



## Whittlesey Town Council Update

January 2023

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### Street Pride and Community Groups

Whittlesey Street Pride kicked off the New Year with a litter pick on New Year's Day followed by another two weeks later to coincide with the annual Straw Bear festival.

### Environmental Health

The Environmental Health Team have been as busy as ever this month especially with new planning applications relating to the Whittlesey and surrounding villages areas. A total of 15 new planning applications came in where officers have to assess any potential impact of that newly proposed development on residents who live locally.

In relation to Food and Health and Safety inspections in the Whittlesey area and surrounding villages the EH Team are working hard to ensure all the routine inspections booked in are completed. Officers are also assisting local businesses wherever they can, ensuring good practice in food safety management is implemented.

Noise complaints continue to be steady with dog barking and excessive accumulations being the main source of complaints. Luckily over 96% of our nuisance and accumulation complaints are dealt with informally with officers working hard to reach amicable solutions between the parties.



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### Streetscene

| Performance   |         |
|---|---------|
| Total number of hours out and about on patrol in the local community:   | 115 hrs |
| Number of cleansing inspections carried out:                            | 15      |
| Percentage of cleansing inspections found to be of a suitable standard: | 100%    |

### Tidy Fenland – Green Dog Walkers

Patrols this month have been focused around, Park Lane, Church Street, and the alleyway's leading to our open spaces. These patrols resulted in 6 fouling's being removed and 27 dog walkers spoken to. We have also refreshed any tired looking signs and renewed bin stickers. A local resident has assisted us with monitoring the Bower Riverbank and offered to renew signage in the area as well as directing dog walkers to the Green Dog Walkers Community champion for those who wish to support the campaign.

### Tidy Fenland – Fly Tipping

We report the fly Tipping Data for the previous month. During December the Council received 54 instances of Fly Tipping. Broken down into locations:

|                                   | Total | Chatteris | March | Whittlesey | Wisbech | Villages |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-----------|-------|------------|---------|----------|
| <b>Whittlesey fly tips Dec-22</b> | 54    | 4         | 9     | 4          | 11      | 26       |

\*None of the Villages were in and around Whittlesey

We attended 2 of the Fly Tipping sites in Whittlesey during December. 1 site sadly was on the receiving end of 16 tonnes of commercial tyres left in Long Drove. No



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evidence was found at the scene, but an appeal was made to the wider public for any information, yet this has not led to us being able to pursue any leads. We also reached out to our Police colleagues but due to the number of possible routes and ANPR camera hits this was not a viable pursuit. The waste was removed by our contractors.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> was a large pile of green waste located at Funthams Lane where the informant advised of a vehicle registration believed to be involved. However, after making contact the witness did not wish to make a statement or provide any further information, so have been unable to pursue this any further.

We have purchased some more anti fly tipping signs and continue to renew signage in key areas, along with ensuring we are monitoring these areas.

### **Abandoned and Nuisance vehicles**

We received 1 report of a car being abandoned this month in Queen Street carpark, which upon investigation was found to not be abandoned, but belonged to a surrounding property.

A nuisance trailer was reported for being left on the footpath, but the owner was spoken to regarding the nearby residents' concerns. We have also spoken to a member of the public regarding parking in a disabled bay without a badge and asked them to choose to park in other available spaces.

### **Street Scene Actions this month**

- Issues reported to Cambs County Council Highways include 2 blocked road gully's, potholes at the railway crossing and a loose manhole cover.
- Additional cleansing inspections this month include 3 full litter bins, 5 requests for the road sweeper and 2 extra litter picks.



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- We have been able to install 2 new litter bins by the new bus stops near McCains for the workers to use on their breaks and the public waiting for buses. These are being well used and have helped with the litter accumulations in this area.
- Site visits for our colleagues in Environmental Health have taken place to assist with on the ground reactive complaints regarding smoke.
- We have removed 3 out of date planning notices, 1 traffic closure sign and 1 tired looking community poster from the town centre.
- Supporting a resident regarding their High Hedge query.
- Helped colleagues in Parks and Open Spaces regarding fallen branches.
- 1 Refuse site visit took place this month regarding a bin blocking the foot path, the resident was spoken to, and advice given along with additional clear sacks for recycling.
- We have marked 8 burial plots in our cemeteries this month.

### Planning Enforcement

| Performance  |    |
|--|----|
| Service Requests received as at Jan 2023                 | 0  |
| Total number of Service Requests in 2022-23 (Jan to Jan) | 33 |
| Cases Closed this month                                  | 3  |
| Notices Served   | 0  |



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### Open Spaces

All cutting completed in the middle of November with two extra weeks compensating for additional growth caused by the extraordinarily warm seasonal weather. Attention has now focussed on the trimming and cutting back of hedges and shrubs before the cycle continues anew again in March 2023. The Tivoli team is reduced by 50% over the winter months and they are spread thinly across the entirety of the district. By and large the season has gone well despite the temperature extremes and the number of grass-cutting complaints has been the lowest on record by some way. Compliments to the team who have stuck to their task well. Recruitment for seasonal staff starts shortly

In the town the chapel restoration is well under way with completion scheduled for mid-February at which point barriers will be removed.

