



Chatteris Town Council Update

February 2020

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Street Pride and Community Groups

A New Year means groups are busy planning for new projects, fundraising and promotional activities.

Chatteris in Bloom / Street Pride group held their first litter pick of the year on 4th January and first weeding group event on 18th.

Plans are in place for a quiz on 17th February. The group held a number of quizzes last year and raised £690 from them. It is great to hear that the volunteers are finding different ways to promote themselves and fundraise.

Environmental Health

During December 2019 it became necessary for environmental health officers to accept some voluntary closures at local food premises.

Routine inspections highlighted some urgent needs relating to cleanliness and food safety management systems. Public health and food safety regulations enable officers to offer the food business operator a choice of voluntarily closing, usually for 24 hours to have a deep clean. The alternative would be a court appointment for closure using formal powers. Working together in this way helps maintain good relationships with businesses.

All businesses are now open again and operating with support for officers.

**Chatteris and surrounding villages
Performance Report : January 2020**

Food Safety Inspection Plan:	
Number of food safety interventions completed	3
Number of Food Safety Warning Letters/ Notices sent	0
Number of Food Safety Advice letters sent	3
Food Hygiene Rating Scheme	
Number of Food Safety Premises whose score went UP	2
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	205
Number of Requests for Service received in December	24
Number responded to within 5 working days	24

Streetscene

Performance	
Total number of hours out and about on patrol in the local community:	61hrs
Number of cleansing inspections carried out:	15 no. Slade Lode 5, Birch 5 & Rural (Manea) 5
Percentage of cleansing inspections found to be of a suitable standard:	93% 1 fail – Dock Road – excess litter

Tidy Fenland Campaign – Green Dog Walkers

In these colder months we are continuing with our dog fouling prevention. Dog patrols are continuing across Chatteris where we know dog walkers frequent. These include all the open spaces and main footpaths. We are checking signs whilst out, renewing where needed and following up on reports.

Specific patrols were carried out in all the open spaces, school routes and footpaths. The dog bag dispenser in Furrowfields is well used and regularly refilled.

Fly tipping

The total number of fly tipping instances recorded for December 2019 is 122

This, broken down into areas, is as follows:

Chatteris –5

March –22

Whittlesey – 8

Wisbech – 38

Villages – 49

Total – 122

The majority of the fly tipping was household related with 74 instances, 18 were vehicle related and 9 of electrical and commercial waste.

A fly tipping incident was witnessed by a Street Scene officer on the evening of Saturday 11th January at 8:05pm. A yellow flat back tipper truck disposed of willow tree cuttings in a gateway along the A141 by-pass. The officer was unable to get the registration number, despite turning round and giving chase! Details have since come to light, allowing further enquiries which will be pursued.

Kingdom Enforcement actions to date

- 6 Fixed Penalty Notices issued during December. 1 of these was in March. Of the total, 3 were males between the ages of 50-59, and 5 were cigarette related litter.
- Kingdom have issued no FPNs for January.

Prosecutions

During this time frame there has been 4 individuals found guilty for littering. All were fined a total of £448.50 at Peterborough Magistrates Court. A further individual paid their original FPN prior to their court date so were not prosecuted.

Abandoned vehicles to 27th January

21 vehicles have been reported this month across the Fenland area – 1 of these was in Chatteris.

Other Street Scene issues

- 2 Graves have been marked in Chatteris cemetery during January.
- 1 nuisance vehicle was investigated in Chatteris.
- Potholes in West Street were reported to Highways .
- Excess litter was reported in a dyke in London Road and in the water tower compound in Eastwood. Both of these locations are privately owned and the responsibility of the landowners to keep them litter free.
- 2 tyres were left in Marion Way and removed by our cleansing team.
- Trade waste was left beside bins in Railway Lane – this was subsequently removed by the businesses trade waste provider.
- A missing padlock was replaced on the gates to the old section of New Road cemetery.

Planning Enforcement

Performance	
Service Requests received in Jan 2020	1
Total number of Service Requests in 2019-20	28
Cases Closed this month	3 (30 in year to date)
Notices Served	0

With regard to the cases closed in the month:

- In 2 cases, retrospective planning permission was applied for and granted which resolved the breach of planning control.
- In 1 case, the investigation concluded that the development that had taken place did not need planning permission so there had been no breach of planning control.

Open Spaces

Wenny Rec play area was completed on schedule despite the appalling weather. Ground conditions are only now firming up but the area has already proven popular. Further remedial work will take place as soon as conditions dictate - bark mulch has already been laid - and a formal opening is scheduled in Spring.

Considerable work has taken place in New Road and Meeks Cemeteries with a tree team clearing large areas of both sites. Two collapsed graves were reported and both were addressed quickly. The War Memorial graves in Meeks have also been tidied up. Bollards have also been installed alongside the grassed areas of the church, preventing inconsiderate users from parking on the grass and a drop-bollard will be added at a later date. The bed by the sign has been levelled and turf ordered to complete the work.

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