



Horsham
District
Council

Neighbourhood Wardens' Monthly Report

January 2026 – Billingshurst Parish

The monthly update from your Neighbourhood Wardens, Louisa Hull and Ross Phillips

Project Work

Chapel Corner Gardens – Trinity United Reformed Church

January has seen the physical start of the project with spades and forks hitting the ground. We have been joined by a group of amazing students from the 'Woodview' department of Ingfield Manor School at Five Oaks. 'Woodview' is the specialist hub and provision for children and young people with speech, language and communication needs. Some of these young people struggle in classroom environments but they have greatly impressed us with their enthusiasm and desire to be outside, getting stuck in with the project.



Week 1

We met the Year 10 Outdoor Education students on site at the United Reformed Church to begin the project. We talked about our plan and then set the students their tasks. We were extremely lucky to have been lent a range of tools to use by Barney Hollister from Billigreen. The students started work in the courtyard of the church and cleared the grounds of weeds and rubble, collected leaf litter, pruned back shrubs and ivy, and dug up plants which they re-potted for use later in the project. They worked very hard and made a huge difference.



Week 2

During our second session the students moved from the church courtyard to the front of the building. They spent the day removing old shrubs and repotting plants for the next phase of the project. We were all so impressed with their commitment and hard work and totally amazed with the amount of work they completed during the day. The school staff also got stuck in too and we were impressed with how well everyone worked as a team. It was a great pleasure to engage with them all and get to know them better.

Week 3



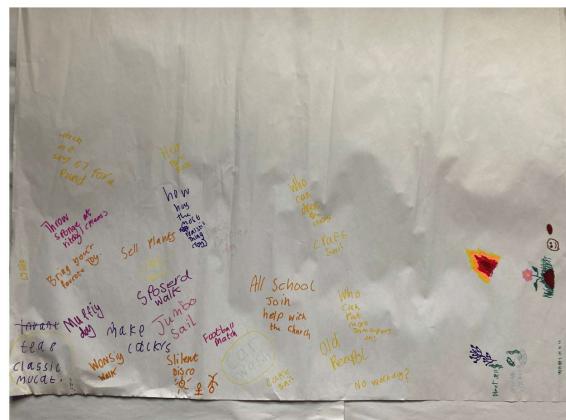
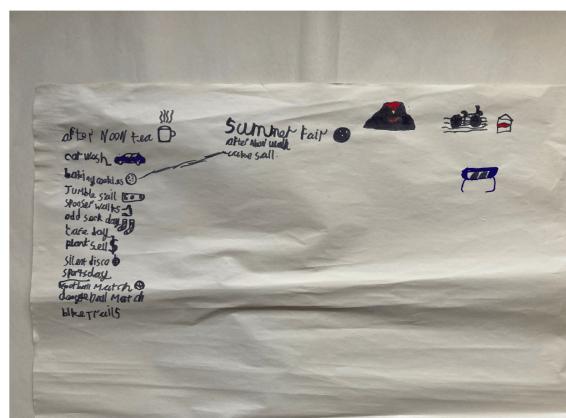
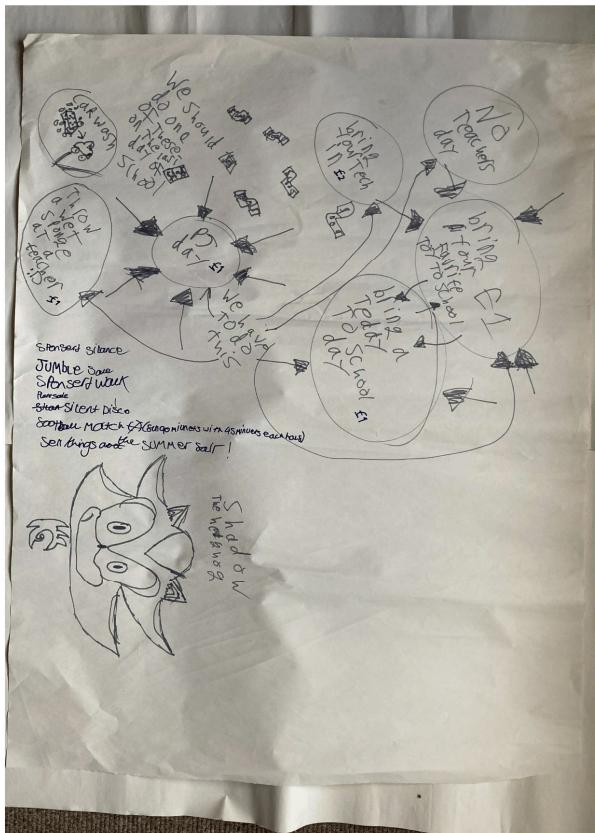
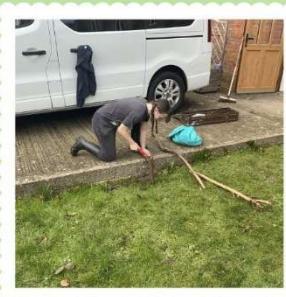
Week 3

