

# Warden Monthly Report

Southwater Parish Report February 2021

<b>Patrol hours TOTAL:</b>	<b>75.25</b>	<b>ASB incidents TOTAL:</b>	<b>7</b>
Foot (high visibility)	30.25	Noise	1
Vehicle	45.00	Neighbours	1
<b>Notices/warnings TOTAL:</b>	<b>8</b>	Driving/vehicles	0
Fixed Penalty Notice	0	Bikes	2
Yellow card warning	0	Alcohol/drugs	0
Community Protection Warning/Notice	0	Public order	3
Parking alert	8	<b>Clear up/disposal reports TOTAL:</b>	<b>143</b>
<b>Police reports TOTAL:</b>	<b>19</b>	Fly tipping / flyposting	6/0
Phone (including 101 and 999)	5	Graffiti	0
Email	8	Dog fouling	22
Intelligence report	1	Litter	53
E-CINS (multi-agency reporting)	0	Drug litter	40
Verbal	5	Hazards	22
<b>Media reports TOTAL:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Community events attended</b>	<b>0</b>
Press release / Community magazines	1	<b>Reports to Operation Crackdown</b>	<b>1</b>
Social Media	6	<b>Safeguarding referral</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Admin</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>School contact</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Visits to vulnerable people (all ages)</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Youth engagement</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Signposting</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Reports to DVLA</b>	<b>0</b>

## ASB/Crime/Criminal Damage

We routinely monitor crime reporting websites for information about suspicious activity, people and vehicles enabling us to understand and respond to emerging trends. Please report all crimes to [Sussex Police](#) as follows:

ONLINE	CONNECT	VISIT	CALL 101	EMERGENCY 999
<p>Many crimes can be easily reported online 24/7. We will respond within 24 hours.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non emergency crime reporting</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crime prevention, information and advice</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Something you have seen or heard</li> </ul> 	<p>To stay informed through social media and community alerts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Latest news and appeals</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Real time updates on local issues, events and incidents</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safety information and advice</li> </ul> 	<p>Your nearest police hub</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report a crime</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Receive local advice and information</li> </ul> 	<p>For incidents that don't require an immediate response and cannot be dealt with online</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Where a crime has already happened</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To report suspicious behaviour</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Damage or theft of property</li> </ul> 	<p>For an immediate response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Life is in danger</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Where a crime is in progress</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Violence is being used</li> </ul> 
 <span>Sussex Police</span>    <a href="#">sussexpoliceforce</a>    <a href="#">@sussex_police</a>    <a href="#">sussex.police.uk</a>				
<b>#MakeTheRightCall</b>				

If you witness acts of violence, verbal abuse, drug taking, irresponsible alcohol use or damage to property please report it to Sussex Police or anonymously to Crime Stoppers (independent charity) on 0800 555 111 or visit their website: <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/>

## ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

### ASB General

We have had a number of incidents of people still not complying with Covid regulations when entering business premises and we have actively encouraged staff in two venues to enforce this as a term of entry which, if still ignored, may result in a Police attendance to support the removal of offenders.

### ASB Youth

“Southwater Parish Council are aware of the recent incidents of antisocial behaviour and criminal damage that have occurred in the village. SPC would like to assure residents that the Council and our Neighbourhood Wardens are in regular contact with Sussex Police and Horsham District Council who have been made fully aware of our concerns.

Our Neighbourhood Wardens have and will continue to collate all information they can concerning these and other incidents which they pass in a timely fashion to Sussex Police. Our Wardens also take action when they can and assist the Police in their continued investigation.”

SPC promptly brought forward the regular Councillor Surgery in order to consult with residents on these issues.

-----  
A number of incidents involving a tiny minority of Southwater’s youth have received considerable attention this month. In response, we adapted our patrols to provide an increased visible deterrent and encouraged victims and witnesses to report each incident to the Police.

An incident was reported on Social Media regarding 3-4 youths throwing snowballs at vehicles and residents around the GP surgery resulting in the Police attending but they were unable to engage with any of the suspects.

There was also a report of several wheelie bins that had been pushed over on Timber Mill.

There was a report on social media about a group of young people in a residential street being loud and intimidating whilst apparently intoxicated. If you feel that action is warranted and that it is safe to do so, we would encourage people to report these matters directly to the Police if it is serious, and then to the Wardens.

A particular group of young people have been gathering in Lintot Square and around nearby residential premises. On occasions they have allegedly been smoking Cannabis and verbally abusing others. We have undertaken joint patrols with Angie Choat (Southwater Youth Project) around the square in the early evenings in order to engage with them and encourage the development of positive behaviours.

We have also been working with a number of retail businesses in relation to problems they have experienced with young people. We have supported them to issue banning notices where appropriate. Please be aware that if you or your child has been banned from any premises, a return would be an offence. Some people view ‘low level’ shoplifting as a minor offence but stealing from somewhere where you are officially banned is burglary which brings with it very real consequences for the suspect.

