	0
Yellow card warning (ASB)	0	Other	1
Fixed Penalty Notice	0		
Community Protection Warning/Notice	0	<b>Clear up/disposal reports TOTAL:</b>	<b>16.00</b>
<b>Police reports TOTAL:</b>	<b>28.00</b>	Fly tipping / flyposting	2/1
In person	11	Graffiti	0
Phone (including 101 and 999)	8	Dog fouling	6
Email	7	Litter	6
Intelligence report	2	Drug litter	0
		Hazards	1
<b>Media reports TOTAL:</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>Community events attended</b>	<b>3</b>
Press release / Community magazines	2	<b>School contact</b>	<b>3</b>
Social Media Posts	2	<b>Youth engagement</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Vulnerable People Welfare Checks</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Reports to DVLA</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Signposting</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Reports to Operation Crackdown/Sussex Police</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Safeguarding referral</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Admin</b>	<b>35</b>

## 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.

Over the last few months, we have been managing a developing situation relating to a small number of young people who have been involved in ASB in the village. On occasions, their behaviour has been criminal, and this has resulted in three of them being **arrested** this month for various offences.

It can be easy to fall into the trap of assuming that all young people behave in the same way and that any group of young people you see in the community are similarly motivated as any other group. This is obviously not true. We have some nice, hardworking young people in our village who are **navigating their way to adulthood** as best they can. They are often struggling with the **competing expectations** of parents/carers and peer influence whilst they work out who they are and what they stand for. Social media plays a big role in this mix as well.

**There is no quick fix, but proactive and positive adult input does produce results.**

If you feel able, please interact with young people in a calm, polite and even assertive way (when appropriate).

One aspect of our role involves interacting with, **educating and diverting young people away from ASB** and supporting **vulnerable people** who may also be victims. **We do not investigate crime** – that is the for the Police. If you see anything that puts anyone at risk of harm, please think what agency is best placed to help. It has to be reported to the police as no useful criminal justice intervention will happen just by putting it on social media.

**Evidence is crucial.** No one wants to see miscarriages of justice based on rumour and misguided opinions.

If you have evidence of anyone involved in anti-social behaviour – **give it to the Police not Facebook**. If you are in any doubt about what to do or where to go for help, contact us and we will do our best to support you.

**Community cohesion is in everyone's interest and problem solving is about constructive dialogue.**

**We try to help young people on their journey and ask that you stand with us in this process.**

### Anti-Social Behaviour

01/04 - Following a report of a bike being ridden anti-socially in a pedestrian area, we identified the person responsible and conducted a home visit. Advice was provided to ensure the behaviour is corrected.

02/04 - An e-scooter was seen being ridden in Lintot Square but upon seeing us, the rider made off along Worthing Road. Footage was secured which has been passed to our local PCSO for consideration.

15/04 – We were contacted by concerned residents of a block of flats adjacent to Lintot Square who have been subjected to ASB. We met with them and heard their concerns. We contacted the management agents requesting a few minor alterations to current practices enabling entry to the block. We liaised with the Horsham District Council ASB Coordinator and letters have been hand delivered by us to all affected properties. We will collate the feedback and evidence before putting a plan together to address concerns.

21/04 – We received a report of an adult who deposited bags of dog waste at the front door of someone's home. Their motives are unclear as the occupant of the house does not have a dog so could not be responsible for any dog waste. We have obtained good digital images of the person so they may wish to go back, apologise and remove any remaining waste.

### Crime

08/04 – Due to the intervention of some alert customers who reported two female presenting young adults **stealing** from one of our shops, they were challenged. They would have stolen a lot more if you had not reported it so, thank you!

10/04 - We addressed a group of young people involved in **Public Order** offences. A parent, who was nearby, was also spoken to regarding the incident and the matter has been reported to Sussex Police for further action.

18/04 – We were advised that a male presenting adult resident had again been seen **stealing** from one of our shops. They were subsequently identified and issued with a verbal ban. The police have been notified.

21/04 – We received reports of two female presenting young adults who entered one of our shops, selected items for sale which they dishonestly hid in bags before leaving the store making no attempt to pay – the definition of **stealing**. This was all captured on CCTV, and the matter has been reported to the police.

## Parking/vehicles

We continue to receive reports relating to the **anti-social use of a 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.

17/04 – Whilst on patrol we observed a white Ford vehicle being **driven aggressively** by a white, female presenting, adult. They briefly entered one of the developments and then drove back up Worthing Road to Church Lane at **excess speed** (entering the 30mph zone at 45mph) having tailgated several vehicles beforehand. The standard of their driving fell below that expected of a competent driver and full details, plus dashcam footage, has been passed to the local PCSO for consideration. Please have respect for other road users - no matter how apparently important you think your trip is because if points on your licence and a fine are not bad enough, having an accident is going to ruin your day.