Sadly, rain stopped play on our third session - Unfortunately, we had to cancel our session with the [Ingfield Manor School](#) students on Wednesday 21st January as we were concerned about the weather conditions and the amount of mud we may create in the garden and in the hall.

However, the good news is - A HUGE thank you to Barney Hollister, local resident, Chapel Corner Gardens committee member and member of [BiliGreen](#), who has helped to source two large water butts for the project. One will be situated in the courtyard and one in the garden at the front.



Week 4



Week 4

Before heading out into the gardens on Wednesday 28th January, we ran a quick brain-storming session with the students to seek their thoughts on fundraising ideas for the project - we were blown away by the creativity and quantity of suggestions that came forward.

The students then got stuck in once again clearing away the garden waste and shrubs. They separated themselves into small teams and took on a number of tasks.

Outdoor Education Lead, Richie Brinkmann said “When we began this project I thought I would need to be ready to motivate students to keep them on track however I have been blown away with the level of commitment and self-motivation of all of the students and I have had to work hard to get them to down tools to get back to school in time for taxis. We finished our day with a session on evaluation. The students had the chance to feedback on their Volunteering experience, and it was lovely to hear all their positive comments on this community-based volunteering module. Only two weeks to go, I think the students will really miss this topic.”

Chapel Corner Gardens Social Media

We've also been busy this month setting up the Social Media channels for the project and you can follow them at the links below.

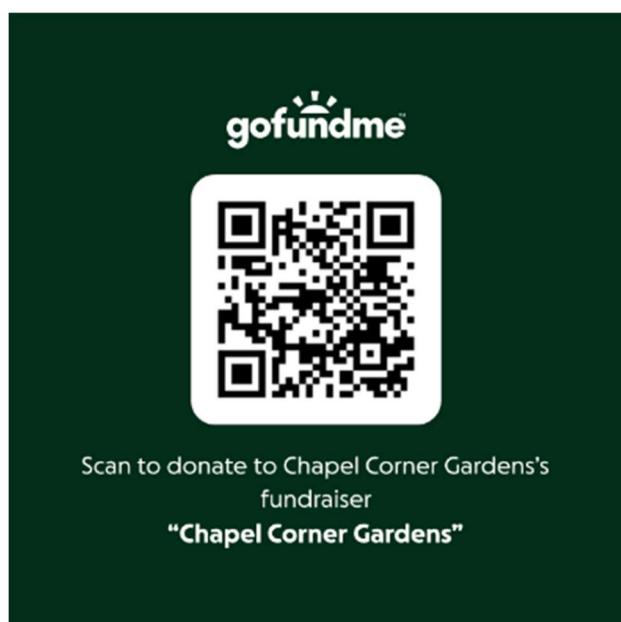
On Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/chapelcornergardens>

On Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/chapelcornergardens>

Fundraising – Go Fund Me



We have created a GoFundMe account to help with funding for the project and are really pleased to have received some donations from residents already. The GoFundMe page can be accessed by scanning the QR code or by visiting the link below.