### ASB Covid Breaches:

We dealt with 14 incidents of Covid Regulation breaches including young people gathering in groups at the new multi-use games area (MUGA) and the new skate park at the Sports Club. It is quite a challenge to enforce the closure of dedicated sports facilities designed and appropriately being used by young people particularly when they see numerous adults standing around in groups talking whilst their smaller children freely use the children’s’ playgrounds.

Adult residents have also been committing Covid breaches by congregating in groups for protracted periods for social reasons, making multiple and unnecessary journeys, queuing in take away/click and collect venues and undertaking non-essential business activities details of which have been passed to Trading Standards. We even met with three adult females from separate households who had organised to meet with alcohol and music to socialise. Although we have considerable sympathy, their justification for this was that they had been home-schooling their children and deserved a night off.

Where appropriate, words of advice were delivered together with directions to leave the area or adapt what they were doing in order to comply with Covid Regulations.

## CRIME

### Theft:

Having completed our duties for the day and about to leave the parish, we were approached in Lintot Square by a concerned resident. She advised us that an adult male had recently left the Co-Op with a large holdall containing quantities of meats that he had not paid for. We confirmed that the matter had been reported to the police and then conducted an immediate area search but based on the description and the last direction of travel provided, we were unable to trace the suspect.

### Criminal Damage:

Whilst on patrol on the Downs Link we noticed damage had been caused to three fence panels belonging to a property backing on to the path. We liaised with the owner, attempted to make temporary repairs, suggested she took photographs and directed her to make a Police report prior to securing repairs.

We met with representatives from the Sports Club following criminal damage caused to memorial benches, fencing and the clock at the club. Each incident has now been reported to the Police and additional patrols created.

On one such patrol and having just moved on a group from the Sports Club, we received a request for assistance from the Police following a report that the living room window of an older resident had just been broken when rocks had been thrown at the address. We conducted an area search, located the only group seen in the area all evening and passed all the available details to the Police. We attended the scene and saw a number of rocks, recently used to surface the Downs Link under the old railway bridge, scattered in the victim's garden.

## Parking/vehicles

This month, we have again tried to find an appropriate compromise between the impact of home-working causing increased pressure on the limited on-street parking and engagement with parking enforcement. Please be considerate towards neighbours and all other road users by not parking in an anti-social manner in our village.

## Fly tipping/littering/graffiti

- Fly Tipping

This month we reported 6 incidents of fly tipping including used engine oil in a variety of containers, a mattress, a shower tray & WC and a pile of children's plastic toys in amongst household waste. On each occasion, the contents were examined for any evidence which could potentially identify the owner and we reported them for prompt collection.

If you witness fly tipping, 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 later report it direct to HDC at: <https://www.horsham.gov.uk/waste-recycling-and-bins/litter-and-street-cleaning/fly-tipping>

- Fly Posting

Nothing to report

- Litter

We continue to support the SPC litter picker and residents by undertaking numerous litter picks whilst on our high visibility foot patrols but also by reporting to HDC overflowing or damaged bins and any litter that is either thought to be hazardous or in a position making it dangerous for us to collect; such as on the A24, Newfoundout and parts of Shipley Road. We continue to find many recyclable items and disposable masks and gloves when litter picking. The Horsham district has an excellent range of recycling facilities and households have both recycling and waste bins. Most people do the responsible thing and take any litter home with them. Please encourage everyone you know to recycle as much as possible and dispose of their waste responsibly.

There are approximately 40 volunteers who give up their spare time to litter pick and clear up after others. More people have become aware of the unnecessary littering in the local area when out walking during lockdown and have joined the scheme in the past year.

If you are interested in joining them, 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>

### Single-use Plastic Recycling Scheme

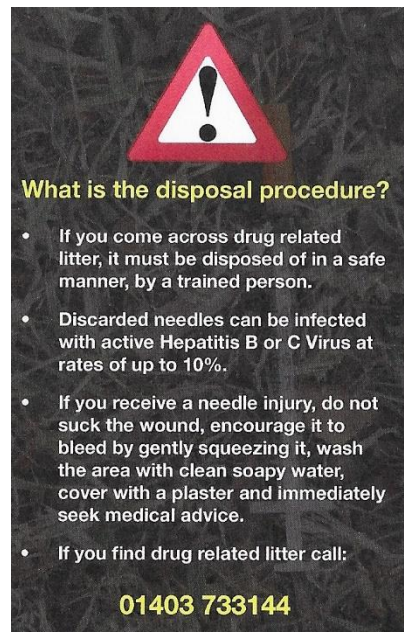
The Sussex Green Living Recycling Scheme has single-use plastic recycling drop-off points in the local area, including Horsham and Barns Green. These points accept many items such as crisp/biscuit wrappers, pet food pouches etc. More information is available here:

<https://www.sussexgreenliving.co.uk/recycling-zone/single-use/>

- Drugs Litter

Every time we locate and dispose of drugs related paraphernalia, we record the number of incidents as indicated in the table above. We also submit reports including the number of items retrieved during each incident to WSCC who maintain a database which is utilised to monitor trends, support applications for specific resources and inform substance misuse strategy development.

