

Helen Grant MP

Community Action for Cranbrook



Saying **NO** to antisocial behaviour



Member of Parliament for
Maidstone & The Weald
Helen Grant



Leader of Tunbridge
Wells Borough Council
Tom Dawlings



Kent County and Borough
Councillor for Cranbrook
Seán Holden



Cranbrook and
Sissinghurst Parish
Council Chairman
Kim Fletcher

An important message from your elected local community leaders

Dear Cranbrook Resident

We have recently joined together to tackle increasing levels of criminal damage and antisocial behaviour affecting the people of our beloved High Weald town of Cranbrook and the surrounding area.

What started with public streetlights being smashed, by local youths with catapults and ball bearings, has escalated into trashed bus shelters, broken windows, shop theft and serious vehicle vandalism. Some of those who have been caught-in-the-act have threatened reprisals or violence against people who might report them, and that is simply intolerable. This problem is by no means unique to Cranbrook, with statistics showing a 12% increase nationally, possibly as a side effect of lockdown. We will not allow it to continue here, in a town with such a special and tranquil rural identity.

You may have already noticed an increased police presence, we are reinstating multi-agency meetings at the Parish Office and now we need support from local residents in reporting disturbances and other incidents as they occur, or when they are discovered. That will go a long way to empowering law enforcement and catalysing behavioural change within the perpetrators.

Our doors, phones, emails and video links are open to residents and businesses, to listen to your experiences, and provide advice about how to tackle the problems you might be facing. We urge you to get in touch - our Councillor contact details are overleaf, alternatively, contact Helen directly using the details below.

With very best wishes

*Helen
Grant*

*Tom
Dawlings*

*Sean
Holden*

*Kim
Fletcher*



CONTACT Helen Grant MP

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Legal Issues

What is antisocial behaviour?

It is wide range of actions that can cause nuisance and annoyance or harm and distress to a person. Some of these are listed on the adjacent 'How to Report' box in this leaflet.

What is not antisocial behaviour?

Children Playing, DIY (at reasonable hours), Large Gatherings, Religious Practice or General Living Noise

What are the legal remedies against antisocial behaviour?

Civil injunctions, Community Protection Notices (CPN's) for over 16's and Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBO's) for youths aged 10 and over.

What are the punishments for breaches of legal remedies?

A breach of a civil injunction can carry a 3-month detention order if you're under 18 and up to 2 years' imprisonment for contempt of court or unlimited fine if you're 18 or over. The punishment for breach of a CPN is a fine of between £100 and £2,500. The punishment for breach of a CBO is up to 2 years in a detention centre (if you're under 18) and up to 5 years in prison or an unlimited fine (or both) if you're 18 or over.

Further details of our ASB laws can be found here:

www.release.org.uk/law/anti-social-behaviour-laws



Left to right: PCSO Simon Humphreys, Inspector Ian Jones - Police Community Safety Unit, Police and Crimes Commissioner Matthew Scott, Helen Grant MP, Cllr Tom Dawlings and Cllr Seán Holden outside the Vestry Hall in Cranbrook, following a round-table meeting on tackling local antisocial behaviour.

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HOW TO REPORT ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Crime: If someone is in danger/the crime is very serious, or if a crime is in progress (serious or otherwise), call **999**.

Anonymous reporting: To make an anonymous report of antisocial behaviour that is serious, criminal or causing a risk to a person, contact www.crimestoppers.org | tel **0800 55511**

Less serious crime: To report and provide personal details without anonymity call 101 for your local neighbourhood policing team or report online via www.kent.police.uk/report . If you're deaf or hard of hearing, use the textphone service on **18001 101**.

Social Housing Tenants: For reporting incidents involving tenants of social housing at their premises, such as; frequent or persistent shouting and swearing, dogs barking for sustained periods, DIY during unsociable hours, regular large gatherings, nuisance garden bonfires and uncollected rubbish and furniture, contact Town and Country Housing ASB specialist Eleanor.Randall@tch.org.uk | tel **01892 501480**.

Borough Council issues: Incidents of fly tipping, abandoned vehicles, barking dogs, graffiti, fly posting, littering, can be reported to TWBC online www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk/report

Persistent local problems: If the problem is more general or you just want to raise awareness, contact your local Benenden and Cranbrook Borough Councillors

Tom Dawlings

01580 241750 | tom.Dawlings@TunbridgeWells.gov.uk

Seán Holden

01580 714880 | Sean.Holden@TunbridgeWells.gov.uk

Nancy Warne

01580 720765 | Nancy.Warne@TunbridgeWells.gov.uk

and / or

Cranbrook and Sissinghurst Parish Council | **01580 713112**

Chairman - Kim Fletcher | chairman@cspc.org.uk

Clerk - Lori Ham | clerk@cranbrookandsissinghurstpc.co.uk

OTHER CONTACTS AND LINKS

Police and Crime Commissioner - Matthew Scott
contactyourpcc@kent.police.uk 01622 677055

Crimestoppers website

www.crimestoppers-uk.org/keeping-safe/community-family/antisocial-behaviour

Victim support website

www.victimsupport.org.uk/crime-info/types-crime/antisocial-behaviour

ASB Help

- a registered charity providing advice and support to victims of anti-social behaviour www.asbhelp.co.uk

HELEN GRANT MP SURGERIES

I hold regular surgeries in the constituency, face to face and virtually. If you would like to discuss an issue of concern, or if you are seeking guidance and support for a project or idea, please get in touch, I would be delighted to hear from you. My contact details are overleaf.