<https://gofund.me/66b275c9e>

Youth Provision

Youth Boxing Programme Update

The Youth Boxing Programme continues to attract strong attendance on Wednesday afternoons, providing young people with a valuable opportunity to engage in structured physical activity that supports both physical fitness and mental wellbeing. While the majority of participants are students from The Weald, the programme remains open to all, and it is encouraging to see participation from non-Weald club members, reflecting the inclusive nature of the club.

Coaches from the Brighton and Hove Boxing Team deliver high-quality, progressive sessions that support participants at all stages of development. The structured approach to training allows both new and experienced boxers to build confidence, discipline, and technical skill over time, and it has been particularly rewarding to observe the clear progress made across the group.

In addition, the programme is actively supporting academic achievement. Two Year 11 participants have selected boxing as their GCSE Sport Individual Activity and are using their training sessions to gather filmed evidence for assessment, enabling them to gain valuable qualifications alongside their sporting development.

Events and Meetings Attended This Month

Meeting Regarding Estate Agents Boards – Monday 12th January

Ross attended a meeting at Albury House to discuss the unauthorised erection of estate agents' boards within the district. The illegal placement of "For Sale" boards by estate agents in the UK causes harm primarily through risks to public safety, visual blight and street clutter, and damage to local amenity and community pride.

These concerns have been underscored by incidents in which certain estate agencies have screwed their signposts into HDC road signs within the parish. Several of these signs commemorate those who fell in the First World War. Such actions have caused physical damage to the street signs and represent a profound disrespect to the parish's war dead.

Warden Steering Group Meeting – Tuesday 20th January

On Tuesday 20th January we attended our quarterly warden steering group meeting with our team leader and representatives from the Parish Council Office and Councillors to discuss our work within the parish and our current priorities.

Dementia Cafe – Saturday 24th January

Due to our shift pattern and other commitments before Christmas it has been a while since we have been able to attend the Dementia Cafe. We went along on Saturday 24th January and what a lovely atmosphere there was when we entered. It was great to meet new volunteer Ali and chat to him about his experience with dementia. It was also



good to see new friendships being formed and attendees helping each other out with discussions about transport and obtaining new hearing aids.

The Dementia Cafe is held at the hall at the Trinity United Reformed Church which is accessed via West Street. The cafe will be open on Saturdays 14th & 28th February between 10am and 12 noon.

More information can be found on the Trinity URC's website and Facebook pages:

<https://billingshursturc.co.uk/dementia%20cafe.html>

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064598869390>

Professionals Meeting Regarding Vulnerable Older Person – Tuesday 27th January

We attended a multi-agency meeting online with other professionals to discuss our concerns about an older person who we have some concerns about and to look at ways to support them.



Billingshurst Neighbourhood Wardens - Come & See Us

- Is there a community issue you'd like to discuss?
- Do you have an idea for a community project you'd like to chat through?
- Would you like to know more about our Chapel Corner Gardens project and how to get involved?
- Would you like to know more about activities going on in the village such as our Friday Coffee Mornings or Youth Boxing Programme?
- Would you just like to know about what wardens do?

Why not come along and see us.

We'll be at the following locations:

Saturday 7th March  11:00am – Midday at The Depot, Billingshurst, 83A High Street, Billingshurst

Saturday 11th April  11:30am – 14:30pm at The Billingshurst Showcase, Billingshurst Centre

Future Events

Discover warden events happening across the district here:

<https://www.horsham.gov.uk/community/wardens-events>

Local Neighbourhood policing events can also be found here:

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/area/your-area/sussex/horsham/billingshurst-shipton-pulborough-and-coldwaltham/meetings-and-events/top-reported-crimes-in-this-area>

Social Media



Billingshurst Wardens Instagram Account

Don't forget we now have our own dedicated Billingshurst Wardens Instagram account.

