Warden Monthly Report

July 2023 - Pulborough Parish

Patrol hours TOTAL:	62.5	ASB incidents reported to us TOTAL:	3
Foot (high visibility)	43.5	Noise	0
Vehicle	19	Neighbours	0
Notices/warnings TOTAL:	0	Driving/vehicles	0
Verbal warning	0	Bicycles	0
Parking alert	1	Alcohol	0
Yellow card warning (ASB)	0	Other	3
Community Protection Warning/Notice	0		
Fixed Penalty Notice	0	Clear up/disposal reports TOTAL:	7
Reports into Police TOTAL:	5	Fly tipping / flyposting	0
Phone (including 101 and 999)	0	Graffiti	1
Online	0	Dog fouling	1
Intelligence report	0	Litter	2
Verbal	5	Drug litter	2
E-CINS cases (multi-agency reporting)	0	Hazards	1
Media Reports TOTAL:	3		
Press release/Community magazines	1		
Social media posts	2	Community events attended	6
Admin hours	46.5	School contact	3
Vulnerable people welfare checks	3	Youth engagement	3
Signposting	15	Reports to DVLA	0
Safeguarding referral	0	Reports to Operation Crackdown	0

KEY:

ASB: Anti-social behaviour

E-CINS: Online portal for confidential multi-agency sharing of caseloads

HDC: Horsham District Council

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

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

PPC: Pulborough Parish Council

WSCC: West Sussex County Council

WSFR: West Sussex Fire and Rescue

CSAS: Community Safety Accreditation Scheme

This month, there have been the usual expected reports of anti-social behaviour for the time of year. The principal areas being Pocket Park (due to the nature of its layout and location) and groups taking and dealing drugs at the Memorial Gardens. The 'beach' area of the Brooks (which actually falls under Parham parish remit) always peaks when the sun shines and young people damaging a tree on private land.

We have carried out focused patrols in these areas when possible.

Although we are not the lead agency for crime, that being Sussex Police, we are here to reassure and support victims where possible. For reasons of confidentiality, details of these occurrences do not make it onto our monthly reports, in a similar fashion to a lot of the other work we carry out in the Parish, involving safeguarding, welfare and working with vulnerable persons.

These situations involve a considerable amount of time spent with individuals, organisations, and the subsequent paperwork.

Parking/vehicles

We have had a few complaints about untaxed vehicles parked in public roadways and vehicles crossing double yellow lines to park; this information has been passed to the relevant authorities.

We are frequently asked about what can be done about vehicles being driven with no road tax or valid MOT, these can be reported by members of the public using the links below:

https://www.gov.uk/report-no-mot

https://www.gov.uk/report-untaxed-vehicle

For anti-social driving and abandoned vehicles, please report to Operation Crackdown at:

http://www.operationcrackdown.org/

Fly tipping/littering/graffiti

We have thankfully had no occurrences of these in the Parish this month.

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

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

Community engagement/events/meetings

Caring Café

It has been a few months since we have been able to attend the monthly Caring Café at the United Reformed Church and we received a warm welcome when we attended on Thursday 6th July. It was positive to see the group thriving. The men's table was once again enjoying a tournament of dominoes whilst the ladies table was humming with conversation, and it was lovely for us to update those that asked about our community projects and about the warden role.

Pulborough Shedders AGM and Meeting

On Wednesday 5th July we attended the Pulborough Shedders AGM followed by their bi-monthly meeting. Andy Heath was voted in as Chair for the next year, carrying on his existing role. Tim Tapley is doing a sterling job as the group's secretary, and it was good to see a few fresh faces in the room. Tim has kindly donated the use of some workshop space at his home for the Shedders to meet and begin creating.

Unfortunately, due to prior arrangements, we could not make the inaugural meeting of the Shedders at their new temporary base, but we did make the second such meeting and were able to view their new meeting and workspace. Our timing was perfect as they needed help to take new flooring boards up to the room, so they would be able to make a start on their projects. (Well Ross did the heavy lifting and Louisa supervised!)

It was great to see the project move forward to the point where they can physically meet up and create. Their first 'makes' will be some bird and bat boxes.





Pulborough Community Volunteer Forum Meeting

On Tuesday 4th July we attended the quarterly Pulborough Community Volunteer Forum Meeting, held at the United Reformed Church. This is always a really useful and enjoyable event, where the main groups, societies and churches get together to discuss what they are up to in the community and to see where there can be partnership working to

achieve their goals and aspirations. We updated on the Pulborough Shedders project and our plans to start a youth forum alongside the Billingshurst Wardens, Julie and Barry, with the support of The Weald School.

