



SELSEY COMMUNITY WARDEN news



spring 2009

ARE NUISANCE VEHICLES BOTHERING YOU?

If you find that your neighbours are using your street as a car workshop and showroom, then you needn't suffer in silence...



Similarly, if you come across a driver who regularly causes an obstruction by parking on yellow lines, a car without a tax disc or an abandoned car dumped in your neighbourhood, then you don't have to tolerate that either.

It is an offence to leave unwanted vehicles on the street and to have an untaxed vehicle on the road. Nuisance

parking caused by the sale and repair of a number of vehicles for profit on a street is also illegal and anti-social.

As your Community Warden we can investigate nuisance vehicle complaints under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 (CNEA) and take action via the DVLA, Sussex Police and the District Council.

If you want to help us stop nuisance vehicles then report any incidents immediately, either by popping into our office or calling us on the number given at the bottom of this page.

If you spot it, we can stop it!

Your questions answered

REMEMBER, IF IN DOUBT, CALL YOUR COMMUNITY WARDEN

Q. What is a Nuisance Vehicle?

A. The term 'nuisance vehicles' refers to the selling or repairing of vehicles on a public road for an extended period of time.

There are two offences under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act:

Section 3 (1) exposing vehicles for sale on a road – two or more motor vehicles parked within 500m of each other on a road where they are exposed or advertised for sale as part of a business.

Section 4 (1) repairing a vehicle on a road as part of a business or for payment. Also repairing a vehicle on a road if it causes annoyance to people in the vicinity.

Q. What are the penalties for selling or repairing cars illegally?

A. The maximum penalty for this offence is £2,500 and the District Council will always look at prosecution where the problem is widespread or poses a danger to the public.

Q. How can I tell if a vehicle is abandoned?

A. It is not always easy to know if a vehicle is abandoned but the following points should allow a reasoned judgement to be made:

- **Is the vehicle taxed?** (This should not be the sole consideration)
- **Are the tyres flat?**
- **Is there any litter, weeds, etc.** under the vehicle indicating that it has not been moved for some time?
- **Is the windscreen or any of the windows broken?**

Q. What action will my Community Warden take about an abandoned or untaxed vehicle?

A. Your Community Warden is working in partnership with Sussex Police and Chichester District Council on Operation Crackdown. The partnership uses Police powers under The Road Traffic Act 1984 to remove vehicles if they have been abandoned.

After the Police have confirmed the vehicle is abandoned, a warning notice will be affixed to the vehicle. If the vehicle is a danger to the public, it may be removed without notice either for immediate destruction or storage for seven days. If the vehicle is safe, it may be left from 24 hours to 7 days before being removed, in order to give the owner the opportunity to claim or remove the vehicle.

The Council also sends a letter to the registered keeper of the vehicle advising them of the action taken.

If the vehicle is on a public road and its vehicle licence has expired by 28 days, but it does not appear to be abandoned, your Community Warden will arrange for the DVLA to clamp or impound the vehicle if possible.

Q. How do I report an abandoned car?

A. It is useful to note down location, registration, make and colour as the more information provided, the better.

WARDEN SCHEME grows across the District

Midhurst is the latest neighbourhood to benefit from the District's award winning Community Warden scheme; this follows on from the scheme's expansion into Bracklesham and East Wittering in June, 2007.

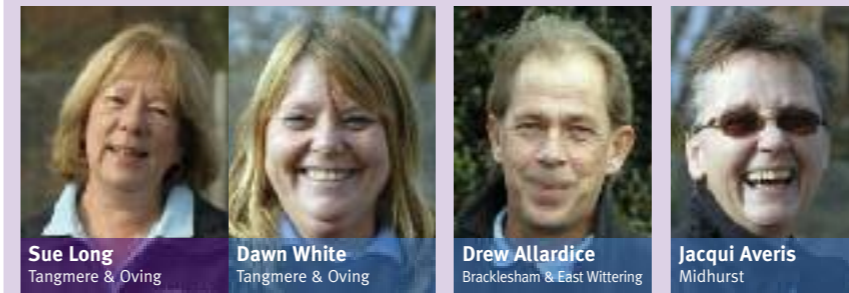


Jonathan Logan
Chichester East & Whyke

Carol McClung
Chichester East & Whyke

Gareth Jones
Selsey

Jay Blackwood
Selsey



Sue Long
Tangmere & Oving

Dawn White
Tangmere & Oving

Drew Allardice
Bracklesham & East Wittering

Jacqui Averis
Midhurst

As a result, the service has added two new members to the team – Dawn White and Jay Blackwood. The wardens have also undergone a reshuffle, with experienced members teaming up with the new recruits to help them settle into their jobs. Each warden patrolled community now welcomes a new face to their neighbourhood (highlighted in blue).

