

F128/23



Fenland District Council

# ENVIRONMENT



## Whittlesey Town Council Update

August 2023

### This month:

Page 1: Street Pride and community groups

Page 1-2 Environmental Health

Page 2 -5: Streetscene

Page 5: Planning Enforcement

Page 6: Open Spaces

Page 7: Useful Contacts

Appendix 1- CCTV Report

### Street Pride and Community Groups

August was a busy month for Whittlesey Street Pride. As well as conducting two litter picks and undertaking grass cutting to gateway projects, members who had previously helped with tree planting also attended the official opening of the Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Wood.

It's not all work and no play though! On 12<sup>th</sup> August volunteers from the group held their annual summer party with members of in bloom attending too. This time of year is great for the volunteers to celebrate their hard work and mix socially.

### Environmental Health

The Environmental Health Team have been very busy in the Whittlesey Town and the surrounding villages this month.

The Food Safety inspections completed in the areas totalled 12. Having now completed the requirements of the Food Standards Agency's Recovery Plan by 31st March 2023, the Food Safety Service is in a good position to fully revert back to the pre Covid model for the programme of food hygiene inspections.

A total of 11 planning applications were received where the team have to determine any likely impact on local residents from that proposed development.



## Whittlesey Town Council Update

**August 2023**

In relation to complaint investigations in the Whittlesey areas Environmental Health received 56 requests for service.

These included:

- 34 complaints relating to Noise from Barking Dogs, loud music, odour from dog fouling/other, commercial dust and odour
- 12 Licensing/ Commercial and Health and Safety enquiries
- 10 accumulations and pest complaints.

### Streetscene

Performance	
Total number of hours out and about on patrol in the local community:	191hrs
Number of areas inspected regarding Cleansing:	15
Percentage of cleansing inspections found to be of a suitable standard:	88%* Those below std have been reported for cleansing



## Whittlesey Town Council Update

August 2023

**Tidy Fenland – Fly Tipping** - During this time we have recorded the following incidents of fly tipping.

Month	Total	Chatteris	March	Whittlesey	Wisbech	Villages
Jul-23	73	5	10	7	20	31
Aug-23	93	4	16	8	29	36

We aim to visit as many of the waste sites as possible to look through the waste. This has resulted in:

- 10 site visits – waste found at the scene linked to 2 addresses locally.
- 1 Fixed penalty notice has been issued to a male in Peterborough following his trade waste being found dumped in Long Drove. He had failed to dispose of his electrical items legally by paying a person to take his waste away that he didn't know nor was a registered waste carrier. Sadly the items were found discarded in the countryside.
- 2 Warning letters have been issued following where we had insufficient evidence to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice but we believed persons to be responsible.

### **Abandoned and Nuisance vehicles.**

Street Scene received 18 reports in July and 11 reports in August of vehicles being abandoned.

In July we received 5 reports. With 3 not meeting the criteria and 1 car being issued a 7-day removal notice. The registered keeper was contacted, and the car was later removed by them. A caravan was also causing concerns, so the owner was located and arranged for its removal from the highway. In Eastrea, we had 2



## Whittlesey Town Council Update

August 2023

reports for a tipper truck, but upon investigating this was found not to be abandoned.

In August we had 2 reports. Both were investigated and later moved by persons unknown following the issue of a removal notice.

### Street Scene Actions.

- Offensive graffiti has been removed by from the public area and those on private land have been reported to the landowner for removal.
- 20 reports have been made to CCC Highways during this time. They included hedges blocking footpaths, potholes, uneven paths, trip hazards, a dead tree, weeds, a fallen tree, overgrown dyke, overgrown tree and a blocked gully.
- 7 graves have been marked in Whittlesey in July and August, with 3 requests to check plot information and a meeting on site regarding a burial plot rules and regulations with a concerned family member.
- Following on from the Clarion held resident event at Richardson Way in June, Street Scene along with the Clarion Housing Officer have carried out another engagement morning where residents were spoken to about how to improve recycling.
- 5 site visits for colleagues in Parks and Green Spaces were carried out to speaking to a residents about issues with our grounds maintenance contract.
- 2 visits were carried out to local businesses regarding a smoke complaint and checks were made regarding trade waste provisions.



## Whittlesey Town Council Update

August 2023

### Markets and Fairs.

Please note the next Autumn funfair will be in town opening to the public on the 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> September.

### Planning Enforcement

Performance	
Service Enforcement Requests received in August	2
Total number Enforcement of Service Requests in August	17
Cases Closed this month.	2 (5in year to date)
Notices Served in August	0

We have had only 1 enforcement officer available for a time, but we are pleased to say that we have 2 now. The investigation/action/closure activity is expected to rise to normal levels. Note that the two officers we have are both agency staff. Please report any planning breaches to:  
[Planningenforcement@fenland.gov.uk](mailto:Planningenforcement@fenland.gov.uk)



## Whittlesey Town Council Update

August 2023

### Open Spaces

Tivoli had a busy month which resulted in all areas of the ground's maintenance contract working well. They have successfully started the 1<sup>st</sup> hedge cut of this year; this includes some light maintenance to tidy the hedges with a harder cut scheduled later in the year. Staff will be released from other duties to complete this work over the coming weeks.

