

Report of:	To:	Date
Councillor Simon Bridge, Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces Portfolio Holder	Council	11 July 2019

Executive Report: Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces Portfolio Holder

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1** To inform council of progress on key objectives and the current position on issues within the Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces Portfolio as set out below.

2. Parks and Open Spaces

- 2.1** Memorial Park has hosted a range of activities including a circus skills workshop and craft sessions for children. As part of a health and wellbeing project, artist Lisa Wighman delivered sessions with adults to make clay 'time capsule' tiles and information signs for the demonstration garden. The park was also host to outdoor cinema screenings on the 29 June which was part funded by a grant awarded to the friends group from Fleetwood Town Council.
- 2.2** Ornamental and wildflower meadows have been sown at Tithebarn Park, Memorial Park, Jubilee Gardens, Vicarage Park and the junction of Broadway this spring to improve biodiversity and make the spaces more appealing for visitors.
- 2.3** The final phase of the refurbishment of the playground on Jean Stansfield Memorial Park in Poulton is complete and I was pleased to attend the opening event with the Mayor and Leader on the 5 May. The £64,000 project was funded by the council, fundraising by the friends group and grants awarded by the Lancashire Environment Fund and Tesco Bags for Life scheme.
- 2.4** Great outdoor activities in the parks and open spaces have included health walks at Stanah, Fleetwood and Cleveleys, numerous beach cleans along the coastline, Spring Bird Watch at Rossall Point Tower, Great Egg Case Hunt at Fleetwood and Cleveleys beaches and Creepy Crawlies at the Wyre Estuary Country Park. These activities provide an excellent engagement opportunity where the rangers and volunteer leaders can share knowledge of the great open spaces in Wyre and encourage people to take part in volunteering.

3. Waste and recycling

- 3.1** Lancashire County Council (LCC) have indicated that they are seeking to extend the mix of recyclable plastics that they can handle through their recycling facility for kerbside collected material. I understand that this will be dependent on changes to the sorting facility to be able to accommodate and separate the additional plastics such as pots, tubs and trays and only if they can secure markets for these materials that are viable in the long term and do not cost more than landfill. This has been reported in the media and positively received by the public but Wyre Council will only be able communicate this change and accept these materials when formal notification is received from LCC.
- 3.2** The Bin Amnesty Project is coming towards the end of the cycle, with only two collection rounds to be completed; this ensures every property in the borough adheres to the waste policy. The Policy is for one single grey bin per property to encourage waste diversion and recycling. Criteria is applied to assist those householders with specific needs.

4. Street Scene

- 4.1** The replacement mid-size road sweeper has arrived and once again a positive response has been received from residents to give it a name; Janet Sweep Porter – even making national television.
- 4.2** Officers have been working with Groundwork Cheshire, Lancashire and Merseyside to undertake engagement activities in Fleetwood. The purpose being to connect with residents and encourage people to come forward and champion a change in their alley as part of the Love where you Live, beautiful back alley project. This follows on from the funding the council secured via Hubbub as reported previously.
- 4.3** Officers developed a new initiative with established groups, such as the Wyre in Bloom network to set-up community groups for litter picking events during the National Spring Clean event and to encourage on going activity and adoption of local areas all year round. During the national event an additional 13 litter picks took place, with 315 volunteers collecting 85 bags of rubbish.
- 4.4** All services are committed to support the 'In Bloom' groups with the judging schedule for early July and then in August for National judging and I wish all the entrants the best of luck in the competition.
- 4.5** The pilot environmental enforcement project continues, in the second quarter of operations (Feb - April):
- Total Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) issued: 1,321
 - 1,263 for depositing litter.
 - 34 for Public Space Protection Order dog offences.
 - 24 Cancelled.
 - 107 Formal Representations seeking a review of FPNs issued were received, with 87 rejected and 20 accepted.
 - To date 150 cases have progressed to Court through the single Justice System:
 - 1 x not guilty

- 1 x Case Adjourned
 - 88 x Guilty in Absence
 - 10 x Guilty by Post
 - Awaiting results of 50 cases.
- Resulting income to the council from FPN this period: £10,104

FPN issued by area:

Area	FPN issued by area	%
Bilsborrow	1	<1
Fleetwood	559	43
Garstang	84	6
Hambleton	6	<1
Poulton-le-Fylde & Carleton	83	6
Preesall & Knott End	12	1
Thornton-Cleveleys	552	43
	1,297*	

*(excludes cancelled FPNs)

Officer Hours Patrolled by Area

Area	Patrolling Hours	%
Bilsborrow	17	1
Calder Vale, Bleasdale, Bonds, Bowgreave, Catterall	36	2
Churchtown	6	<1
Cloughton	1	<1
Dolphinholme	11	1
Fleetwood	477	23
Forton	5	<1
Garstang	252	12
Great Eccleston	11	1
Hambleton	13	1
Inskip	2	<1
Nateby	1	<1
Out Rawcliffe	1	<1
Pilling	4	<1
Poulton-le-Fylde & Carleton	374	18
Preesall & Knott End	95	5
Scorton	9	<1
St Michaels on Wyre	19	1
Thornton – Cleveleys	735	35
Winmarleigh	6	<1

6. Comments and questions

- 6.1** In accordance with procedure rule 11.3 any member of council will be able to ask me a question or make a comment on the contents of my report or on any issue, which falls within my area of responsibility. I will respond to any such questions or comments in accordance with procedure rule 11.5.

dems/cou/cr/19/1107 Street Scene