



Neighbourhood Wardens' Monthly Report September 2025 – Billingshurst Parish

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

Project Work

Chapel Corner Community Gardens

Further to last month's update, we're delighted to share some exciting news: in partnership with Trinity United Reformed Church and other key stakeholders, we are supporting the transformation of the church lawns into a drought-tolerant, prairie-style community space. This new landscape will be beautiful, low-maintenance, and welcoming to all.



Current layouts



Artist impressions



In addition to redesigning the front, we are also planning to create a produce garden in the courtyard which will be used for growing fresh vegetables and herbs for church and community use.



Current layout



Artist impression of raised beds

To achieve this ambitious goal, we will, in due course be asking for donations of time, money and resources from the community, for the initial preparation of the site, to planting and ongoing maintenance of the gardens. Please get in touch if you feel you can help in any way.

Billingshurst Primary Academy Lunchtime Visits



As part of our 'community safety' role, we've been visiting the primary school during lunchtime to spend time with pupils. This helps us build positive relationships, allowing the children to get to know us—and to feel confident approaching us in the community.

We're quite pleased with ourselves for already remembering a few names, though with around 740 pupils, it may take us a while to learn them all! It's been equally rewarding to meet some of them outside of school, whether after class or at the weekends, and to have those friendly chats that help strengthen connections.

We're confident that the time we're investing now will pay dividends as these pupils move through primary school and onto secondary, where we look forward to continuing to support them on their journey at the Weald.

A Virtual Day Out

We are very much looking forward to welcoming the Seniors Coffee Morning attendees to a 'Virtual Day Out' at the Billingshurst Centre on Monday 6th October. Organised in conjunction with Community Agents from Age UK (Horsham District) and in collaboration with Whistlestop Arts, attendees will get to embark on a trip out to either Horsham Park, Felpham Beach, The South Downs or Amberley Museum all via a screen. We look forward to updating you all in our October report with their destination and how the event went.

Social Media



New Billingshurst Wardens Instagram Account

Whilst working in the Pulborough Parish we found Instagram an especially useful engagement tool particularly with local businesses and younger people, so with the permission of HDC's Communications team we have now set up our own dedicated Billingshurst Wardens Instagram account. Please give us a follow at the link below:
<https://www.instagram.com/billingshurstwardens/>

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>

Youth Provision

Youth Boxing Programme Update





FREE
in
Billingshurst

WBC CARES
UK

YOUTH BOXING PROGRAMME

Wednesdays
3.15pm - 4.15pm

The Old Dance Studio
at The Weald School,
Station Road, Billingshurst
RH14 9RY

Free Boxing programme run
by WBC Cares Boxing for
young people age 11-17.

No need to book, just come
along and try it out!

For more info please contact your
Neighbourhood Wardens:

Call: 07795 051516 | 07795 051529
Email: billingshurstwardens@horsham.gov.uk

 **NEIGHBOURHOOD**
WARDENS

 **LIONS**
CLUB

 **BILLINGSBURST**
Parish Council

 **Horsham**
District
Council

Sessions resumed on Wednesday 17th September, and it was great to welcome back our core group of students for the new academic year. We were also delighted to see some enthusiastic new faces from Year 7 joining the programme.

After discussions with the coaches and the school, we have agreed to bring the session start time forward by 15 minutes. This change means students no longer have to wait around as long between the end of the school day and the start of training. It also ensures that those needing to catch a late bus can stay until the end of the session. With a new finish time of 4:15pm, the Youth Boxing Programme is now in line with other after-school activities.

We would like to express our continued thanks to Billingshurst Parish Council for funding the programme and to the Billingshurst & District Lions Club for kindly supporting us with t-shirts for our attendees.