22/04 – We spoke to the owners of several vehicles parked on **double yellow lines** or on the pavement at school pick up time on Quarry Way. Most agreed to move without argument. We returned 10 minutes later and reminded those that remained who then also moved. By 15.20 hours, just as the school children were walking home, the last two trades peoples' vans were still parked on the corner causing a **substantial hazard**. We had given them some extra leeway as they may not have known how it works with us in Southwater which is: We politely ask but we expect you to move or a ticket will be issued where appropriate. They were given their final polite instruction and left. As they ignored our advice and parked illegally again some days later so **tickets were issued**.

22/04 – Following the **seizure of a vehicle** by the Police, we helped two residents to gather their belongings before we transported them home to ensure their safety.

25/04 – Whilst on patrol we saw a vehicle which was recorded as **SORN** and having **no MOT** being driven in the village. This information together with dashcam footage was passed to the relevant authorities for consideration.

25/04 – We were called by a concerned resident due to vehicles being **dangerously parked** on Marlpost Road junction with Two Mile Ash and appeared to be patrons of Bax Castle. We attended, alerted the landlord and reported the matter to Sussex Police as several cars were causing an obstruction and **endangering other road users**.



28/04 – Whilst on patrol we located a vehicle which was recorded as SORN and having **no MOT since August 2025** parked on a residential road. This information was passed to the relevant authority for consideration.

29/04 - Despite multiple formal requests to move construction vehicles parked on double-yellow lines, the issue persisted. Consequently, we requested assistance from the Parking Services team at Horsham District Council. Their intervention resulted in the issuing of **Penalty Charge Notices (PCN)** to address the non-compliance.

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 which has no MOT or tax is being driven or is parked on the public highway, you can use the following website to verify its status: <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>

Although there is no restriction on how long a vehicle can be parked on a highway without being moved (if no Traffic Regulation Orders are in place), if you believe that the vehicle has been 'abandoned' you can report it. Make a note of the vehicle registration number, make, model and colour of the vehicle and the street name, town and the postcode where you saw it. You will need these details to make your reports.

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**  
08/04 – We recovered a printer that had been fly-tipped in a woodland stream and ensured its correct disposal.  
28/04 – We reported a double-glazed door and broken glass dumped in Hogs Wood for collection by HDC.
- **Fly Posting**  
02/04 – We reported an estate agent's sign to Horsham District Council for being unlawfully attached to a road sign.
- **Graffiti**  
Nothing to report
- **Litter**  
16/04 – We received a report from a resident that a group of young people had just **dumped a load of litter** around the bench by the War Memorial. We attended, engaged with the group and one of them offered to clear it up. We also provided words of advice and reminded them of our expectations in relation to their behaviour. It was a positive interaction providing a **good outcome**.  
  
20/04 - Whilst on patrol, we stopped and re-positioned several **bins** which had fallen into the road causing an **obstruction**. The contents were also blowing all over the place, so we had to clean that up too. Please do what you can to secure you bins and their contents to avoid this.  
  
28/04 – We responded to a resident's complaint about litter in and around Rascals Close and Hogs Wood.  
  
29/04 – We responded to a resident's complaint about litter in and around Shipley Road.

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.

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 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.

<p><b>Southwater Welcome Club</b> Formed in 1960</p>  <p>Meetings on alternate Wednesdays at the Village Hall, Church Lane Southwater 2.30pm until 4.30pm.</p>	<p>Southwater Village Hall &amp; SNN</p> <p><b>Games afternoon</b> <b>Every other Wednesday</b> <b>2pm - 4.30pm</b> <b>Southwater Village Hall</b> Rummikub, Scrabble, Dominos, Knitting, Crochet, Tea and Chat Contact Teresa <b>07957 449701</b> or Chris <b>07854 826724</b></p>	<p><b>Southwater Computer Club</b></p> <p>Is the rate of change in the world of computers, mobile phones, the internet and accessing services online changing faster than you can keep up?</p> <p>Would you like to meet a group of volunteers who are willing to help you? Look no further, come along to our first meeting.</p> <p><b>Starting: Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2025</b> <b>10.00 to 12.00 and every subsequent Tuesday.</b> <b>Laurie Apted Building, Church Lane, Southwater</b></p> <p>A group of volunteers will be on hand to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Give an introduction to the club</li><li>• Answer some of your queries</li><li>• Explain how to spot scams</li><li>• Examine if your mobile contract is correct for you</li></ul>  <p>This will be the first meeting of the club, which will meet regularly. Do not think you are the only one struggling to keep pace with change.</p> <p>Come along, meet others, enjoy a cup of tea/coffee and hear what we have to offer.</p> <p>If you have any questions email <a href="mailto:info@southwatercp.org.uk">info@southwatercp.org.uk</a></p>
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## 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.

