



Whittlesey Town Council Update

January 2021

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Street Pride and Community Groups

Following the national lockdown government guidance has changed and we can only meet with 1 person outdoors again. Street Pride groups have continued to keep in touch and updated guidance provided.

Environmental Health

Environmental Health had a high number of queries/complaints coming in due to the recent lockdown. Most related to whether certain business could open under the regulations and members of staff not wearing masks or keeping to a safe distance.

The situation remains difficult for businesses.



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Environmental Health Report to Whittlesey Town Council

Whittlesey and surrounding villages Performance Report : January 2021

Food Safety Inspection Plan:	
Number of food safety interventions completed	5
Number of Food Safety Warning Letters/ Notices sent	0
Number of Food Safety Advice letters sent	5
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	5
Requests for Service	
Total number of Requests for Service received in 2020 /2021	467
Number of Requests for Service received in December 2020	30
Number responded to within 5 working days	30



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Streetscene

Performance	
Total number of hours out and about on patrol in the local community:	75hrs
Number of cleansing inspections carried out:	30
Percentage of cleansing inspections found to be of a suitable standard:	100%

Tidy Fenland – Green Dog Walkers

Our new Public Spaces Protection Order for Dog Control has been approved by members and means that we are able to continue with carrying out enforcement action against those who are found to be irresponsible. This covers the requirement to pick up pets fouling, keep the dog on a lead in restricted areas and to have a dog placed on a lead when directed by an authorised officer.

During the month of December 2020, Street Scene Team have continued to show a presence in the town and all our open spaces to encourage responsible dog ownership and deter dog fouling. Patrols were specifically undertaken at the Manor Leisure Centre, The Walk, The Bower, Tower Rec and the Green Wheel. Dog patrols have also been carried out rurally in Coates North/South Green, and lakes and in Wype Road, Eastrea.

Tidy Fenland – Fly Tipping

Attending fly tipped sites is a priority for the Street Scene Team.



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In December, there was 59 instances of fly tipping, which is less than half than November 2020. The majority of the fly tipping was household related & commercial waste with 21 instances in total. Broken down into locations:

Chatteris	2	Eastrea	0
March	7	Coates	1
Whittlesey	5	Turves	3
Wisbech	13	Benwick	1
Villages	32	Pondersbridge	1

59			

During December, we have attended 20 sites across the district. Evidence was found at a site in Turves which we are pursuing, and following a witness statement, a formal Interview Under Caution Document has been sent.

Street Scene Actions

- 3 Abandoned vehicles have been investigated in Whittlesey during December. Following a Notice being served on the cars, all were removed by persons unknown.
- In the rural areas of Whittlesey, we did not receive any reports of abandoned vehicles.
- A further 2 nuisance vehicles were reported, these included a car being untaxed which was reported to the DVLA and a neighbour parking dispute which was later resolved.
- As part of our patrols, 9 additional cleansing requests were raised in relation to overflowing litter bins and excessive levels of litter in the town. These were actioned quickly.



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- We have been speaking with a business on behalf of Environmental Health in relation to waste accumulations and have provided advice and support to get the matter resolved. This involved providing details on responsible commercial waste management.
- A damaged street name plate has been reported and will be replaced.
- 2 reports have been referred to C.C.C Highways relating to a large pothole and a loose paving slab.
- Removed 8 fly posters advertising businesses and old signs for lost pets from around the Town.
- Due to COVID-19 we have continued to assist other teams in the Councils response to the pandemic.

Markets

Our Markets are open for essential traders in line with recent guidance. Markets have been a popular alternative to supermarket shopping as they offer shopping outside and are less crowded. Our traders have also been supported to deliver goods to vulnerable members of the community who may be shielding and unable to leave the house.

Planning Enforcement

Performance	
Service Requests received in December 2020	1
Total number of Service Requests in 2020-21	41
Cases Closed this month	0 (30 in year to date)
Notices Served	0



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Open Spaces

The long-awaited play area extension at Snowley park was completed on time and on budget ready for opening at Christmas. Public reaction has been excellent and the area has been busy ever since despite the pandemic restrictions. Two benches will be added shortly.

New plants have been ordered for the tubs on Buttercross and these will be located later this month. A clearance of excess vegetation alongside the ditch at Yarwell's Headland allowed the Drainage Board to complete their annual drain clearance

Sadly, vandalism recurred at Station Road play area forcing closure – this will be addressed and re-opened in January. Elsewhere a new swing and safety surfacing was installed at Burdett Grove. Play area inspections continue on a weekly basis and these areas, unlike the first shutdown, have, thankfully, remained open. Should any further change occur we have the steps in place to undertake this at short notice.

Following a request from Whittlesey In Bloom to remove the large planters at the entrance to Manor LC, work was undertaken in mid-November and the area re-laid to tarmac. New, smaller planters will be introduced by Whittlesey in Bloom in due course.

In the town, the following took or is taking place:

- Trim back path to Manor tennis courts
- Fallen trees removed from Bower and cemetery
- Bollard damage Manor LC repaired
- 40 new trees planted at cemetery



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- Kerb sets cleared
- New gravel for kerb sets and pathways at cemetery
- Russian vine clearance in cemetery
- Wall repair Churchfield Drive following mower damage
- Hedge work 90% complete