For more information about WBC Cares UK, who run the sessions, please visit their website:

<https://www.wbccaresuk.org/>

Events and Meetings Attended This Month

Horsham District Older Persons Professional Network Meeting – Wednesday 3rd September

Louisa joined the bi-monthly Older Persons Professional Network meeting led by Age UK (Horsham). During the meeting updates were given from Dementia Support about their activities being hosted at Lavinia House in Horsham and their Dementia Supporter training sessions also being held there. West Sussex Fire & Rescue gave an update on their 'Safe and Well Visits'. Embracing Age spoke about how they run a befrienders service for people in care homes, which has recently been introduced in West Sussex. Age UK also talked about their befriending services. An organisation called Hourglass talked about the domestic abuse support they provide to the over 60s. The rural library service gave an update that they now have blood pressure monitors that can be borrowed from their libraries. The new CEO of Horsham Matters spoke about how their foodbank reserves are currently low, partly due to lots of people being away over the summer break.

Representatives from Cruise Bereavement Support, HDC's Community Link Team, The Stroke Association, Royal Voluntary Service (RVS), Horsham Churches Together, WSCC Public Health, Prevention Assessment Team (PAT), Community Transport Sussex, and the Sussex Community NHS Falls Prevention Service all gave updates on their services. A very informative and beneficial meeting to be part of, to help with our signposting to available services.

Billingshurst Carer Group – Thursday 4th September



We were kindly invited by Louisa Stockdale from Carers Support West Sussex to attend their September meeting to introduce ourselves and talk a little about the warden role. A big thank you to the group for being so welcoming and sharing their caring journeys. The group meets at The Six Bells public house on the first Thursday of each month between 12:15pm and 1:45pm. All carers are welcome.



Station Road Gardens Volunteer Morning – Saturday 6th September

On Saturday 6th September we met with the amazing volunteers who work so hard to help keep the flower beds and Orchard in Station Road Gardens maintained and enjoyable for the whole community. It was a good opportunity to discuss our new Chapel Corner Gardens project with them too and to pick their brains. More information about the latest happenings at the gardens can be found on Facebook here:

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

We were also welcomed in by the Billingshurst Men's Shed for a nice cup of tea and a chat about their projects. A reminder that the Men's Shed is open on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings between 9am and midday. Please do follow the Men's Shed on their Facebook page here:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100082344994408>



**STATION ROAD
Gardens
VOLUNTEER
GARDENING DAYS**

**Can you help us maintain our lovely
Station Road Community gardens on:**

Saturday 10 th May	Saturday 7 th June	Saturday 5 th July
Saturday 2 nd August	Saturday 6 th September	Saturday 4 th October
	Saturday 1 st November	

No need to be an expert. Simply drop in anytime between 9.30am – 12.00noon on these days, you don't have to come for the whole morning. Bring your gardening tools if you have them (don't worry if not, we have spares)

**All welcome, bring the family!
Refreshments for all helpers**

If you have any questions contact
Stuart by emailing sps197@hotmail.com

Billingshurst Fire Station Charity Car Wash – Saturday 6th September



A nice clean warden vehicle!



Well done to the children and families of the firefighters for providing such lovely refreshments.



Once again, we felt it important to support our friends at Billingshurst Fire Station with their charity car wash and seize the opportunity to get 'Susie' our warden car clean. Well done to all involved and for raising over £600 for The Firefighters Charity.

Horsham District Older People's Forum (HDOPF) - Tuesday 9th September

On Tuesday 9th September we were invited to give a short presentation at the HDOPF meeting held at the Billingshurst Centre. We talked about our role, the projects we are working on within the Billingshurst Community and answered questions about hotspot areas and issues affecting the parish.

The Horsham District Older People's Forum is an independent, non-political, voluntary group that is free to attend and participate in. It acts as the 'ears' and gives a 'voice' to people aged 60 and over who reside in the Horsham District Council area or care for someone who is. The Forum exists for anyone to raise issues related to or affecting local older people. The Forum holds quarterly public meetings with excellent guest speakers at venues around the

Horsham District or at Age UK, Lavinia House, Dukes Square, Denne Road, Horsham RH12 1GZ or you can attend via ZOOM.