Since the scheme's introduction in 2005, the Community Warden team has made a big impact on reducing crime and anti-social behaviour in their areas. This trend has been endorsed by a survey carried out recently in Bracklesham. The results show that all crime types reduced over this period against the previous 12 months. In particular – theft, non-dwelling burglary and criminal damage saw significant reductions.

Declan Moody, Senior Community Warden, welcomes the expansion of the scheme and looks forward to his team making an even bigger impact this year:



Declan Moody
Senior Warden

"I'm delighted to welcome new recruits Dawn and Jay and hope that residents will continue to support us in our bid to reduce environmental crime and improve community safety."

STOP PRESS



AWARDS SUCCESS

For the second time, the District's Community Wardens have gained recognition for their work with vulnerable people and achievements in the Bracklesham and East Witterings area. The team beat off stiff competition from over 50 other Warden schemes in the South East.

More details in the summer issue of your Community Warden newsletter...

Milestones

- 2005** Pilot scheme launched
- 2006** Junior Warden Scheme launched
- 2007** Won the Home Office *Respect Award* for the Junior Warden Scheme & the South East Regional Warden *Team of the Year – Gold Award*
- 2007** Scheme extended to Bracklesham & East Witterings
- 2009** Scheme extended to Midhurst
- 2009** Scheme shortlisted for South East Warden Awards



SELSEY

Call Gareth on: **07768 206974**
Call Jay on: **07768 210920**
www.selseywardens.org.uk

HOME DELIVERY

If you have email access and would like to receive our newsletter electronically just visit our website: www.selseywardens.org.uk and click on the newsletter button.

Available in large print format

New Face on Patrol

In December, Jay Blackwood took over from Jacqui Averis as Gareth's partner in Selsey and is delighted to be working in the area.



"I'm absolutely thrilled to have been given the job of Community Warden, and hope that the people of Selsey will see me as an asset to their community. If you see me out and about, please come up and say 'hi', you'll always receive a warm welcome from me!"

Jay has settled quickly into the community and is already a regular visitor to the youth wing and the youth clubs;

getting to know Selsey's young adults and understand more about their issues and concerns. Jay will also be working with the more vulnerable members of the area. He hopes to work with Age Concern and set up a joint reassurance and advice project for elderly residents in the town.

Jay's previous experience included working with troubled youths in inner city areas.

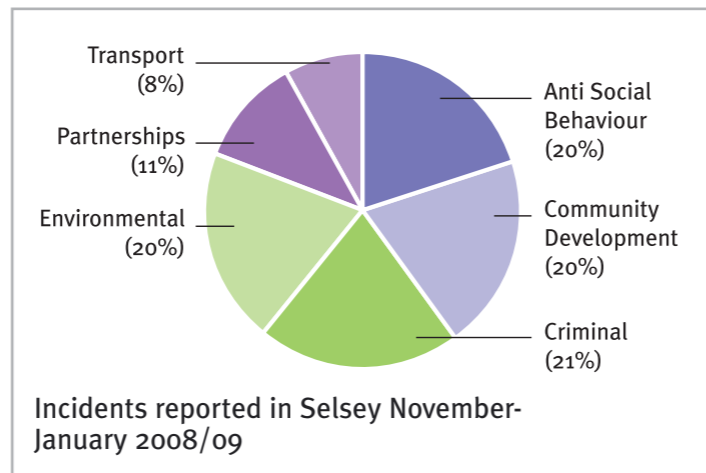
GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK

Jacqui Averis is settling in to her new role as Community Warden at Midhurst, after moving from Selsey where she worked successfully for almost four years.

"I joined the Chichester District Community Warden scheme when it launched in 2005, and enjoyed my time in Selsey," she said. "Now I'm very proud to be the first Community Warden in Midhurst, and hope that residents, organisations and businesses will all feel able to get to know me and find out what a difference such a role can make to an area."

