



Chatteris Town Council Update

November 2019

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Street Pride and Community Groups

On 3rd October, a record number of 135 volunteers and local partners attended the annual Celebration Evening. The Council appreciates and values the ongoing work of all its volunteers and this event is our way of saying 'thanks' and celebrating groups' achievements. Representatives from Street Pride, In Bloom, friends groups and 'getting it sorted' recycling champions all attended which reflects the increasing co-operation between them.

Each group received a certificate of thanks in appreciation of their continuing efforts over the past year to improve their local street scene and open spaces.

Special certificates were also awarded for a number of projects:

Chatteris In Bloom / Street Pride were winners under Best Youth Project for their project working alongside Chatteris 2nd Scouts. The Scouts created a planter made from eco-bricks, which are plastic drinks bottles filled with non-recyclable rubbish such as crisp packets and chocolate wrappers.

The evening also included a hog roast supper and some fantastic live music from four piece band, 'The 59ers'.

Environmental Health

A food premises in Chatteris was recently inspected and as a result of the poor food safety management the owner agreed to voluntary close for 72 hours. This time was used by the premises to liaise with Environmental Health Officers towards improving their food safety management so that the food they were producing was safe to eat. Voluntary closures of a food premises are very rare but they this action can be implemented by a food business to prevent officers having to go to the local Magistrates' Court for a Hygiene Emergency Prohibition Notice, action which can be taken to ensure public health.

Chatteris and surrounding villages Performance Report : October 2019	
Food Safety Inspection Plan:	
Number of food safety interventions completed	4
Number of Food Safety Warning Letters/ Notices sent	1
Number of Food Safety Advice letters sent	3
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	3
Requests for Service	
Total number of Requests for Service received in 2019/2020	165
Number of Requests for Service received in October 2019	29
Number responded to within 5 working days	29

Streetscene

Performance	
Total number of hours out and about on patrol in the local community:	61hrs
Number of cleansing inspections carried out:	15 No. Birch – 8no. Slade Lode – 7no.
Percentage of cleansing inspections found to be of a suitable standard:	94% 1 fail : litter in Dock Road

Tidy Fenland Campaign

With the darker months approaching- and the clocks going back- historically we see a rise in dog fouling. The good work with is being done to tackle the issue through the Green Dog Walkers campaign remains. Officers have been conducting dog patrols in the early mornings in Blackmill Road, Fairway, Fairleedes field and Furrowfields Road.

Additional signs were erected and we are targeting our patrols based on information received regarding a dog walker not picking up.

The dispenser in Furrowfields is being topped up little and often but sadly we had to remove some fouling which had been left beside the dog bag dispenser showing a purposeful lack of regard for other users of the open space.

We are continuing with our patrols and arranging to remove any fouling seen as soon as possible.

Fly tipping

The total number of fly tipping instances recorded for September 2019 is 96 – a 65% decrease from 149 last month.

This, broken down into areas, is as follows:

- Chatteris – 5
- March – 5
- Whittlesey – 4
- Wisbech – 54
- Villages – 28
- Total – 96

The majority of the fly tipping was household related with 56 instances, followed by 6 vehicle and electrical related, and 4 of green waste.

Enforcement actions

A joint operation with the Police, HMRC and Environment Agency was carried out this month on the 7th October. Vehicles likely to be involved in waste removal were stopped and inspected for vehicle defects, tax and licence compliance, diesel checks and Street Scene officers were on site to check for compliance with waste carrier's licences. 1 vehicle was seized and its driver issued with penalty notices for several vehicle faults and other issues.

A total of 32 FPNs have been issued for littering offences across Fenland. Broken down into towns:

Chatteris: 4
March: 10
Whittlesey: 5
Wisbech: 13

81% of the litter was cigarette related and 9% of the FPN's were for spitting.

We have also successfully prosecuted this month 4 individuals following non-payment of their FPN at Peterborough magistrate's court. All were found guilty and fined an average total of £340

Abandoned Vehicles (to 29th October)

32 vehicles have been reported and investigated as abandoned across the Fenland area in October, with none needing to be removed by our contractor. 5 of these were in Chatteris – following inspection, 4 needed no further action and the 5th has a 7 day notice of removal issued.

A verbal warning was given to a lady parking illegally on Park Street, Chatteris, who ignored the parking restriction notices. The details were passed onto the Police.

Street Scene issues

- Farriers Gate was inspected for overhanging brambles on a footpath. A large hole in the verge was also reported.
- Brambles in the Gibside garage area were reported, inspected and passed to our Assets team for cutting back.
- Cambridgeshire Highways were advised of a missing kerbstone on Park Street and 2 loose kerbs on Wenny Road – both trip hazards.
- Flyposting was removed from Wenny Road and Market Hill.

Planning Enforcement

Performance	
Service Requests received in October 2019	5
Total number of Service Requests in 2019-20	22
Cases Closed this month	2 (20 in year to date)
Notices Served	0

With regard to the two cases closed in October:

- In one case the investigation concluded that no unauthorised development had taken place
- In the other case the breach was resolved by an application being received and approved which allowed a change to the design of the development compared to what was originally approved.

Open Spaces

Exceptionally wet conditions have hindered, but not stopped, the last of the contracted cuts in the town. All Cemetery work has been completed on time and to specification and the summer has passed without the welter of adverse comments of the previous year. Additional work has also been carried out at Willey Terrace, Hunters Close, The Elms, Haigh's Close, Farriers Road, Anvil Close and Eastwood mainly in regard to overgrown trees and shrubs.

The Gold Award for Chatteris at Anglia in Bloom was well received and to ensure further success moving forward additional tidying up and planting into some of the gaps will take place over the next few months.

At Wenny Rec the new play area continues apace and the equipment has been located pretty much problem free. Work to some of the trees (crown reduction particularly) has opened up the area. Opening will be early November

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