



Whittlesey Town Council Update

February 2024

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Street pride and Community Groups

In February, Whittlesey Street Pride held two litter picks, both saw a great turnout of members. One of the litter picks took place at Lattersey Nature Reserve and saw the group receive an e-mail of thanks from the Wildlife Trust for the large amount of litter they collected from the site.

The group also held two litter picks in March, one of which coincided with Keep Britain Tidy's national campaign 'Great British Spring Clean.'

Also, this month, Benwick Street Pride / In Bloom undertook a wildflower sowing project at the three gateway entrances to the village with support from FACT & funds from Benwick Parish Council as part of their biodiversity programme.



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Environmental Health

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

The Food Safety inspections completed this month total 22. Food Safety inspections look at the food business operator's food safety management, their cleaning regime and the confidence the inspector has in the food business operator's ability to produce food which is safe to eat.

A total of 14 planning applications were received for the Wisbech areas where the Environmental Health Team have to determine any likely impact on local residents from the proposed development.

In relation to complaint investigations in the Wisbech Town and surrounding villages The Environmental Health received 16 requests for service.

These included 4 complaints relating to commercial noise, dust and odour, 10 complaints relating to Noise from amplified music and Barking Dogs, 1 complaint regarding odour from a domestic house and 1 complaint alleging Anti-Social Behaviour.

Anti-Social behaviour complaints are usually dealt with by the Police, however sometimes joint working is required with Environmental Health, Cambs Police and FDC Anti-Social Behaviour Team to resolve at the very early stages. This has proved to be very successful and prevents escalation of a complaint.



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Streetscene

Performance	
Total number of hours out and about on patrol in the local community:	71hrs
Number of areas inspected regarding Cleansing:	15
Percentage of cleansing inspections found to be of a suitable standard:	100%*

Tidy Fenland – Fly Tipping

During February there were 78 recorded instances of fly tipping. Most of the waste was household related with 44 cases. Vehicle parts 7 and electrical items 6

Chatteris - 3
 March - 14
 Whittlesey - 2
 Wisbech - 34
 Villages – 25

Fly tipping figures for March was 129 tips. Most of the waste was household related with 51 cases.

Chatteris - 7
 March - 24
 Whittlesey - 13
 Wisbech - 49
 Villages – 36



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Abandoned Vehicles

During March we have had 14 reported abandoned vehicles. 6 were in Whittlesey. All were inspected and were later removed by their owners.

Fairs

The Spring Fair arrived in Whittlesey on the 20th – 24th March. This was well attended and saw the entertainment on the Market Square. The next fair will arrive in the Summer with the date to be confirmed.

Planning Enforcement

Stats	
No. enforcement cases received in February 2024	3
No. enforcement cases received for year (01/03/2023 to 29/02/2024)	33
No. enforcement cases closed in February 2024	3
No. enforcement notices served in February 2024	1x PCN



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Open Spaces

During February, Tivoli has focused on shrub maintenance and play repairs. To prepare for the start of grass cutting on 1st March 2024, Tivoli also carried out general maintenance on all machinery to ensure they are ready to proceed at the beginning of March.

Grass cutting commenced from 4th March 2024, it has been a staggered start to the season due to the unprecedented level of rain this year. We are aware that ground conditions in some of our open spaces has prevented Tivoli from carrying out the scheduled maintenance in these locations. We are hoping for a period of dry and warm weather to enable us to complete the full grass rounds as quickly as possible.

Work completed in February and March includes:

- Removal of Christmas wreathes in FDC owned cemeteries
- Repair water leak and replace tap in Whittlesey Cemetery
- Fell diseased tree in Charles Road open space
- Remove fallen tree at Bower
- New gate installed at Manor and vandalised gate removed
- Trim brambles at Barnsfield Gardens
- Wash games wall and slide at North Green
- New slide installed at South Green
- Spray boundary fence of tennis court and Manor to prepare site for surfacing work
- Weed beds and trim box hedge in Garden of Rest

- Cut back brambles in Station Road open space.