Please give us a follow at the link below:

<https://www.instagram.com/billingshurstwardens/>



Horsham District Neighbourhood Wardens

We also share a Facebook account with the other Horsham District Neighbourhood Warden Teams so please do follow us at:

<https://www.facebook.com/HDWardens>

Parish Specific/Other

Breaks to Men's Shed and Station Road Gardens Sheds

We were very sad to learn of the break-in to the Men's Shed in the early hours of Tuesday 13th January where damage was caused to the main shed door, padlocks and tools were taken. During the same time period the sheds at the neighbouring Station Road Gardens were also broken into and tools taken. We gave advice to those involved with Station Road Gardens to file a report to the police and ask for it to be linked to the investigation regarding the Men's Shed.

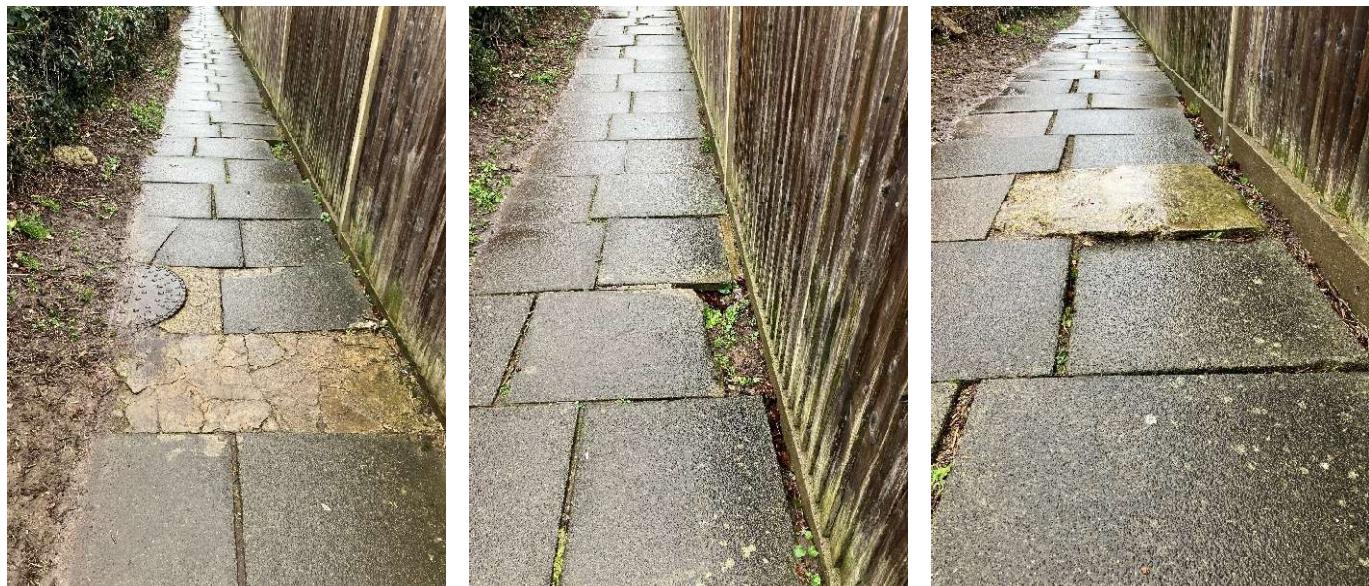
Keith Witt, Chair of the Billingshurst Men's Shed, has created a Just Giving page to help with the cost of the repairs. The link can be found below:

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/keith-witt?utm_medium=CF&utm_source=CL



Photo courtesy of Billingshurst Men's Shed

Uneven Path leading from Jengers Mead Car Park to Coombe Hill



Following contact from a resident, who raised the state of the uneven path that runs between Coombe Hill and Jengers Mead car park, we made a report to Horsham District Council's Properties Team, and they have advised that the path will be lifted and relayed in due course.

Pothole in the Library Car Park



Whilst out on patrol we also noticed a pothole appearing in the library car park. This has also been reported to the Horsham District Council's Properties Team and is logged for repair.