Wellbeing and Games Café

Louisa attended the Wellbeing and Games Café run by members of Pulborough Baptist Church on 20th July at the village hall. The Café now has a wellbeing element to it which involves chair exercises for attendees. Louisa joined in with these and it was positive to see some of the older attendees enjoying these activities. A new member to the group who had barely been out since the pandemic due to losing their confidence, is now really enjoying the interaction with the rest of the group and looking forward to attending each week.

The Wellbeing and Games Café is open to all residents and is held in the Rother Hall, at the Village Hall, every Thursday afternoon between pm and 4pm.

Pulborough Youth Provisions Meeting

On the 18th July we met with Parish Councillors Elizabeth Hunt & Kevin Lee, Liz Burt (HDC Community Services Team Leader) and Dan Fairchild (HDC Youth Provisions Officer) to discuss youth provisions following Sussex Clubs for Young People (SCYP) going into administration last month. During the meeting we discussed the need for a youth club and how the Parish is going to create a designated youth space with designated youth workers. The discussion was a positive start and consultation is ongoing amongst the Parish Council.

Patrols (foot/visible and car)

We continue to carry out foot patrols in our ASB hotspots and vehicle patrols to our fly tipping hotspots. We have conducted a drugs patrol with PCSO Lisa Bowley and whilst Ross has been on annual leave Louisa has carried out joint patrols with Storrington and Sullington Warden Chris Poore. These joint patrols have enabled us to share intelligence with the police and between parishes.





During one of our foot patrols this month, we heard the security alarm sounding at Lakers Builders Merchant, so we carried out a thorough perimeter check of the site and then telephoned the company's other depot to notify them.





During another foot patrol, at the recreation ground, we noticed an area of fencing by the gate at the play area had come away from the post and posed a safety risk due to the sharp wire sticking out. We were able to contact the Parish Council office straight away so that the groundsman could be notified, and a repair carried out.

Older, vulnerable people and youth

On Friday 14th July we visited Hillside Lodge care home to meet Kyle Johnston, the new Activities Co-ordinator, to introduce ourselves and build better links with the staff and residents. We discussed clubs and get-togethers that we felt might be of interest to the residents and plans were immediately made to minibus them down to the Wednesday lunch club at the village hall after the summer break.

Older Persons Groups

Louisa joined the Wednesday club for their last lunch before the August break on 26th July. Not only was the food delicious but it gave Louisa the opportunity to talk about community topics with those present and discuss any concerns in a relaxed environment. We are continuing to look at ways to support the group and help increase the number of attendees, as these have still not picked up since the pandemic.

Vulnerable People

We are doing a lot of preparatory work in advance of a multi-agency meeting (in August) to discuss a situation around a vulnerable person in our community. We have already spent some considerable time on the matter, working with the individual to resolve their issues, but external help is required to try to reach a satisfactory conclusion.

The last boxing session for the school year took place at the village hall on Wednesday 19th July and the programme is now on its summer break but continues to be successful. There is capacity for more attendees, so please get in touch with us for more information about the scheme, which continues to be free to all young people attending.

School Lunch visits

We continued our lunchtime visits to St Mary's Primary School this month and during our visit on Tuesday 18th July it was lovely to hear about the children's plans for the summer holidays with their families and was the perfect opportunity for us to promote our free summer sport sessions on the recreation ground. We would like to thank the school for their continued support over the last school year, allowing us to spend time with the children, helping us to build up trust and confidence and stronger links between the school and the wider community.

Summer Sports



We held our first Summer Sports session of the holidays in conjunction with Horsham Sports Services on Tuesday 25th July. We had 12-15 young people participating in archery, golf, and football. We hope the numbers attending will increase across the holidays as they did last year.

Dog related issues

Dog Fouling

As dog fouling issues continue at the recreation ground (and elsewhere), we have been in discussions with local dog training company 'Bone Canis' and are finalising plans for a joint dog behaviour and awareness event in September. More information about the great work carried out by Bone Canis, can be found here https://bonecanis.com/

Whilst we do carry out regular patrols in dog fouling hotspots, dog fouling issues can also be reported via the HDC website:

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

Dogs Roaming Free

If you find a dog roaming free and not being supervised, you may wish to consider reporting it to Environmental Health by email at publichealth.licensing@horsham.gov.uk

Dog Attacks

Incidents involving dog attacks or dangerous dogs are dealt with by 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/

Cycling

We have received several complaints about people cycling at speed down Potts Lane. This is a no cycling route but the signage at the bottom is in a poor condition and there is no sign at the top of the lane. We have made a report to WSCC and have liaised with a company about their staff cycling down the lane.