This month, we have undertaken numerous **Welfare Checks**. On one occasion, an older person had become **lost** in the community. After a local resident kindly assisted them with their onward travel to their destination, we followed up to ensure they were home safely. We provided information on supportive local services. Several other residents continue to feel **isolated** or have very **specific needs** that are not being met or need reviewing by specialists and we help them with that too.

01/04 – We saw an older resident struggling to walk home with their shopping. We offered to help which was accepted and we were able to support them whilst undertaking an overall welfare check to identify additional needs.

09/04 – We were able to support two **brilliant residents** helping an older person who had **tripped and fallen** in Lintot Square sustaining a substantial **head injury**. In the absence of an immediate response from the Ambulance Service, we took them home and organised for a friend to keep them safe until a **medical professional** could attend. They have since been discharged from hospital following treatment and are starting their **road to recovery**.

23/04 – We received a call from a concerned relative reporting that a family member was missing. Having gained crucial information about the **missing person** including photographs, we advised the informant to report the situation to the police whilst we searched key locations. After a brief search, we were relieved to hear that they had been **found by police** and were soon reunited with their family.



### Free Mobility Scooter Training in Southwater

Did you know that free, expert mobility scooter training is available right here in Southwater?

We are fortunate to be supported by **Mobility Scooter Safety**, a dedicated team of volunteers passionate about helping mobility scooter and powered wheelchair users drive with confidence. Their mission is simple: to ensure that every rider feels safe, capable, and secure while navigating our local pavements and shops.



### What is a safety session?

A safety session will help you understand the correct use and limitations of your scooter or powered wheelchair to become a safer driver. These sessions are free and take less than 2 hours of your time.

You can book your session with one of their friendly Scooter Tutors who will meet you and your 'chaperone' (a relative, neighbour or friend) at your home or another suitable place.

- They will have a brief chat about your scooter, your experience and requirements.
- They will check your eyesight - you will be asked to read a car's registration number from a 40 feet (12.3 m) distance, about 3 car lengths.
- Accompanied by the Scooter Tutor, you will drive your scooter on a tour of your local area. The tutor will explain the best and safest way to drive and to deal with any hazards.
- You will have the opportunity to practise to crossroads safely, navigate pavements and, where possible, drive safely in shops.

This is not a test but an opportunity to build up your confidence to use your scooter and to be a safe driver. You can also rebook for a second appointment free of charge.

If you currently do not have your own scooter but are considering getting a one, Mobility Scooter Safety will be able to make a scooter available for you to use during the training session.

Why not give them a ring on **07906 211030** or **07729 376345** to find out more and to book your appointment. You can also email them on [mobilityscootersafety@gmail.com](mailto:mobilityscootersafety@gmail.com) or check out their website:

<https://mobilityscootersafety.org.uk/>

## 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](mailto: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.

## Parish specific/other

### Public Enquiries

This month we responded to 27 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 **risks to wildlife**, confused resident with **welfare concerns**, **ASB parking**, **litter**, damaged trees causing **hazard**, young people gaining **unauthorised access** to residential block, people **cycling** over front gardens, shop **theft** and **suspicious activity**.

### Hazards

02/04 – We reported damage to a very large road sign on the A24 to WSCC

08/04 – We removed a printer from a stream in The Ghyll woods

20/04 – We reported an overflowing dog waste bin to HDC for collection

24/04 – We found an insecure business premises and raised a key holder incident

24/04 – We cleared debris from the Worthing Road following a collision between two vehicles

28/04 – We removed several small saplings which had been deliberately broken in order to block footpaths

### Meetings

07/04 – We attended a Community Services meeting at Horsham District Council

16/04 – We engaged with the WSCC led Prevention Panel to discuss young people of concern in the Horsham 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](mailto:Southwater.Wardens@horsham.gov.uk)

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS**

**YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS**  
Southwater Parish

**Dominic Woodhead**  
07789 943193

**Bettina Long**  
07789 943156

If you wish to speak to us in confidence, please give us a call or email  
[southwater.wardens@horsham.gov.uk](mailto:southwater.wardens@horsham.gov.uk)

@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**