Sewage Leak/Blockage



We received a complaint from a member of the public about a sewage leak at a property on the High Street. Unfortunately, the occupant was not available when we visited. Due to a possible blockage further into the pipe networks under the highway, we filed a report with Southern Water to investigate. We believe the blockage was caused due to the freezing weather conditions.

Litter Pick – Newbridge Road West

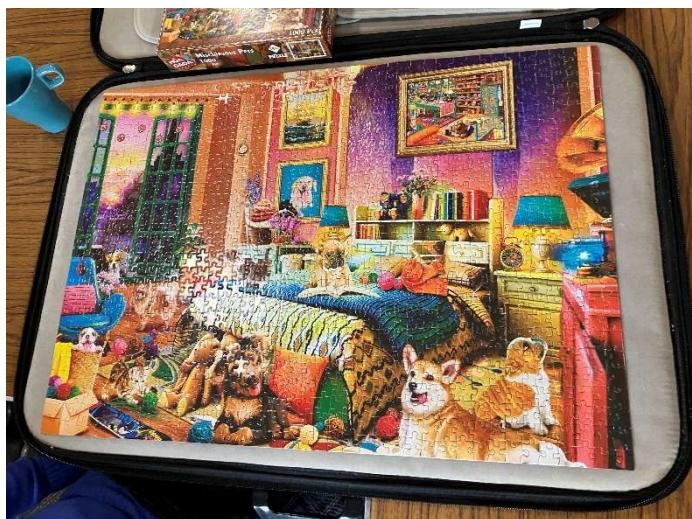


During our recent patrols we noticed how much litter has been discarded recently at Newbridge Road West and had planned to carry out a litter pick. Before we completed this, we were contacted by a resident who asked if both her and her daughter could help with a litter pick in the area as they too had noticed an increase in discarded rubbish.

On Tuesday 27th January armed with our trusty litter pickers and rubbish sacks we headed out to the area and set to work. Whilst there we were stopped by another resident, who had parked up, and he too asked if he could join in.

Between the five of us we collected three full bags of rubbish! A HUGE thank you to the residents involved for their help and for caring about the environment.

Friday Coffee Mornings



Our Friday Coffee Mornings run in conjunction with the Billingshurst Centre continue to be popular. During January we have met several new attendees, and it has been a pleasure to chat to them and see them making new friends.

The coffee mornings run between 10am and midday every Friday throughout the year (except Good Friday and over the Christmas period).

Whilst Out on Patrol

RTC – West Chiltington Lane



During the cold snap, on Friday 2nd January, whilst conducting our vehicle patrols, we came across an accident on West Chiltington Lane. The black ice on the road had sadly caused the vehicle to skid and overturn. The 3 occupants and their dog were trapped inside. With the assistance of two very nice members of the public who stopped to help we managed to free everyone in the vehicle and get them out to a place of safety. We assisted in keeping everyone safe and turning other vehicles around until the Police and Ambulance crews arrived.

Fly Tipping

Sadly, January has been a month where we have seen an increase in fly tipping in the parish and we have made lots of reports into the team at Horsham District Council for its removal.

Fly tipped household waste found on the verge in West Chiltington Lane.





A tyre found at the junction of Newbridge Road West and a blanket and other waste found in Rowner Road.



We also noticed that donations had been left piled up next to the Salvation Army donation station in the Six Bells Car Park, which is also fly tipping. However rather than report as fly tipping, we contacted the Salvation Army to let them know that the collection bin was overflowing and needed emptying.

