



## Whittlesey Town Council Update

April 2021

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### Street Pride and Community Groups

Due to the national lockdown restrictions which were in place in March, members of Whittlesey Street Pride continued to litter pick alone or as part of their household.

### Environmental Health

The service continues to work closely with our public health colleagues in responding to cases of COVID-19. Although case numbers in Fenland are declining, they remain above the national average.

There are 2 priorities being delivered in partnership with health colleagues: access to vaccination for those aged 50 and over and access to testing. The Government announced that regular home testing will be available for everyone to access, which is good news.

Ahead of easing of restrictions we have also been reaching out to local businesses to assess what measures they will be introducing to protect staff and customers as well as offer support where it is required. If you know of any local businesses which may need assistance to reopen safely, please ask them to submit their information through our [online survey](#).

Our food safety inspection programme continues this month and many businesses will receive a visit. Restaurants and take-aways will also have the opportunity for a refreshed Hygiene Rating score during this visit.



## Environmental Health Report to Whittlesey Town Council

Whittlesey and surrounding villages Performance Report : March 2021	
<b>Food Safety Inspection Plan:</b>	
Number of food safety interventions completed	5
Number of Food Safety Warning Letters/ Notices sent	0
Number of Food Safety Advice letters sent	5
<b>Food Hygiene Rating Scheme</b>	
Number of Food Safety Premises whose score went UP	1
Number of Food Safety Premises whose score went DOWN	0
Number of Food Safety Premises whose score STAYED THE SAME	4
<b>Requests for Service</b>	
Total number of Requests for Service <b>received in 2020 /2021</b>	<b>626</b>
Number of Requests for Service received <b>in March 2021</b>	<b>65</b>
Number responded to <b>within 5 working days</b>	<b>65</b>

### Streetscene

Performance	
Total number of hours out and about on patrol in the local community:	59hrs
Number of cleansing inspections carried out:	15
Percentage of cleansing inspections found to be of a suitable standard:	100%



### **Tidy Fenland – Green Dog Walkers**

This month we have been out in public open spaces as well as routes we know dog walkers frequent. We are pleased to advise that the Green Dog Walking Champion has reported that the Manor field is still very much improved for dog fouling and he hopes that this will continue when some of the outside socially distanced dog walks commence.

We have ensured that all signage is refreshed where needed. This includes in Saxon Road where we were asked to put more signs up.

### **Tidy Fenland – Fly Tipping**

The total number of fly tipping instances recorded for March 2021 is 113. Figures broken down into areas is as follows:

Chatteris – 4  
March – 8  
Whittlesey – 12  
Wisbech – 25  
Villages – 64  
Total – 113

Most of the fly tipping was household related accounting for 81 instances. We continue to attend as many sites as possible to investigate. This included visits to look for evidence at Glassmoor Bank, Green Wheel and in the layby of the A605. Evidence was found at 1 of these sites which is being investigated.

### **Abandoned vehicles**

During March, the team received 3 reports of abandoned vehicles in Whittlesey. All were investigated and were removed by persons unknown following a Notice.

There was also a further 7 cars reported as causing a nuisance. These reports were in relation to parking issues, which we helped to try and resolve.

### **COVID Secure High Streets**

We are continuing to monitor the town daily, to ensure COVID compliance and to support the public and local businesses during these uncertain times.

We have also been attending the test sites daily in preparation for staff testing and to be available for any queries on the day. So far, we are pleased to report that there have been no issues.



## Street Scene Actions

- Street Scene worked closely with Highways and the police regarding a cement truck which was driven through the town spilling cement. We were able to arrange for the roads to be swept quickly and reported the matter to Highways to investigate.
- Residents raised concern regarding a horse box that was parked close to the allotments. Unfortunately, we have not been able to locate the owner. However, Police colleagues have advised that they have access to this information and will be instructing the owners to have the horse box removed.
- Snowley park is being regularly monitored as it has become busy during lockdown. We have issued nuisance notices to the owner of cars parked who have obstructed driveways. Whilst, we are not permitted to take enforcement action, it is hoped that issuing the notices and speaking to drivers will raise awareness and bring about a change in behaviour. We have also put up signs and spoken to parents about staying safe and being mindful of others. We will continue to attend Snowley park as regularly as we can.
- The Green Wheel has been reported to us as having excess litter. We have removed what is possible and also reported the issue to the landowner.

