WITNEY
TOWN COUNCIL

Policy Document

Litter & Dog Waste Bins

Adopted: Policy, Governance & Finance Committee 28.09.2026. Minute no: F473

Review Date: September 2028

Introduction

Witney Town Council is responsible for the provision, maintenance and emptying of litter and dog waste bins located on land owned or managed by the Council. These bins provide a valuable public amenity, helping to keep the Council's parks, recreation grounds, cemeteries and open spaces clean, safe and welcoming. Appropriate bin provision also supports responsible waste disposal, protects the local environment and contributes to the Council's commitments to sustainability, biodiversity, and the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors.

Council responsibilities

West Oxfordshire District Council is the principal authority responsible for street cleansing and public waste collection in Witney.

Witney Town Council is only responsible for the emptying and maintenance of litter and dog waste bins located on land owned or managed by the Town Council.

The Town Council will:

- Consider requests for new, additional, replacement or relocated bins only on land owned or managed by Witney Town Council.
- Assess each request individually, with no fixed distance or numerical threshold applied.
- Consider the likely use of the bin, evidence of littering or dog fouling, existing bins nearby, accessibility, operational requirements and ongoing costs.
- Decide whether a litter bin, dog waste bin or combined litter and dog waste bin is most appropriate for the location.
- Review existing provision and relocate, replace or remove bins where this would improve the service or make better use of Council resources.
- Ensure that any new provision can be safely and practically emptied and maintained.

The absence or removal of a bin by another authority will not automatically result in the Town Council providing a replacement.

Requests outside Town Council land

Requests concerning bins on land not owned or managed by Witney Town Council fall outside the Council's responsibility and should be directed to the appropriate authority, organisation or landowner (where known)

Decision-making

Requests for bins on Town Council land will be assessed by officers in accordance with this policy and the Council's approved delegation and financial arrangements.

Requests for bins on land not owned or managed by the Town Council will only be considered in exceptional circumstances. Such requests will be assessed individually as part of an annual review, taking account of community need, landowner consent, available resources and the ongoing costs of provision, emptying and maintenance.

Review

This policy will be reviewed biennially by the Policy, Governance & Finance Committee.