If you should find drug litter in the local area, please inform us to report, or alternatively it may be reported directly to Horsham District Council as below:



- Graffiti

Nothing to report

You can always report the above problems direct to Horsham District Council via their website:

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

## Community engagement/events/meetings

- We were contacted by a resident who had found a purse. With the Police Office closed, we collected it and following some basic local enquiries we identified the owner, made contact and returned their property.

## Patrols (foot/visible and car)

- We continued patrols of local businesses designed to disrupt shoplifting, ASB and improve engagement.
- We continued to provide high visibility patrols both on foot and in a liveried vehicle throughout the Parish.

## Older, Vulnerable People and Youth

- This month we have phoned some of Southwater's most vulnerable residents to remind them to test their pendant alarms, check on their welfare needs and advising or signposting for further support where necessary.

## Licensing

- Nothing to report

## Dog related issues

- We were contacted by a local resident reporting that, following a visit to the Country Park, her dog had become seriously ill and rushed to the vets where extensive toxicology investigations concluded that her dog had ingested poison. We immediately alerted our HDC colleagues in Parks & Countryside and commercial use of toxins was immediately ruled out. We issued a Twitter release to inform other dog owners. After lifesaving treatment by specialists at huge expense, we have been advised that the dog has returned home but will require ongoing treatment.
- We were called by a concerned resident who had found a dog loose on a residential side road in the village. We attended and found a small, male dog who would not get close enough to anyone for them to read his ID disc. Considerable efforts by a number of thoughtful residents using a variety of treats and toys failed to win over the trust of the dog but at least it kept him safe until the frantic owner arrived and they were reunited.

If you find a dog roaming free and not being supervised, you may wish to consider reporting it to Environmental Health by email [publichealth.licensing@horsham.gov.uk](mailto:publichealth.licensing@horsham.gov.uk). As with any other incident involving an immediate threat to human or animal life, please call 999.

## Cycling

- Two riders were asked to dismount in Lintot Square whilst cycling in contravention of the PSPO.

## Parish specific/other

- Public Enquiries  
This month we responded to 19 enquiries from residents by phone, email or in person. These enquiries included topics such as nuisance noise from neighbours' dogs, reporting fishing in the Quarry Lake, a suspected dog poisoning and lost valuables.

### Meetings

We met with PCSO Cecil on patrol and discussed ongoing areas of concern and PCSO Priest in support of an ongoing criminal investigation.

We attended an online meeting with Councillors Lewis and Moore and Warden Supervisor Darren Worsfold to discuss current operations and future planning for Southwater.

## Social Media/Press

### Southwater Parish News

We are posting regular articles to the Southwater Parish News website and printed magazine. The most recent online article, regarding support available for residents during the current lockdown, is available to read on the website here:

<https://www.southwaternews.co.uk/articles/wardens-lockdown-support>

Look out for a new article in March's issue on the Personal Safety Video Campaign Initiative.

## **Personal Safety Initiative – Video Campaign**

As your Neighbourhood Wardens, we took the lead in the creation of a virtual Personal Safety initiative which has now been released via Horsham District Council's YouTube channel. This initiative is designed as a gateway to useful information and will include a series of short films from HDC, local Martial Artists, a Southwater based mental health practitioner and national campaign groups.

The aim of the initiative, over the coming weeks, is to provide practical information, easy to follow techniques and links to further advice designed to increase our self-confidence, safety awareness and offer pathways to specialist help and support. The latest video is from the Suzy Lamplugh Trust and can be viewed via the links below:

YouTube link:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLbfLo6r7Z7BTvrwyp8-lylZv3JjtHvemV>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/241855931903/436864454363892>

## **Twitter**

We regularly post topical posts of our work in Southwater to the Horsham District Council Wardens Twitter page:

<https://twitter.com/HorshamWardens>

Recent Tweets:



## **Training**

We completed a short in-house learning module on climate change.

## **KEY:**

**ASB:** Anti-social behaviour.

**E-CINS:** Online confidential multi-agency sharing of caseloads.

**HDC:** Horsham District Council

**Operation Crackdown:** Joint initiative with Sussex Safer Roads Partnership and Sussex Police to report abandoned vehicles or anti-social driving.

**Operation APOLLO:** Trading Standards/Environmental Health COVID-19 response.

**PCSO:** Police Community Support Officer

**PSPO:** Public Spaces Protection Order – Intended to deal with a particular nuisance or problem in a particular area that is detrimental to the local community's quality of life.