Graffiti

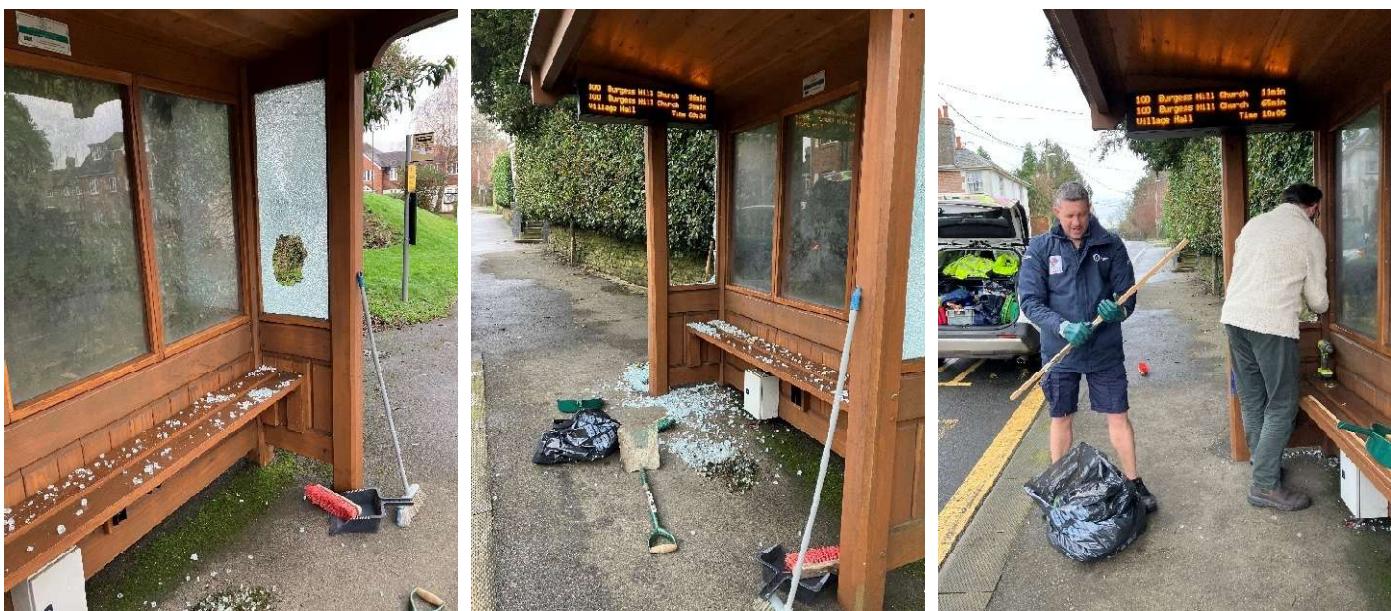
We have not had any new graffiti reported to us this month and have not found any ourselves.

Anti-Social Behaviour/Damage

Door kicked – Challen Street

We received a report from a resident that someone had kicked their front door during the evening of Thursday 22nd January, leaving a muddy footprint. Advice was given to report this to Sussex Police and see if any neighbours had any camera doorbell footage. We have carried out additional patrols in the area and discussed with PCSO Fontyn.

Damage to Bus Shelter, High Street



A real shame to find during the morning of Thursday 29th January, that further damage had been caused to the glass in one of the bus stops at the northern end of the High Street. For safety reasons it was important that we removed the broken glass as quickly as possible, so we joined Richard, Assistant Parish Clerk, with our trusty broom and dustpan & brush and got to work.

WHO DO I REPORT TO?

Reporting crime and anti-social behaviour

999
or report online www.sussex.police.uk

101
• 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.

CrimeStoppers.
0800 555 111
crimestoppers-uk.org

British Transport Police
0800 40 50 40
Text 61016

Horsham District Council
communitysafety@horsham.gov.uk

• All non-emergency incidents where the crime has already happened or there is no immediate risk of harm.

• 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.

• 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.

• 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

Sussex Police Website:

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/>

Useful links for reporting litter, fly-tipping or graffiti:

You can report litter issues to HDC at the following link:

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

You can report a damaged or overflowing litter bin here:

<https://www.horsham.gov.uk/waste-recycling-and-bins/litter-and-street-cleaning/report-a-damaged-or-overflowing-litter-bin>

If you witness fly-tipping in action, please call Sussex Police and, if possible, provide them with the registration of the offending vehicle and subsequently any relevant dash cam footage you may have.

