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| REPORT FROM: | ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES MANAGER |
| TO: | BARROWFORD & WESTERN PARISHES COMMITTEE |
| DATE: | 10th MAY 2018 |
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ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME UPDATE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform Members of the Environmental Crime action from the 1st January to the 31st March 2018 in the Barrowford area, (including spend on litter/ dog waste bins) along with annual totals for 2017/18, and to ask for feedback on any problems with substations in the committee area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) To note the report on environmental crime actions.
- (2) To provide feedback on any problems with substations in the committee area.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) Members are kept informed of any environmental crime action taken.
- (2) To bring problems to the attention of Environmental Services in order to help remedy any substation sites.

ISSUE

Section 215 notices

Section 215 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 allows a local authority to serve a notice on the owners and occupiers of land, requiring the site to be tidied up if the condition of any land is in such a state as to adversely affect the amenity of the neighbourhood.

Section 215s pending

There was 1 Section 215 process opened during January to March 2018.

| IDNO | ADDRESS | COMMITTEE | COMMENCED |
|----------------|-------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| 18/0324/S215ES | 16 Holme Street Barrowford | Barrowford | 22-Mar-18 |

Section 215s completed

There were 4 properties dealt with under Section 215 that was cleared in the process and completed during January to March 2018.

| IDNO | ADDRESS | COMMITTEE | COMMENCED | CLOSED |
|----------------|---------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| 17/1351/S215ES | 8 Higher Causeway Barrowford | Barrowford | 11-Dec-17 | 09-Jan-18 |
| 17/1389/S215ES | 18 Carr Hall Road Barrowford | Barrowford | 28-Dec-17 | 18-Jan-18 |
| 17/1363/S215ES | 47 Nora Street Barrowford | Barrowford | 14-Dec-17 | 25-Jan-18 |
| 17/1264/S215ES | 14 Carr Hall Road Barrowford | Barrowford | 23-Nov-17 | 29-Jan-18 |

Section 215 completed by Legal

There were no section 215 notices commenced by Legal during this period.

Section 46 Notices

Section 46 of the Environmental Protection Act (EPA) 1990 allows a waste collection authority to specify how waste is presented for collection, i.e. require an occupier to place waste for collection in receptacles of a kind and number specified. This is used to enforce separation of waste for recycling and also for the removal of containers from the public highway following the scheduled collection of waste.

There were no Section 46 Notices issued by Environmental Services between January and March 2018.

Section 79 Notices

Section 79 of the Public Health Act 1936 allows a Local Authority to serve notice where the owner of the land / property has accumulated noxious matter i.e. food waste and the notice gives the owner 24 hours to remove the waste. On failure to act upon the Notice the Local Authority can remove the waste and recover the expenses of any actions taken.

There were no Section 79's carried out by Environmental Services between January and March 2018.

Community Protection Notice

CPN's can be used by the Council to target those responsible for specific ongoing problems or nuisance which negatively affects the quality of life in a community. Examples of behaviour covered by CPN's include owners allowing dogs to persistently stray and or cause a nuisance, owners of dogs persistently allowing dogs to foul without then removing the waste and vehicle repair garages parking vehicles for repair on residential streets.

The table below identifies the total number of cases within the Borough, including active cases, received by Neighbourhood Services, since the CPN process began in February 2015:

| Current | Barrowford & Western Parishes | Brierfield & Reedley | Colne & District | Nelson | West Craven | Total |
|-------------------------|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Prosecution | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Breached Notice | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Under Notice | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 9 |
| Resolved after notice | 0 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 12 |
| Under Statutory Warning | 1 | 1 | 4 | 15 | 4 | 25 |
| Resolved after warning | 1 | 3 | 12 | 25 | 3 | 44 |
| Under Investigation | 5 | 9 | 12 | 28 | 4 | 58 |
| Resolved before warning | 5 | 22 | 31 | 68 | 5 | 131 |
| | | | | | | |
| Total Actions | 15 | 37 | 69 | 144 | 16 | 281 |

The following actions were undertaken via a Community Protection process by Neighbourhood Services between October and December 2017.

| Quarter 4 Actions | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Prosecuted | 0 |
| Breached Notice | 0 |
| Notice Served | 1 |
| Resolved after notice | 0 |
| Statutory Warning Letter | 0 |
| Resolved after warning | 0 |
| Resolved before warning | 1 |
| | |

The following list shows all the current cases; and the resolutions during quarter 4:

| Description | Action |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Control of dogs on farm | Community Protection Notice Served |
| Dog escaping and causing nuisance in Victoria Park | Community Protection Notice Served |
| Condition of empty property and garden | Community Protection Notice Served |
| Parking of scrap vehicles | Warning Letter Served |
| Aggressive behaviour towards footpath users | Under Investigation |
| Condition of land | Under Investigation |
| Cars in a poor state of repair parked adjacent to the highway | Under Investigation |
| Overgrown hedge making ginnel dangerous to use | Under Investigation |
| Overgrown hedge making ginnel dangerous to use | Under Investigation |

Fixed Penalty Notices

The Council has various powers to issue Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) for offences such as littering, failure to remove dog fouling, graffiti and fly tipping.

There were no Fixed Penalty Notices served in the period between January and March 2018 in the Barrowford area by both Environmental and Neighbourhood Services.

Annual Summary of Environmental Crime Actions for 2017/18

| S215 (P) | S21 5 (C) | Sec 46 | Sec 79 | Fixed penalty notices | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|
| | | | | FPN Flytip | FPN Litter from a vehicle | FPN Micro chipping of dogs | Total |
| 9 | 7 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 |

The table above summarises the total number of actions taken by both Environmental and Neighbourhood Services in 2017/18.

Provision of litter / dog waste bins

Members approved a total allocation of £500.00 for 2017/18. Members are advised that there were no new litter or Dog waste bins erected during Quarter 4, leaving a remaining balance of £156.57.

Members are also advised that due to wear or damage, 2 bins have been replaced by Environmental Services at no cost to the areas committee budget. Members are also advised that 2 bins were removed within the period January to March 2018.

| AREA | DESCRIPTION | TYPE OF BIN | COST PER BIN |
|--------------------------|--|-------------|--------------|
| Pasture Lane, Barrowford | Remove litter bin on lamp post (no further info) | LITTER | 20.00 |
| Wheatley Close, Fence | Remove PM litter bin outside No. 22. Not used and resident requested its removal | LITTER | 20.00 |
| Harpers Lane, Fence | Refix dog bin onto post into ground | DOG | 20.00 |
| Forest Avenue, Fence | To reattach the dog bin by the ginnel at Millbrook/Forest Avenue | DOG | 40.00 |

Substation Sites

Following the scrutiny review of Litter and Detritus carried out in 2008, all area committees are encouraged to report if there are any substations within their area that may need tidying up. Members are asked to provide location details of any substations that are causing a problem with litter and/or fly tipping to Environmental Services.