



## Chatteris Town Council Update

**March 2019**

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### **Street Pride and Community Groups**

During February Chatteris In Bloom have continued to plan new projects, maintain existing ones and fundraise.

The group cleared the flower bed in front of the Church ready for this year's display.

### **Environmental Health**

The Environmental Health Team have been working with local businesses who are applying to be licensed under a new law, the Animal Welfare Regulations 2018. This new law has greatly changed the way that we are required to inspect premises that board cats and dogs, breed dogs, have stables and liverys and Pet Shops.

Across Fenland there are currently 52 premises needing a license. We envisage that there will be a lot more as the new regulations also require anyone making over £1000 for the sale of any dogs and /or cats to be inspected. The inspection of these licensed premises has also changed with a Star Rating system being introduced. Premises gaining a 5 Star Rating (the top rating), will be inspected every 3 years. However a premises gaining only a 1 rating (the lowest) would be revisited annually. However if the premises are not likely to achieve a star rating at all, (which is very unusual) they are encouraged to improve their standards as soon as possible so that a license can be issued by the Council.

**Chatteris and surrounding villages  
Performance Report : February 2019**

<b>Food Safety Inspection Plan:</b>	
Number of food safety interventions completed	<b>4</b>
Number of Food Safety Warning Letters/ Notices sent	<b>0</b>
Number of Food Safety Advice letters sent	<b>4</b>
<b>Food Hygiene Rating Scheme</b>	
Number of Food Safety Premises whose score went UP	<b>0</b>
Number of Food Safety Premises whose score went DOWN	<b>0</b>
Number of Food Safety Premises whose score STAYED THE SAME	<b>4</b>
<b>Requests for Service</b>	
Total number of Requests for Service received in 2018/2019	<b>204</b>
Number of Requests for Service received in January 2019	<b>14</b>
Number responded to within 5 working days	<b>14</b>

## Streetscene

Performance	
Total number of hours out and about on patrol in the local community:	<b>51hrs</b>
Number of cleansing inspections carried out:	<b>15 no. Mills &amp; Wenneye</b>
Percentage of cleansing inspections found to be of a suitable standard:	<b>100%</b>

**Tidy Fenland Campaign**

We have made contact with our designer to begin to update the Green Dog Walking Campaign material so that it can be specific to Chatteris. A dog bag dispenser has also been ordered which will be installed in Furrowfields to assist with the responsible dog ownership message. We hope to launch the campaign in the town as soon as we can with the support from Street Pride.

Patrols are continuing across Chatteris in areas where we know dog walkers frequent. These include all the open spaces and main footpaths. We are checking signs whilst out are refreshed and following up on reports.

Following a report from our CCTV colleagues that they witnesses a couple who had taken 2 dogs into the fenced play areas of Wenny Road recreation ground and allowed the dogs to foul. It appeared they did not pick up the fouling and also encouraged the dogs to climb onto the play equipment. Investigations are taking place to identify this couple with a hope to be able to issue Fixed Penalty Notices.

**Fly tipping**

The total number of fly tipping instances recorded for January 2019 is 174.

This, broken down into areas, is as follows:

- Chatteris – 12
- March – 9
- Whittlesey – 16
- Wisbech – 67
- Villages – 70
- Total – 174

The majority of the fly tipping was household related -107 instances. Officers have been patrolling the key areas and refreshing signs this month. A total of 4 tipped sites have been visited to look for evidence but known have been found at the scene.

**Enforcement actions this month**

- 15 FPN's have been issued by Kingdom up to the 26<sup>th</sup> February. 1 was issued in Whittlesey and the remainder were issued in Wisbech. 9 were for litter offences 6 were for spitting.
- 21 people were found guilty of littering offences at Peterborough Magistrates court. They were fined a total of £400.

## Street Scene issues

- 2 vehicles have been reported this month as being abandoned in Chatteris. Once investigated the vehicles were found to not be abandoned and they were later removed by their owners.
- Memorial safety inspections have continued in New Road Cemetery. Of the 300 inspections carried out, 18 were found to be unstable and in need of attention.
- Whilst in the cemetery, 4 graves had sunk and forwarded to Tivoli to make level, and one search was carried out for a member of the public.
- Officers have been speaking with a potential new trader for the Friday Market. A gentleman selling household items is looking to have a stall.
- 6 matters relating to the towns open spaces has been referred to our contractors, Tivoli.
- The ladies toilet coin slot in Furrowfields has now been repaired following an error where coins were repeatedly getting jammed, preventing the lock working properly.
- A stray wheelie bin in Fairleeds field has been returned to its owner.
- Wenny Rec is being regularly patrolled to monitor reports of human faeces regularly left in the gateway.

## Planning Enforcement

Performance	
Service Requests received in February 2019	0
Total number of Service Requests in 2018-19	26
Cases Closed this month	3 (28 in year to date)
Notices Served	0

With regard to the cases closed:

- 1 case where no breach of planning control was found to have taken place
- 1 case where retrospective planning permission was granted
- 1 case was passed to another service that had better powers to deal with the issue

## **Open Spaces**

A relatively mild January and February has seen Tivoli progressing well with seasonal works particularly around shrub beds, leaf clearance and moss removal from hard surfaces. Good preparatory work in the winter paves the way for a successful spring and summer season. Flower beds have been prepared and composted for the introduction of sustainable planting (due in April). The Whittlesey In Bloom Group have been consulted and expectations are high for a successful long-term project.

Grass cutting commences in the last week of February for the cemeteries. Earlier, all winter wreaths were successfully removed by the contractor.

Tree surveys have been carried out at Meeks and New Road Cemeteries. At Meeks one hundred and one individual trees, seven groups of trees, five areas of trees and one hedge have been plotted. Of these, a number of specimens have been identified as requiring surgery or enhanced monitoring (or a combination of both).

At New Road, fifty-five individual trees, twelve groups of trees and two areas of trees have been plotted. Of these, a number of specimens have been identified as requiring surgery or enhanced monitoring (or a combination of both). Timescales for the remedial work are yet to be confirmed.

## Useful Contacts

Issue	Contact Details
Street Pride Coordinator	Rebecca Robinett <a href="mailto:rrobinett@fenland.gov.uk">rrobinett@fenland.gov.uk</a> 01354 602134
Streetscene Officer	Anne Marshall <a href="mailto:amarshall@fenland.gov.uk">amarshall@fenland.gov.uk</a> 07717 866963
Environmental Health Officer	Russell Watkins <a href="mailto:rwatkins@fenland.gov.uk">rwatkins@fenland.gov.uk</a> 01354 622440
CCTV	Aarron Locks <a href="mailto:alocks@fenland.gov.uk">alocks@fenland.gov.uk</a> 01354 622481
Planning Enforcement & Section 106	Nick Harding <a href="mailto:nharding@fenland.gov.uk">nharding@fenland.gov.uk</a> 07920 160161
Open Spaces	Phil Hughes <a href="mailto:phughes@fenland.gov.uk">phughes@fenland.gov.uk</a> 01354 622520
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 <a href="mailto:nstokes@fenland.gov.uk">nstokes@fenland.gov.uk</a> 01354 622317