For more information please follow the link below:

<https://www.hdopforum.org.uk/>

HDC Staff briefing – Local Government Reorganisation – Business Case and Cabinet Report – Tuesday 16th September

A further update regarding the local government reorganisation was held for staff at Albery House in Horsham where CEO Jane Eaton updated us about the business case produced by the local district and borough councils in West Sussex to be sent to central government with proposals for the new unitary council areas.

Horsham District Council, along with the other six district and borough councils, has stated its preference for a two unitary council model for West Sussex which would see the creation of a new Unitary Authority combining Horsham District Council, Crawley Borough Council and Mid Sussex District Council areas.

Further updates about the Local Government Reorganisation can be found here:

<https://www.horsham.gov.uk/devolution-and-lgr/local-government-reorganisation>

Peer Group Conference – Thursday 18th September

Louisa joined this month's Peer Group Conference online via Teams. The meeting provides an opportunity to discuss, in a multi-agency environment, vulnerable young people who are coming to the attention of the Police for anti-social behaviour or are at risk of being exploited.

This group is not intended to discuss young people who are already involved in the Criminal Justice system, regularly going missing or have an allocated Social Worker. Instead, this project targets individuals for early intervention with the aim of diverting young people away from potential criminal activity and exploitation.

Rose Hill Residents Coffee Morning – Tuesday 23rd September

On Tuesday 23rd September we called into the Rose Hill residents weekly coffee morning to introduce ourselves and chat about any ongoing community issues. Thank you to the table we joined who were very welcoming.

Billingshurst Neighbourhood Wardens Steering Group Meeting – Thursday 25th September

Quarterly we meet with our supervisor and Parish Council representatives to discuss our work within the parish, any community issues and Parish & District Council priorities. This quarter's meeting was held on the 25th September.

Full Warden Team Meeting – Tuesday 30th September

This month we attended our bi-monthly team meeting with our colleagues from other parishes. The meeting was held at Horsham District Council's offices in Albery House. We were joined by the new CEO of Horsham Matters, Kelvin Glen, who talked about the work of the organisation in supporting Horsham residents, including updating us about their food banks, shops, budgeting advice, benefits support and advocacy support.

Horsham Matters are in the process of launching a new website soon. They can now be contacted via WhatsApp on their contact number 0300 124 0204 and more information about their services can be found at their Facebook page at the link below:

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

Future Events



Horsham District's
Winter Warm Ups

Join us for a fun, activity filled day!

Tuesday 21 October
10am - 3.30pm
at The Bridge Leisure Centre,
Broadbridge Heath

Thursday 23 October
10am - 4pm
at Chanctonbury Leisure Centre,
Storrington

[www.horsham.gov.uk/
community/Winter-Warm-Ups](http://www.horsham.gov.uk/community/Winter-Warm-Ups)

 **CHANCTONBURY LEISURE CENTRE**
Providing a healthy community

 **Places Leisure**
Part of Places for People

 **Horsham District Council**

Staying active isn't about keeping up, it's about keeping going. As we age, our bodies change, and so do our choices. Swapping the tennis court for the walking trail or trading high-impact for low-impact doesn't mean slowing down it means smartening up. 💪

Horsham District Council is running two free activity days this October packed full of sports taster sessions, arts and crafts workshops, health and wellbeing drop-ins and more. Aimed at the Over 50s, this is your chance to try something new, prioritise your health and activity levels and warm up ahead of winter!

Find out which sessions are on offer at either The Bridge on Tuesday 21st October or Chanctonbury Leisure Centre on Thursday 23rd October via the link: <https://www.horsham.gov.uk/community/Winter-Warm-Ups>

Discover more 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-shipley-pulborough-and-coldwaltham/meetings-and-events/top-reported-crimes-in-this-area>

Parish Specific/Other

Overgrown Hedge at Newbridge Road East

We received a phone call from a resident asking if we could assist with getting the overgrown hedging cut back from the pavement in Newbridge Road East, as it was getting difficult for users in wheelchairs and with limited sight.

