Fenland CAMBRIDGESHIRE
Fenland District Council

ENVIRONMENT



Whittlesey Town Council Update

August to October 2026

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Environmental Health

The Environmental Health Team have been very busy in the town of Whittlesey and the surrounding villages over the past 3 months.

Our Food Safety inspections totalled with most gaining a 5 Rating which is the highest food safety management score that can be achieved. 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 22 planning applications were received for the Whittlesey area where the Environmental Health Team must determine any likely impact on residents from a proposed development.

Our Environmental Health Officers have also been working on the Fens Reservoir Project with regular internal and stakeholder meetings.

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In relation to complaint investigations Environmental Health received 26 requests for service.

These included 20 complaints relating to Noise from amplified music and dogs barking, 5 complaints regarding pests and accumulations and 1 complaint relating to 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.

Streetscene

Total number of hours out and about on patrol in the local community: April, May, June	**235hrs**
Number of cleansing inspections carried out: Whittlesey South, Whittlesey North East & Villages and Whittlesey North West	**45**
Percentage of cleansing inspections found to be of a suitable standard:	**100%**

Tidy Fenland – Fly Tipping

During these 3 months Fenland removed a total of 334 incidents of fly tipping. Most of the waste found was household related and below is the brake down into your locations

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Month	Total	Whittlesey	Eastrea	Coates	Turves
July-26	110	7	0	0	0
August-26	93	6	0	0	0
September-26	131	8	2	0	0

Some of our proactive work has seen visits to key locations to check the waste and search for evidence. We also check there is signage which works well as a deterrent. We aim to visit each fly tipping and remove the waste within 24hrs of it being reported to us.

Dog Control

We have been out in the open spaces, but the hot weather has seen dog out on walks in the early hours and later evenings. We have therefore ensured the signage has been refreshed and checked the alleyways and play areas. Any fouling seen has been removed and we were pleased to see the bins were being well used.

Abandoned and nuisance vehicles

During this time, we received 18 reports of abandoned vehicles. All were visited and inspected. Only 1 was removed by our contractor. The others were removed by their owners or did not meet the criteria.



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Other Street Scene Actions:

- marked 11 graves in Whittlesey Cemetery.
- 3 issues were reported to Cambridgeshire County Council Highways after site visits carried out, 2 hedges blocking the footpath and a broken bollard.
- We visited 2 sites on behalf of Environmental Health, 5 for planning and 3 for Parks and Opens Spaces.
- Continuation of the Refuse visits from last report following bins still being left on pavements causing obstruction, are not out when visiting, we will still monitor this as we are still getting reports.
- We have supported Street Pride in collecting bagged waste.
- One of the market bollards was hit by car and damaged. It cannot be used and so we are in the process of getting quotes for its repair.
- Additional cleansing was required this month in town following 3 reports of broken glass and the need for a litter pick.
- Loose tiles on the Buttercross have been reported to Assets.
- 2 reports of offensive Graffiti were received and removed.
- 2 Trade waste visits regarding commercial waste found in a litter bin are still being monitored after speaking to the owners.

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Planning Enforcement

(July to September 2026)

Performance	
Service Requests received during 1st July to 30th Sept 2026	**15 out of 91***
Total number of Service Requests received in 2025/2026 (October 2025 to September 2026)	**49 out of 313***
Cases Closed this quarter	**5 out of 32***
Notices Served in this quarter	**0 out of 2***

*figures are based on numbers for the Parish against the whole of Fenland District

Notices Served (Not Including Requisitions for information S16/S330/PCNs)
None in the Whittlesey Town Council area during this quarter



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Open Spaces – Whittlesey

Due to the exceptionally warm and dry weather experienced during the summer months, grass cutting operations were temporarily paused as growth significantly reduced. During this period, resources were redirected to shrub maintenance and hardstanding areas to ensure service delivery remained effective.

Our Grounds Maintenance Contractor has worked hard throughout the season and overall progress remains positive. As we approach the end of the growing season, we are mindful that operative numbers and available working hours will reduce from November onwards. This has been taken into account when planning and scheduling winter maintenance works.

The new PlayZone at Manor Field has been completed and handed over to Fenland District Council. We are currently in the process of finalising the booking system to ensure this exciting new facility can be used by both local sports clubs and the wider community.

The new street lighting project at Station Road Open Space has now commenced, with the ducting works already completed. The street lighting columns have been ordered, and installation will proceed once they have been delivered. We were keen to complete the groundworks ahead of the winter months to minimise the risk of delays caused by adverse weather and ground conditions.

We have also undertaken vegetation clearance alongside the footpath at Station Road to improve visibility and create a more open environment for users. Alongside the two new street lighting columns that are due to be installed, these improvements should help make the footpath feel safer and more welcoming during the shorter days and darker evenings. We hope the enhanced visibility and



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improved lighting will increase footfall and reduce the anti-social behaviour that has previously been experienced in this area.

A new seating area has been created on the open space adjacent to St Andrew's Churchyard as part of the Fenland Inspire Pride in Place programme. The project included improvements to the entrance by widening the access and laying new paving slabs to match the existing footway on the adjacent public footpath, creating a more accessible and welcoming entrance to the site.
Three benches, installed on concrete bases, have been provided within the open space to create an attractive area for residents and visitors to sit and enjoy the surroundings. This is a particularly attractive location which was previously underutilised, and we hope the new facilities will encourage greater use of the space by the local community.