



## Whittlesey Town Council Update

December 2021

### Street Pride and Community Groups

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In November, Whittlesey Street Pride held two group litter picks and undertook maintenance to the Rose Garden.

### Environmental Health

Further to the government's announcement regarding masks in essential shops and businesses information has been shared directly and through social media. Materials such as posters – and hopefully masks for customer- will be provided to help business proprietors quickly comply with these new requirements



## Streetscene

Performance	
Total number of hours out and about on patrol in the local community:	98hrs
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 tried to patrol at varying times to check on our own spaces and catch different dog walkers. We have been to the Manor Leisure open space, The Bower and The Walk and all our open spaces, as well as the town centres to check on alley ways and hidden paths and side streets. We have also visited the surrounding villages. We have also refreshed signs along the Green Wheel. We are also monitoring Kingfisher Drive and Curlew Close regarding installing a dog bin due to an issue with dog fouling being left bagged and unbagged by dog walkers.

### Tidy Fenland – Fly Tipping

We are unable to report the November fly tipping stats at present as these have not been processed as yet. We will report these next month. However, officers continue to attend as many fly tipped sites as possible to look for evidence.

This month we have been checking Long Drove and Duncombe's Road and was able to find evidence at one fly tipped site which has resulted in an interview under caution to a local resident to ask how their waste has ended up being found dumped.

### Abandoned and Nuisance vehicles

We have received 7 reports of cars been abandoned this month. All were removed by persons unknown following a notice being issued. We have also had 2 further reports of nuisance vehicles which were found to be untaxed on the highway so have been reported to the DVLA.

### Markets

We have welcomed a new dairy stall to our market called 'Bellacheesimo'. She has reported that business is good already and she has a growing customer base. It is great to see the markets busy and full again, offering customers a really safe way to shop. This means the market is nearly at full capacity, which is great news.

### High Streets in relation to COVID

With the new recent changes relating to face masks, we are continuing to monitor the Town Centre to ensure COVID compliance and support the public and local businesses



should they have any questions. We have been signposting on various advice relating to Covid 19 and refreshed the signage to support the changes.

### Street Scene Actions this month

- Raised 23 additional cleansing reports relating to broken glass, excess litter and road sweeping requests.
- Reported 3 issues to CCC regarding a blocked drain in High Causeway and loose kerbs in High Causeway and Arnolds Lane.
- Marked 8 graves
- Checking the taxi rank to ensure no nuisance parking

### Planning Enforcement

Performance	
Service Requests received in December 2021	6
Total number of Service Requests in 2020-21	49
Cases Closed this month	5
Notices Served	0

### Open Spaces

Hedges are the focus of the latter part of the year and the team have been diligently working their way across the district in November. Completion will be before Christmas.

The seeding of the wildflower at Manor Field (6,000 sq. m.) has proceeded as planned to date with much positive feedback and already signs of germination. One persistent lone-wolf complainant, however, has registered multiple and regular concerns, including FOI requests, about the location, the use of pesticide, the mix of the wildflower seed, the flood risk, the lack of trees, the cost, even the professional advice we have received and, for good measure, his perception of the number of times we cut the grass in the area (noted by complainant as 5 in the entire year). We are not deterred and believe that the benefits to the area as a whole on many fronts will be considerable next year. Success in this area will precipitate further initiatives across the district.

Another 30 trees have been planted in Whittlesey Cemetery and these supplement those that have prospered following planting last Autumn.

Tenders have been issued for the replacement/(possible) expansion of Burdett Grove play area. These are due for return in December. As yet, 5 companies have expressed an

interest for the £45k project. Returns are due in mid-December with contract let in January (completion in April anticipated)

Elsewhere in the town

- Bandstand Buttercross – tiles repaired, fencing removed
- Queen Street – tree trimmed
- Straw Bear pedestal – repair completed
- Yarwell's – drain clearance
- Claygate – wildflower trim
- Irving Burgess – tree work completed
- Electric box damaged at Manor play area – disconnected and removed
- Horsegate – hedge trim
- Manor LC entrance hedge – cut back
- Glenfields – overhang onto pavement removed

To do:

- Holes to fill at Manor following removals
- Burdett Grove play area – reinforcements to fence panels
- Diana Close – tree trim