Parish specific/other

Landslide at Church Hill

Church Hill was closed on Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th July whilst works were carried out to install a new traffic signal-controlled system. We liaised with WSCC engineers on site during the morning of Tuesday 4th July. Further updates about the A29 can be found on the dedicated Pulborough update page of the WSCC website here:

https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/campaigns/a29-pulborough/

Drugs

We have seen an increase in reports to us about drug use/dealing and concerns about young people being involved in county-lines. County Lines is where illegal drugs are transported from one area to another, often across police and local authority boundaries (although not exclusively), usually by children or vulnerable people who are coerced into it by gangs. The 'County Line' is the mobile phone line used to take the orders of drugs. Importing areas (areas where the drugs are taken to) are reporting increased levels of violence and weapons-related crimes because of this trend.

We have been liaising closely with Horsham Neighbourhood Policing Team about this and were invited to a multiagency meeting regarding drugs and anti-social behaviour with Andrew Griffiths MP but were unable to attend, so our Supervisor Carol Boniface attended on our behalf.



Nitrous oxide canisters recovered in Pulborough

One of the drugs we have seen an increase of has been Nitrous oxide and the canisters pictured above have been found discarded around the Parish, often alongside the remains of balloons which are inflated with the gas and then inhaled by the user. Nitrous oxide is used legally in food production but is more commonly being used on the streets illegally as a recreational drug.

Many young people are unaware of the extent of the dangers of using Nitrous Oxide. It is extremely dangerous to inhale nitrous oxide directly from the canister and doing it in an enclosed space is also extremely harmful.

If you take too much nitrous oxide you risk falling unconscious and/or suffocating from the lack of oxygen. People have died this way. Dizziness, which might make you act carelessly or dangerously.

Heavy regular use of nitrous oxide can lead to a deficiency of vitamin B12 and to a form of anaemia. Severe B12 deficiency can lead to serious nerve damage, causing tingling and numbness in the fingers and toes. This can be very painful and make walking difficult. It can even lead to paralysis, and the damage may be lasting.

Regular use can stop you forming white blood cells properly.

It can be hard to judge the amount to use safely. If you have too much you can end up fainting, having an accident or worse.

Although the gas has been legal in the past, since the Psychoactive Substances Act came into effect on May 26, 2016, it is now illegal to supply or import nitrous oxide for human consumption.



Discarded drugs baggies

If you find any drugs litter in the parish, please do report it to WSCC at the link below. Not only will this inform the relevant department that the litter may need to be cleared away, but it helps to map where the drug hotspots are enabling us and the Police to focus patrols in key areas.

https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/fire-emergencies-and-crime/report-problems-in-your-area/report-needles-and-drug-related-litter/

If you have any information regarding drug dealing within the parish or concerns around county-lines, please see the Sussex Police link below. If you wish to report information anonymously, please follow the link below for Crimestoppers.

https://www.sussex.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/cl/county-lines/

https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information/forms/give-information-anonymously





Tree branch down at Sopers on the A29

We were interested to see lots of comments appear on the Pulborough Village Group Facebook page about a large tree branch that had come down on the A29 opposite Sopers Cottages, but not one report had been made directly to West Sussex County Council Highways department!

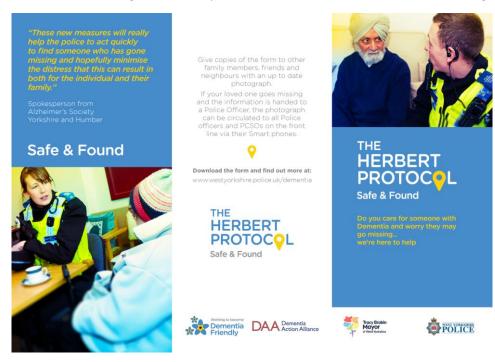
Facebook is not monitored by WSCC or HDC or Sussex Police, so although it is useful to use Facebook to inform others, it will not resolve the situation.

We telephoned the Highways Customer Service Centre team on 01243 642105 to get the roadway cleared and the pavement made safe for pedestrians.

Issues with roads and pavements can also be reported to Highways online at:

https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/make-an-enquiry-or-report-a-problem-with-a-road-or-pavement/report-an-emergency-with-a-road-or-pavement/

This month we have promoted our summer sports sessions during the holidays, our ongoing boxing programme and we drafted an article for the Pulborough Community News about the Herbert Protocol for the August edition.



https://www.instagram.com/pulborough.wardens/

https://www.facebook.com/HDWardens

https://twitter.com/HorshamWardens