You can also report it direct to HDC at: <https://www.horsham.gov.uk/waste-recycling-and-bins/litter-and-street-cleaning/fly-tipping>

Abandoned shopping trolleys can be reported on the 'Trolleywise' website at:

https://www.wanzl.com/en_GB/360-degree-service/TrolleyWise

You can report incidents of graffiti direct to Horsham District Council via their website:

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

Horsham District Council App



Horsham District Council have a useful app that can be used to find out lots of information, report litter, fly-tipping, and graffiti, and you can even set up handy reminders about your waste collections too. The app can be downloaded from the Apple or Google Play stores. More information and links to download are available on the HDC website:

<https://www.horsham.gov.uk/mobileapp>

Dog Related Issues

Dog fouling can be reported via the HDC website:

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

Any attacks by dogs need to be reported immediately to Sussex Police. Their advice is that if there is an immediate threat to human or animal life to call 999. Otherwise report to the police on 101 or via the Sussex Police website reporting form.

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>

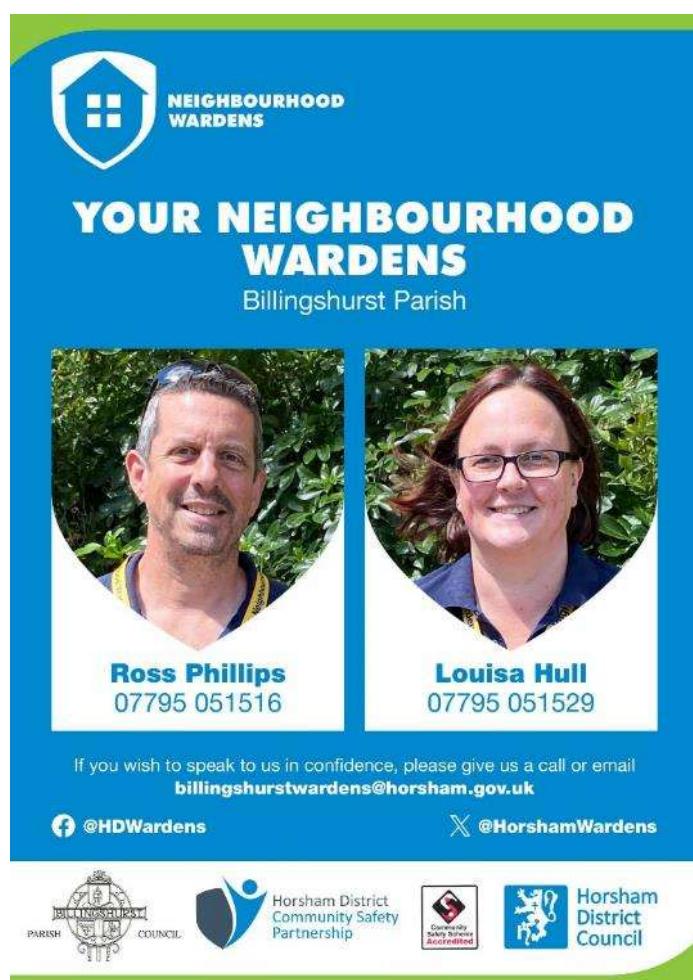
Dogs Roaming Free

If you find a dog roaming free and not being supervised, you may wish to consider reporting it to Horsham District Council's approved contractor on 07512 089777 and they will come and collect. ***This is a 24/7 service, but the dog does need to be contained for them to collect.***

*** Please note Horsham District Council does not have dog wardens ***

Rough Sleepers and Homeless Persons

<https://thestreetlink.org.uk/> connecting people sleeping rough to local services.



YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS
Billingshurst Parish

Ross Phillips
07795 051516

Louisa Hull
07795 051529

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

@HDWardens **@HorshamWardens**



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.

In an emergency always dial 999