



Chatteris Town Council Update

October 2019

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Street Pride and Community Groups

The Anglia In Bloom results were announced at a celebration event in St Ives on 10th September and it was another extremely successful year for Chatteris In Bloom as they achieved Gold.

All of the volunteers and partner organisations involved should be very proud of themselves.

Environmental Health

The Environmental Health Team saw a marked increase in pest reports this summer. Although it is usual to see an increase during summer months this has continued into the autumn.

Mice and rats (both carriers of salmonella) in particular have shown the biggest increase and often are linked to locations where pigeons or chickens are kept as the feed is often on the floor.

Chatteris and surrounding villages Performance Report

Food Safety Inspection Plan:	
Number of food safety interventions completed	3
Number of Food Safety Warning Letters/ Notices sent	1
Number of Food Safety Advice letters sent	2
Food Hygiene Rating Scheme	
Number of Food Safety Premises whose score went UP	0
Number of Food Safety Premises whose score went DOWN	1
Number of Food Safety Premises whose score STAYED THE SAME	2
Requests for Service	
Total number of Requests for Service received in 2019/2020	136
Number of Requests for Service received in September 2019	22
Number responded to within 5 working days	22

Streetscene

Performance – (September)

Total number of hours out and about on patrol in the local community:	75hrs
Number of cleansing inspections carried out:	15 no. Wenneye 5, Mills 5, Birch 5
Percentage of cleansing inspections found to be of a suitable standard:	100%

Tidy Fenland Campaign

An additional 2 dog walkers have signed up to the Green Dog Walkers Campaign. There has also been additional information promoting the campaign available at the hub and library.

Street scene officers are continuing to monitor the dispenser at Furrowfields twice a week to replenish the dog bag dispenser. This continues to be used well and not mistreated.

Fly tipping

The total number of fly tipping instances recorded for August 2019 is 149 – an increase of 25.

This, broken down into areas, is as follows:

- Chatteris – 8
- March – 25
- Whittlesey – 2
- Wisbech – 61
- Villages – 53
- Total – 149

The majority of the fly tipping was household related with 92 instances (an increase of 23) followed by 12 commercial related, and 9 instances of green waste.

A large fly tip was found on the by-way off Stocking Drove. Correspondence was found in bags of household waste and the residents have been contacted. We are awaiting their explanation as to how this came to be deposited on the byway, and will be inviting them to an interview under caution in the near future.

A further fly tipping incident took place on Dykemoor Drove, Doddington, where 3 truckloads of waste were removed. Again, evidence was found, which seems to indicate a Peterborough company was responsible. Investigations are on-going and will be proactively pursued.

Enforcement

A Peterborough Letting Agency was taken to court by the Council regarding 5 large fly tips in the Whittlesey area which spanned over 18 months. Following a brief trial at Peterborough magistrate's Court Cosy Properties and its Sole Director Asif Hasham were found guilty and fined a total of £24,000, which included all our costs and compensation for clean-up costs.

A smaller fly tip was found in Furrowfields Road recycling centre– this consisted of a suitcase left by the textile bank. The owner had left an airline sticker on the case, which

gave her name and details of her recent holiday to Lanzarote. We were able to trace the lady and she has received a formal written warning.

Abandoned Vehicles (to 23rd September)

17 vehicles have been reported and investigated as abandoned across the Fenland area in September. Just 2 of these were in Chatteris – one vehicle had no registered keeper, was untaxed, had 3 flat tyres and no windscreen. Our contractor was contacted to remove it, but it had disappeared before he got to it. The other is still being monitored, but has been passed to DVLA as an untaxed vehicle

Kingdom Enforcement actions this month (to 23rd September)

A total of 15 FPNs have been issued for littering offences across Fenland. Broken down into towns:

Chatteris:	6
March:	4
Whittlesey:	6
Wisbech:	2

Street Scene issues in Chatteris

- Damage to the rubber kerbs in Furrowfields car park has been reported and repaired, but another is now missing.
- The standpipe connection at the end of Furrowfields Road has been reported to Anglian Water as it appears to have a small leak.
- A lorry driver was spoken to, following a complaint of someone sleeping in a camper van in a lay-by on the A141. It appears he was having a sleep before returning to his base. The vehicle will be monitored.

Planning Enforcement

Performance	
Service Requests received in Sept 2019	0
Total number of Service Requests in 2019-20	16
Cases Closed this month	5 (16 in year to date)
Notices Served	0

With regard to the cases closed this month:

- In 2 cases the investigation concluded that there had been no breach of planning control
- In 2 case the breach found was resolved through the grant of retrospective planning permission
- In 1 case the matter was referred to the County Council as it related to a breach where it has the enforcement powers rather than the District Council

Open Spaces

Variable summer weather has meant, contrary to the heat wave of 2018, that the grass continues to grow at pace. Restructuring of the contractor rounds has enabled the team to keep on top of the schedule and all cuts have been completed on time and to general satisfaction.

The planters are now displaying their colour and the recent Anglia in Bloom inspection resulted in a thoroughly merited Gold Award at the presentation in St Ives. Other work to have taken place includes tree clearance in New Road cemetery along the fence line, a bench removed from St Peters church and the grass cut in all areas. Plans to put fixed and drop-bollards in the church grounds to prevent anti-social parking on the grass continue to develop.

Installation of the new play equipment at Wenny Rec will commence in late September with a completion before the end of October. In the meantime some equipment which had failed or been vandalised has been removed in readiness and the trees have been crown lifted and soil topped up.

A significant amount of tree work in both cemeteries, identified in inspection reports earlier in the year, is also being scheduled to take place in Autumn.

Useful Contacts

Issue	Contact Details
Street Pride Coordinator	Rebecca Robinett rrobinett@fenland.gov.uk 01354 602134
Streetscene Officer	Anne Marshall amarshall@fenland.gov.uk 07717 866963
Environmental Health Officer	Dawn Sadler dsadler@fenland.gov.uk 01354 622492
CCTV	Aarron Locks alocks@fenland.gov.uk 01354 622481
Planning Enforcement & Section 106	Nick Harding nharding@fenland.gov.uk 07920 160161
Open Spaces	Simon Bell sbell@fenland.gov.uk 01354 622516
General issues (Please contact Tash if there are any specific issues or matters arising that you would like including in the next newsletter)	Tash Stokes nstokes@fenland.gov.uk 01354 622317