Manor Wildflower area has been cut down shortly to reseed and the interpretation boards, populated by photographs provided by local residents, have now been installed. The fun run route through the woods has been cleared, holes in the ground have been repaired, a bid for supplementary funding to address the provision of facilities on the tennis //netball courts has been submitted (decision in March/April) to supplement the £45k agreed by the Combined Authority and the guttering at the Manor Leisure centre is being replaced and painted (completion imminent) . Action will shortly be taken to prevent cars using or turning on the pathway leading to the courts from the main entrance. This may not be popularly received by those who have currently contributed to the breaking up of the pathway slabs but we cannot allow this to continue.

The food bank, now located at Manor LC, is working well but attention will have been paid to the damaged grass at the rear of the building in the New Year with the addition of wood mulch.



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Cricket will return to the Manor field in 2023 and the pitch is currently being prepared and storage areas for their equipment introduced

### Elsewhere in the town

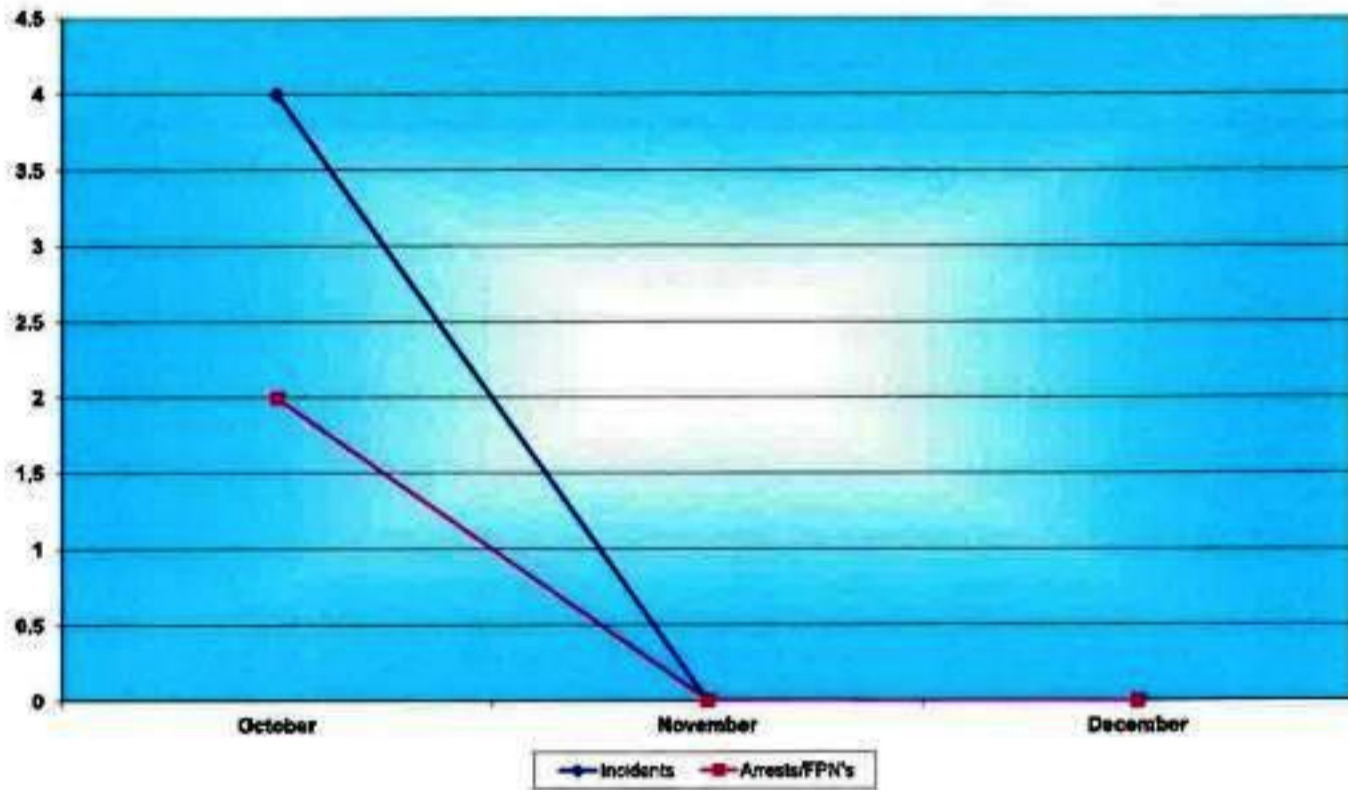
- Arnold Lane – hedge work
- Yew tree cut back – Cemetery
- Bin relocated – cemetery
- Turfing of plots
- Drybread Road – garage area clearance

### Coming Soon

- Stabilise table tennis at Manor field
- Garden of Remembrance – rose bed trimmed back and compost added

## Whittlesey Town Council CCTV update December 2022

### Number of Incidents and Arrests for Whittlesey From October - December 2022



### Incidents by Call Source for Whittlesey for December

Fenland CCTV, 0

Fenland CCTV

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

|  | <b>October</b> | <b>November</b> | <b>December</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|--|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| <b>Total Incidents Recorded (Whittlesey only)</b>        | 4              | 0               | 0               | 4            |
| <b>Arrests / Fixed Penalty Notices (Whittlesey only)</b> | 2              | 0               | 0               | 2            |
| <b>CCTV Patrols Completed (All Towns)</b>                | 402            | 398             | 405             | 1205         |

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.