



Chatteris Town Council Update

April 2020

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Street Pride and Community Groups

Unfortunately due to Covid-19 pandemic events and gatherings are being cancelled across the country. This includes Keep Britain Tidy's campaign The Great British Spring Clean which has been postponed to a date in September.

Anglia in Bloom has also taken the decision to cancel the competition this year.

Following the government's advice to stay at home and follow social distancing guidance, the street pride groups have cancelled all activities for the time being.

Groups have been provided with updated information about the pandemic including personal guidance. Cleansing services continue to operate and streetscene officers are monitoring and dealing with environmental issues every day.

Environmental Health

Since the middle of March officers have been supporting the implementation of changes introduced by government such as; monitoring for health issues at ports (Sutton Bridge and Wisbech), implementing Business Closure Regulations and very importantly giving businesses, which are exempt from closure, the right advice to keep trading safely.

The types of businesses affected by the new regulations include; restaurants, cafes, public houses, tattooists, beauty salons, and all other non-essential retail shops.

Businesses in Fenland have responded and compliance rates are high. Where a slight change to the business model can be achieved (for example offering take away services) officers are

providing advice to implement these changes safely. Lots of information and advice has been sent to local businesses and some of the officers are now in the newly formed Community Hub giving essential advice and assistance. Many local businesses have thanked our officers for the advice we are giving out on a daily basis.

Food Standard Agency advice has been to stop all face to face inspections until at least mid-April, therefore the following figures are for the first 2 weeks of March. Request for service continue to come in and officers are supporting the resolution of community issues such as noise, public health concerns and accumulations of waste at properties.

Chatteris and surrounding villages Performance Report : March 2020	
Food Safety Inspection Plan:	
Number of food safety interventions completed	4
Number of Food Safety Warning Letters/ Notices sent	0
Number of Food Safety Advice letters sent	4
Food Hygiene Rating Scheme	
Number of Food Safety Premises whose score went UP	0
Number of Food Safety Premises whose score went DOWN	0
Number of Food Safety Premises whose score STAYED THE SAME	4
Requests for Service	
Total number of Requests for Service received in 2019/2020	255
Number of Requests for Service received in March 2020	30
Number responded to within 5 working days	30

Streetscene

Performance – (Month)	
Total number of hours out and about on patrol in the local community:	55hrs
Number of cleansing inspections carried out:	15 Birch 10, Slade Lode 5
Percentage of cleansing inspections found to be of a suitable standard:	100%

Officers have been involved in supporting communities and services in all aspects of the response to Covid 19. In addition they are carrying out many of their usual tasks and monitoring for environmental quality concerns.

Tidy Fenland Campaign – Green Dog Walkers

Monitoring of play spaces is ongoing with intervention methods to promote responsible dog ownership. This includes topping up the bag dispenser in Furrowfields open space and litterbin signs replaced to remind dog walkers they can be used to dispose of their dogs waste.

Cleansing has been provided with assistance, ensuring the bins around the town are emptied regularly.

Fly tipping

The total number of fly tipping instances recorded for February, 2020 is 115.

This, broken down into areas, is as follows:

- Chatteris –3
- March –9
- Whittlesey – 5
- Wisbech – 44
- Villages – 54
- Total – 115

The majority of the fly tipping was household related with 63 instances, 18 were vehicle related, 9 of electrical and 8 commercial waste. There were just 5 of green waste.

Patrols continue and although the officers are now working alone they can carry on supporting community priorities.

With the recent closure of the household recycling centre's we are monitoring to see if this affects Fly Tipping. So far we have not noticed that this has had an impact, but it is still early days and the team remain proactive in fly tipping prevention and investigations.

As part of our fly tipping enforcement work an interview under caution took place earlier this month. A suspected fly-tipper was asked about details of his vehicle and also how he has been disposing of the waste generated from doing up his property. This resulted in no further action being taken.

Street Scene Enforcement actions this month

- 1 Fixed Penalty Notice issued to a male who was seen throwing litter from a vehicle in Chatteris. A formal request for information letter was sent to the registered keeper and he admitted the offence. As a result a Fixed Penalty Notice was issued by post. This has now been paid.
- A 2nd driver has also been sent a request for information after being spotted throwing a drinks can from his vehicle, we are waiting for his response, but will be following this up.

Abandoned vehicles

16 vehicles have been reported this month across the Fenland area. 4 of these vehicles were in Chatteris.

1 was a parking issue, 1 had been involved in an accident and was awaiting recovery by the insurance company. Both were insured, taxed and had a valid MOT. A burnt out horse box in Fenton Way, has been removed by our contractor.

Street Scene issues

- Flyposting; 15 posters have been removed from street furniture and shop windows in and around the town.
- Notices were placed on vehicles in the Eastwood car park advising the keepers that they were obstructing resurfacing work.
- A planter in Park Street has been reported as it has been damaged by a vehicle.
- A vehicle left in South Fens business centre is being monitored, as it is over 2 bays and leaking.

Planning Enforcement

Performance	
Service Requests received in March 2020	3
Total number of Service Requests in 2019-20	33
Cases Closed this month	0 (35 in year)
Notices Served	0

Open Spaces

Mowing season started on Monday 2nd March with exceptionally heavy ground conditions following February's deluge of rain. As a result, whilst most areas have had their first cut of the year, some areas will need to wait for the ground to dry further. Work over the past month included:

- Tree work on Hunters Close
- Tree removed Chatteris cemetery
- New Road cemetery undergrowth clearance
- Bench refix – St Peters Church
- Wildflower planting St Peters Church
- Drop bollards at St Peters church to be installed imminently

At the time of writing the impact of CoVid 19 has not affected Tivoli's grass cutting operation although all play areas and skate parks have been closed. This picture could change of course, social media has been used to keep the public informed and safe and changes have been implemented swiftly, in response to government guidance.

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