

# Warden Monthly Report

## Southwater Parish Report for November 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](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](http://crime<br/>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](mailto: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>118.00</b>	<b>ASB incidents reported to us TOTAL:</b>	<b>18</b>
Foot (high visibility)	48.25	Noise	0
Vehicle	69.75	Neighbours	0
<b>Notices/warnings TOTAL:</b>	<b>15</b>	Driving/vehicles	13
Verbal Warning	10	Bicycles/E-scooters	0
Parking Alert	5	Alcohol/Drugs	0
Yellow card warning (ASB)	0	Other	5
Fixed Penalty Notice	0		
Community Protection Warning/Notice	0	<b>Clear up/disposal reports TOTAL:</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Police reports TOTAL:</b>	<b>12</b>	Fly tipping / flyposting	1/5
In person	2	Graffiti	0
Phone (including 101 and 999)	4	Dog fouling	6
Email	3	Litter	3
Intelligence report	3	Drug litter	0
		Hazards	2
<b>Media reports TOTAL:</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Community events attended</b>	<b>8</b>
Press release / Community magazines	1	<b>School contact</b>	<b>10</b>
Social Media Posts	1	<b>Youth engagement</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>Vulnerable People Welfare Checks</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Reports to DVLA</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Signposting</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Reports to Operation Crackdown</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Safeguarding referral</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Admin</b>	<b>35</b>

## Anti-Social Behaviour

Through our partnership working, in particular 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 have been made aware of an ongoing issue with young people accessing a wooded area managed by The Ghyll leading to allegations of trespass and criminal damage to private property adjoining the land. Multiple parties are in dialogue, and we continue to patrol the area as an attempt to disrupt future activity.

22/11 - Having been alerted to an incident at Texaco, we attended, confirmed the identity of those involved and located them in the village. Following conversations with the young people involved, it became clear that there were grievances on both sides principally caused by a lack of maturity and understanding of law driven by social media misinformation. We are seeking to resolve this issue through a pragmatic approach and managed dialogue.

### Crime

We have received several reports from HDC's key holding security team in relation to criminal damage being caused to the toilets in the Country Park. Please report any suspicious activity in that area to the police.

## Parking/vehicles

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**

05/11 – Following a complaint from a resident we patrolled the Downs Link at Christs Hospital to locate two, large, white goods items that had been dumped. They have now been cleared.

- **Fly Posting**

04/11 – On safety grounds, we removed 5 separate items of illegal advertising.

- **Graffiti**

19/11 – We located graffiti daubed on the Staker's Lane tunnel. It has been reported to HDC for removal.

- **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**

If you know 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

01/11 – We attended the SPC Councillor Surgery to answer questions from councillors and members of the public.

01/11 – We ran one of our regular Warden Drop-In Sessions so that residents could talk with us about any concerns.

07/11 – We were invited to attend the very popular fireworks display at Southwater Sports Club

21/11 – We attended the Coffee afternoon at Charmans Lodge and got to meet some of the new residents

21/11 – We visited the Southwater Youth Project and spent some time speaking to some of the young people

22/11 – We took part in the decoration of the Phoenix Tree

25/11 – We visited the Computer Club held at the Laurie Apted Building by the Sports Club on Church Lane

26/11 – We visited the Welcome Club and spent some time with those attending discussing their concerns

29/11 – We assisted at the Southwater Christmas Festival which was a great success.



## The Phoenix Tree: A Southwater Community Tradition



Each December, the Southwater community observes a cherished annual tradition at the Hangman's Hill roundabout. The centrepiece of this observance is the Phoenix Tree that serves not only as a festive landmark but as a poignant living memorial to departed loved ones.

This initiative is made possible through the dedicated efforts of local volunteers. Affectionately referred to as the "volunteer elves," these individuals meticulously decorate the tree, creating a space for communal remembrance during the holiday season. The Phoenix Tree holds deep significance for many residents, offering a meaningful way to honour and celebrate those who are no longer with us. Each ornament placed upon the branches carries a personal message, name, or memory, ensuring that these individuals are respectfully remembered amidst the festive atmosphere.

We are honoured to have participated in facilitating this tradition once again this year. We were particularly impressed by the professional execution and skilful handling of the crane operation by Lloyd, which ensured the safe and successful decoration of this important community landmark.

This annual gathering is a shining example of how a community chooses to heal and remember together, transforming a simple landmark into a monument of hope and collective spirit.



## Southwater Computer Club

**Struggling with your phone, tablet or laptop?  
Need help accessing online services?**



You're not alone - and we're here to help!

**Southwater Computer Club** offers friendly, patient support for local people who want to get more confident with their technology.

Our experienced volunteer mentors are on hand to guide you at your own pace in a relaxed, welcoming environment.

Every Tuesday, 10am -12pm  
Laurie Apted Building, Church Lane, Southwater  
Free parking  
£3 entry - includes refreshments

Southwater Computer Club is an initiative run by the Southwater Community Partnership

The Computer Club was set up by the Community Partnership to help residents navigate their way through the world of technology.

In an increasingly digital society, having essential computer skills is crucial for accessing services, communication, and employment.

The Computer Club aims to provide a welcoming and accessible environment where residents can enhance their digital literacy regardless of their current skill level.

Everyone is welcome to attend and benefit from this new resource.

To ensure effective and personalized support, a dedicated team of volunteers is available at the club sessions. These mentors are on hand to offer one-to-one assistance, answer questions, and help attendees overcome various technological challenges.