Jacqui has been a huge asset to the town and colleagues and residents alike extend their thanks and best wishes for her success in her new role.

Quarterly Report



DECEMBER

While we out on patrol we discovered that the outhouse in Ellis Square had been broken into and damaged again. This was reported to the Police and patrols were stepped up in the area.



JANUARY

In January, we came across an old arm chair that had been dumped in the road. We moved it to a safe location then collected it later and removed it to the amenity tip.



We regularly come across alcohol litter - some of which is caused by underage drinking. We are working with the District Council's licensing team to look at ways to address this problem. One of the ideas we are pursuing is to mark cans and bottles in order to understand where they are being purchased.

Jay received a call from a concerned resident that some graffiti had appeared on the play equipment in Manor Green Park. We visited the park and found some of the graffiti to be offensive, so we arranged to have this removed within 24 hours by Graffiti Solutions.

Community gives Wardens the thumbs-up

Residents from Bracklesham and East Wittering, have given the Community Warden service the thumbs up, following a public survey about their work across the area.

The Bracklesham and East Wittering evaluation, covering the period June 2007 to October 2008, was drawn up from questionnaires distributed to 300 homes. Some 94% of responses described the warden as being 'very effective' in dealing with issues ranging from youth-related incidents, traffic, neighbour disputes and litter or environmental crime.

Working alongside Police Community Support Officers, the Wardens dealt with **960 incidents locally** up to mid-October 2008. The majority of those issues related to anti-social behaviour and environmental issues, and with significant numbers of traffic and criminal incidents. Operational statistics show that all **crime types reduced** over this period and an **overall reduction of 43% or 175 incidents** – against the previous 12 months.

In particular – **theft, non-dwelling burglary and criminal damage saw significant reductions**. This could in part be attributed to an increased hi-visibility presence and greater levels of intelligence gathering and sharing with partners.

Overall results of the Survey were as follows:

- 62% of people see the Warden on patrol at least once per month
- 82% found it easy/very easy to contact him.
- 100% said their issues were dealt with within 2 days of reporting (50% on the same day)
- 94% said he was either effective or very effective in dealing with these issues.
- Between 29%-38% of respondees felt safer alone at home or in the community because of the Warden's presence during the day or after dark.

Community Warden Manager, Andrew Pilley said:

"It is heartening to see the effect that the Wardens' presence has had on this community, their hard work in covering the area has paid dividends in that people know them, trust them and feel able to go to them with all manner of concerns."

COMMUNITY WARDENS SHORTLISTED FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

Chichester's Community Wardens have once again been shortlisted for the 2009 South East Warden Awards in the following categories:

Outstanding Achievement

George Friel – Reading Community Wardens
Chichester District Community Wardens
 Mick Raynor – Stanwell Community Warden Scheme

Vulnerable People

Chichester District Community Wardens
 Wendy Brown – Newbury Neighbourhood Wardens
 Southampton Neighbourhood Wardens

Over 50 schemes in the south east, many of them much larger than Chichester's, entered nominations for the awards, but only 11 schemes have been shortlisted.

Andrew Pilley, Community Warden Manager, is delighted at their success and looking forward to the awards ceremony

"Just to be shortlisted is a compliment in itself. It's good for the team to be recognised as one of the leading Warden services in the south east and their work to be acknowledged as making a difference to people's lives."

Details of our success will appear in the summer issue of our newsletter.

TOP MARKS for Community Wardens



Community Wardens, Declan Moody and Sue Long (pictured above) holding their NVQ certificates

Declan Moody and Sue Long, have achieved the Level 2, NVQ (National Vocational Qualification) for their work as Community Wardens.

They have worked for two years towards this qualification, which assesses their knowledge and skills to carry out the role, as well as providing evidence of their success in applying those skills for the benefit of the community.

Manager, Andy Pilley, commented:

"The City and Guilds NVQ award recognises that Sue and Declan are working to the national standard for the role of Community Warden and have the required knowledge and skills in the following areas:

- Health & Safety
- Planning
- Maintaining a Safe Environment
- Customer Service
- Giving and Providing Information
- Working with the Community
- Conflict Management
- Acting as a Professional Witness

Sue and Declan are pleased to have made the grade:

"We're delighted that we've achieved this nationally recognised qualification for our work; it's amazing just how much our role covers – we hadn't realised we knew so much!"