In the town work completed includes:

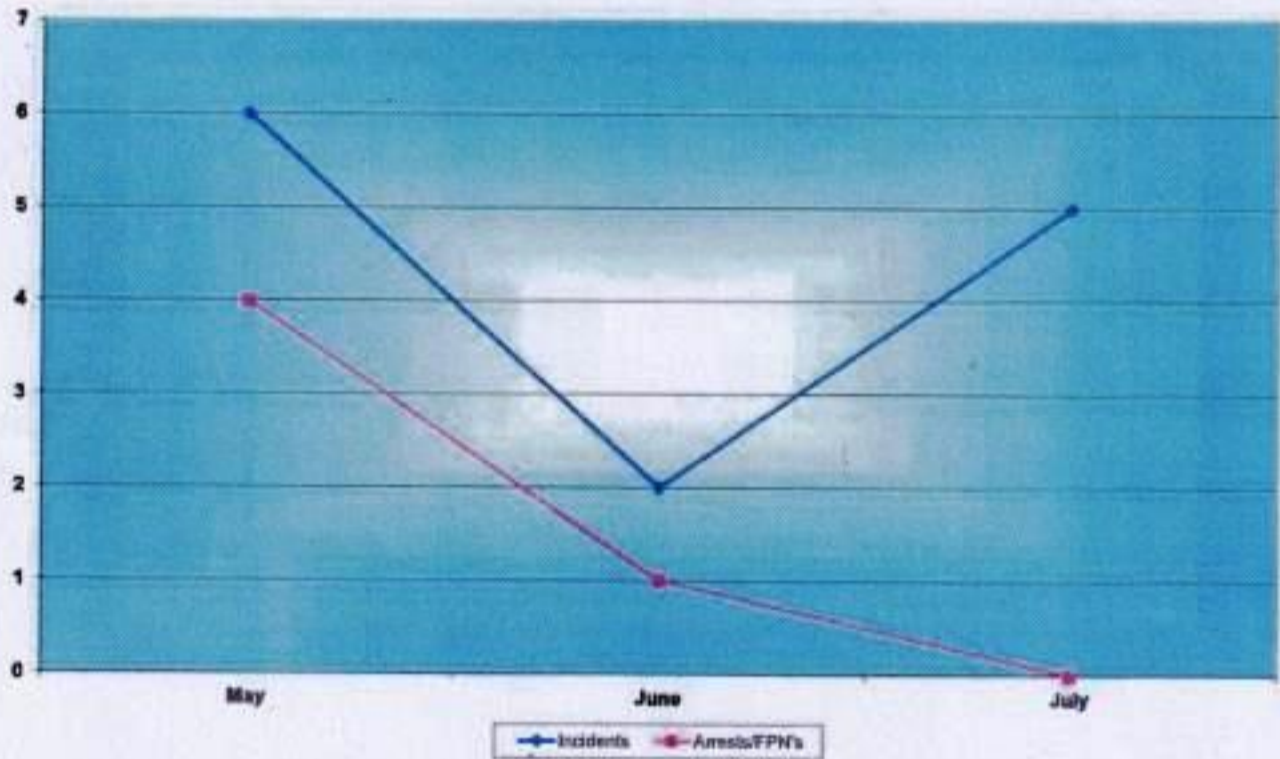
- Tidy shrub bed at Pinewood Avenue
- Cut branches touching property at Newlands Road
- Tidy hedge at Horsegate Lane
- Trim back hedge at Station Road as obstructing footpath
- Tidy shrub bed at Monks Close and Yarwell Headland
- Repair fence and cut back bramble at Snowley Park
- Trim back face of hedge at Noble Close, Coates
- Remove bindweed in the Garden of Rest rose bed
- Remove fallen branch from Whittlesey Cemetery
- Manor Leisure Centre – tidy area between pool and range

Coming soon

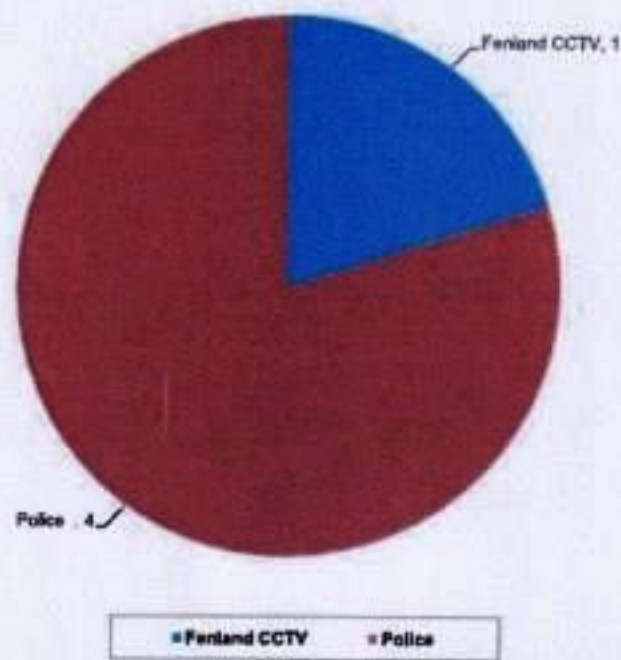
- Tree work at Manor Leisure Centre and Whittlesey Cemetery
- Spray giant hogweed at Station Road industrial estate footpath
- Pruning of roses in Garden of Rest
- Removal of shrub at Eastgate

## Whittlesey Town Council CCTV update July 2023

Number of Incidents and Arrests for Whittlesey  
From May – July 2023



Incidents by Call Source for Whittlesey for July



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

	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Total Incidents Recorded (Whittlesey only)</b>	6	2	5	<b>13</b>
<b>Arrests / Fixed Penalty Notices (Whittlesey only)</b>	4	1	0	<b>5</b>
<b>CCTV Patrols Completed (All Towns)</b>	471	413	347	<b>1231</b>

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.