## Markets

From the 12<sup>th</sup> April we will welcome back regular traders to the Market Place who have not been able to attend due to the COVID19 restrictions. All traders have been informed and are looking forward to returning. Prior to this we have offered these businesses access to COVID-19 business grant funding.

## Planning Enforcement

Performance	
Service Requests received in March 2021	1
Total number of Service Requests in 2020-21	50
Cases Closed this month	5 (39 in year to date)
Notices Served	0



With regard to the 5 closed cases this month:

- 1 was closed as retrospective planning permission had been sought and granted.
- 4 were closed as the investigation concluded that the breaches that had been found were either very minor or would have obtained planning permission had it been sought retrospectively.

### **Open Spaces**

The open spaces service is back to normal with a fully staffed Tivoli team and, despite wet weather in early March, the first cuts were all made on time with minimum fuss or disruption.

Cemeteries have benefited and the better weather later in the month saw them looking close to their best. The newly planted trees are blossoming and will provide much colour to the cemetery in due course.

Play areas remain open, despite the COVID restrictions, although closure will take place quickly if circumstances change. Inspections have continued to take place weekly throughout the pandemic. All play areas in the district were inspected by ROSPA in March (some 900 pieces of equipment) with only one high risk fault identified – resolved same day.

Snowley Park continues to be a hive of activity for children of the town (and beyond). Public reaction has been excellent, but the issue of anti-social parking remains, much to the dissatisfaction of residents adjacent to the play area. Signage has been increased and Cambridgeshire County Council have been approached to ascertain whether more action can be taken. It is estimated that the park will attract over 50,000 users a year and over 80 participants have been observed at a single time.

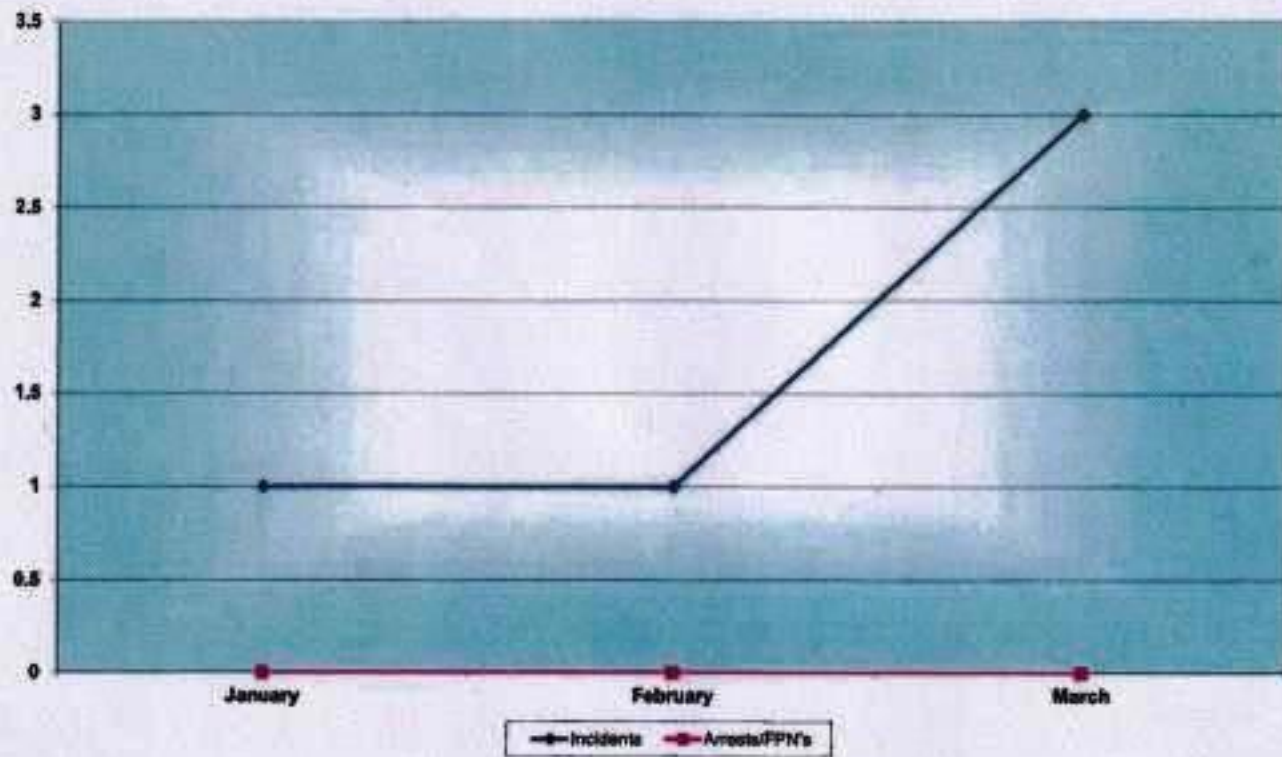
Activity elsewhere in the town:

- Snowley Park – additional bin, benches, ramp, signage
- Cemetery - Hedge and shrubs trimmed
- Cemetery - Green waste disposal
- Buttercross - Planters stocked
- Churchfield - New benches (pending)
- Cemetery - New bins
- Cemetery - Grave top ups

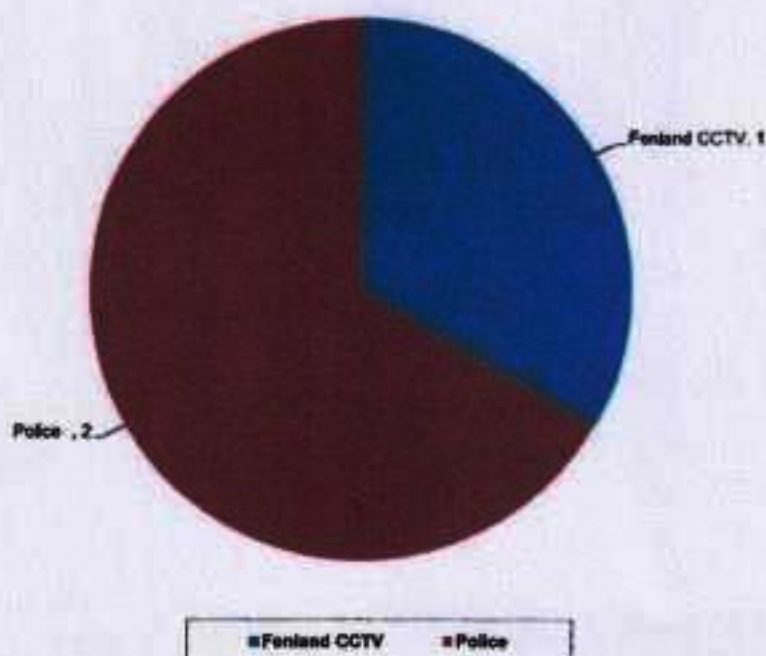


## Whittlesey Town Council CCTV update March 2021

**Number of Incidents and Arrests for Whittlesey  
From January – March 2021**



**Incidents by Call Source for Whittlesey for March**



**Data Chart of Performance Figures for previous three months**

	January	February	March	Total
Total Incidents Recorded (Whittlesey only)	1	3	3	7
Arrests / Fixed Penalty Notices (Whittlesey only)	0	0	1	1
CCTV Patrols Completed (All Towns)	452	355	421	1228

The above data is based upon incidents and arrests recorded by Safer Fenland CCTV and data supplied by Cambridgeshire Constabulary, to provide the most accurate figures possible at the time of publishing.