We checked and confirmed ownership on the West Sussex County Council mapping system and reported it for clearing. It was cleared within a matter of days, and the resident called us back to thank us for our help in getting the issue resolved so promptly.



You can report issues with roads or pavements on the link below.

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/make-an-enquiry-or-report-a-problem-with-a-road-or-pavement/trees-hedges-weeds-and-grass/>

Friday Coffee Morning

Don't forget all residents are welcome to join us at our Billingshurst Coffee Morning held every Friday between 10am and midday at The Billingshurst Centre. A cuppa and a chat await, and our weekly quizzes have been proving popular too. We're also on hand to discuss any community issues and to discuss any of our projects.



Dementia Cafe

A reminder that the Dementia Cafe at the Trinity United Reformed Church operates on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month in the hall at Trinity URC from 10.00am-12.00pm. We continue to attend when our shifts allow.

More information can be found on their website: <https://billingshursturc.co.uk/dementia%20cafe.html>



Stoptober

October sees the nationwide 'Stoptober' - quitting smoking campaign. Stoptober 2025 is a public health campaign encouraging smokers in the UK to quit for the 28 days of October, offering support and resources to help them quit for good. If you can quit for 28 days, you are five times more likely to quit permanently. You can find free support through the NHS Better Health Quit Smoking website, the NHS Quit Smoking app, local stop smoking services, and vaping guidance.

Follow the link below for more information.

<https://www.westsussexwellbeing.org.uk/topics/smoking/services-for-west-sussex>

Whilst Out on Patrol

Fly-tipping

Sadly, we have seen a significant increase in fly-tipping this month. A real mixture of waste has been dumped, from household rubbish, garden waste and possibly the contents of someone's caravan. We are forever grateful to our colleagues at Horsham District Council who remove the reported rubbish so promptly.



Fly-tipping found in Okehurst Road



Okehurst Road (above)

Fly-tipped garden waste at Rowner Road (left)



Footpath adjacent to Platts Meadow (above) and household waste found in West Chilton and Coneyhurst Road



Graffiti

We have also seen an increase in graffiti, some containing flags and others with the tag 'Pest'. These have all been reported to the relevant agencies. We have removed some of the graffiti ourselves, but others have been reported to the owners of the property for removal.



Bus stop opposite Billingshurst Primary Academy



Roundabout High Street junction with Jengers Mead



One of the parish council bus stops at the northern end of the High Street was sadly graffitied and left full of litter so we got our trusty litter pickers and black sacks out and cleared away the mess. The Parish Council were notified of the graffiti.



The bus stop cleared of rubbish, leaving it much nicer for residents to use.

Anti-Social Behaviour

We have increased our patrols in Station Road and at Station Road Gardens this month and discussed concerns with our local PCSO Tom Fontyn. We have received a report of an assault involving young people at Station Road Gardens, a report of young people on a moped, throwing rocks, a pony and trap being ridden on the grass area and young people smoking cannabis. All of these incidents involve criminal offences, and we continue to urge residents to report such behaviour to Sussex Police.

We were also notified of an incident where young people threw a rock at a window of a house in Station Road, smashing it in the process. They were heard to say that the property is 'abandoned' as they ran away. This is not the case. The Police were contacted by a witness, and we attended the scene and spoke with a neighbour to advise them of the broken window, and they made contact with the owner so the property could be made secure.

WHO DO I REPORT TO?

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



Did you know that HDC have a very handy 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 Google Play store and Apple app store.

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.

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



NEIGHBOURHOOD
WARDENS

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
billingshurstwardens@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.

L25/C602

In an emergency always dial 999



Horsham District Community Safety Partnership



Horsham District Council



Horsham District Community Safety Partnership



Horsham District Council