## Christmas Festival

A big thank you goes out to the **Southwater Community Partnership** for organising a truly wonderful community event. The entertainment was amazing, and the event offered a little something for everybody who attended, reinforcing the strong community spirit in the village.

It is worth highlighting that this much-loved event, along with all other Southwater Community Partnership initiatives, is organised entirely by volunteers. These initiatives are set up and run by residents who generously give their time, energy, and ideas to benefit the community.

If you would like to learn more about how you can get involved or contribute your own ideas, please contact the Community Partnership at [info@southwatercp.org.uk](mailto:info@southwatercp.org.uk)

Your involvement can help ensure the continued success of these vital community activities.











## 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.

Southwater Parish Council published this article:

As part of their diverse and wide-ranging Neighbourhood Warden role, Bettina and Dom work closely with many wonderful older residents in Southwater. Their aim is to help them access appropriate services and gain the support they need to live positive, fulfilling lives that complement their personalities and interests.



Recently, they had the privilege of meeting a resident in their 90s who lives alone and independently manages all their own care needs. As people get older, they may find that their needs change, sometimes in ways they did not expect. This remarkable individual, who many years ago served their country in uniform, has been managing challenges with hearing and sight, which they find incredibly frustrating. With only a few regular visitors, they spend many hours in isolation and find this difficult. They love a good chat and have a wicked sense of humour but can no longer get out and about to meet people as easily and share their time with others.

Executive Officer & RFO of Southwater Parish Council handing over the purchased items to Dominic Woodhead, Neighbourhood Warden

The Wardens noticed that the resident never seemed to use their TV, so they asked about it. The resident explained that they could no longer see the buttons on the remote control, nor easily reach the power socket, which is something most people probably don't even think about when doing it themselves. Taking advice from the [Royal National Institute of Blind People](#), the Wardens sourced a specific TV remote with larger, simpler buttons and found an appropriate extension lead with separate switches so the TV can now be turned off without stretching around furniture to reach the socket.

With the generosity of the [Chairman's Discretionary Fund from SPC](#), they were able to purchase these two small items, which will hopefully make a really big difference and help the resident. They would like to thank everyone for their continued support, which enables them to go that little bit further in providing care and assistance for the local people.

#### **SOUTHWATER NEIGHBOUR NETWORK**

*We provide the kind of help a good neighbour might offer*

We are a good neighbour scheme, run and provided by volunteers, offering help to Southwater residents who have difficulty getting out because of mobility problems or who are socially isolated. We can provide transport, if it is local, help with shopping and collect prescriptions. We also offer befriending, arrange regular outings, and help run a fortnightly Games afternoon which our service users can attend.

All our volunteers are DBS checked and use their own cars to provide transport. The service is free, but contributions are always welcome.

For further information

**07766 088967**

**swaternn@gmail.com**

**<http://southwaterneighbournetwork.org>**

**Interested in becoming a volunteer?**

**We would love to hear from you.**



**We recently stepped in to assist a local resident facing social isolation due to mobility challenges, following a referral from a concerned National Health Service (NHS) staff member.**

We connected with the individual to discuss available social clubs within Southwater and coordinate suitable transport options. These arrangements are currently being put into place with the goal of helping the resident improve their social life and regain independence within the community.

Southwater hosts a vibrant array of regular clubs and activities. Details for these local gatherings can be found in the **Southwater News magazine**.

Run entirely by volunteers, the Southwater Neighbourhood Network offers a variety of essential services, including local transport assistance, demonstrating the power of community engagement in supporting resident wellbeing.

<https://southwaterneighbournetwork.org/services>

## **Dog related issues**

We continue to receive reports of a dog being allowed to wonder unsupervised around the Mulberry Fields development defecating in people's gardens. This is unacceptable. In addition, with the afternoons becoming darker, there is also a risk that this poor dog could be hit by a vehicle. We have already alerted the local housing provider and land management companies and would urge residents to note the contact links below.

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 **15** enquiries from residents by phone, email or in person and where necessary, signposted them to the most appropriate support services. These enquires included, but were not limited to, concern for vulnerable residents, a person suspected to be driving a motor vehicle whilst under the influence of alcohol and a report of a dog out of control in a public space.



## **Hazards**

25/03 - We reported a damaged bus stop sign on Worthing Road and the damaged finger post sign at the junction of Colstaple Lane and Kerves Lane to SPC.

## **Meetings**

12/11 – HDC ASB Coordinator meeting regarding ongoing issues of adult ASB in a particular road in Southwater  
18/11 – HDC Community Development meeting – received updates on new support options for vulnerable residents  
19/11 – We met with Ross Spanton the recently appointed HDC Neighbourhood Warden Team Leader  
20/11 – We met with Veronika Toth, SPC Engagement Officer to discuss ongoing projects  
25/11 – We attended a meeting with West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service and Sussex Police to discuss local matters.  
26/11 – We attended a regular Horsham District Council staff meeting  
27/11 – We hosted the quarterly Steering Group meeting with SPC Councillors Pearce & Villis to discuss priorities.

## **Training**

04/11 – We successfully completed our Community Safety Accreditation Scheme refresher training  
06/11 – We completed mandatory training packages on Protection from Harassment and another on Climate Change  
25/11 – We completed mandatory training packages on Prevent and Action Counters Terrorism

## **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

- 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](mailto:southwater.wardens@horsham.gov.uk)

 @HorshamWardens  
 @HDWardens



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