

STRONGER COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Date: 15 March 2021

Title: Litter & Dog Waste Bin Requests

Contact Officer: Project Officer - Nicky Cayley

Background

The Town Council has received several ad hoc requests for additional new litter/dog waste bins in the town since last autumn.

In 2020 the Town Council agreed to a request from a resident to install a litter/dog waste bin between West End and Woodford Mill, with associated costs for installation and annual emptying. At the time the Council requested that a policy on future bin requests was formulated, regrettably this has not yet been possible due to officer capacity constraints.

West Oxfordshire District Council has slightly amended the process for the provision of new bins from December 2020, which is:

1. Residents requesting a new bin will be directed to the Town Council;
2. The Town Council requests that West Oxfordshire District Council (UBICO) carries out a site visit to see if a bin is warranted in a location – the bins could be on land owned by Oxfordshire County Council or privately owned;
3. The Town Council decides whether it has the budget and wants to install bins in the areas – a decision to be taken by this Committee;
4. If the Town Council wishes to proceed, it needs to request permission from the landowners;
5. If the landowners agree, the Town Council instructs West Oxfordshire District Council (UBICO) to install the bins and commence collection - collection will be paid for by the Town Council.

It should be noted that the Town Council does collect waste from bins on its own estate, notably at the Lake & Country Park, The Leys and at Burwell. With a strategy on Open Spaces out for consultation, waste collection from bins bought and paid for by the Town Council could be included in the discussions.

Current Situation

The Town Council currently has requests for additional dog waste/litter bins at:

- Land at Coral Springs (Richmond Village) Dog Waste Bin – the area marked by the larger red circle was granted Village Green status by the County Council at the end of last year. The small circle marks the requested location which is adjacent to a public gate on a footpath/bridleway;

- Pathway between Newland Mill and Langel Common – Litter/Dog Waste Bin – possible locations marked by yellow crosses;
- Holloway Road – Litter bin - between the Three Horseshoes pub and the newly built Applegarth Court.
- An area at the entrance to a field, adjacent to the new Kingfisher Development off of Burford Road – a popular dog-walking area.

The Deputy Town Clerk has been in contact with UBICO and it has confirmed that the bins are in suitable locations at Coral Springs Way, Newland Mill and Holloway Road, should the Town Council want to proceed. The land off Burford Road has not yet been assessed.

Environmental impact

Councillors should have due regard to the environmental impact of any decisions they make with regard to its facilities and services it operates.

If the Committee recommends the installation of the additional bins, it will have a positive environmental impact in reducing litter in the town.

Risk

In decision making Councillors should give consideration to any risks to the Council and any action it can take to limit or negate its liability.

Financial implications

£5900 remains from funds allocated by West Oxfordshire District Council towards Community Clean Up Projects. The Council previously allocated its use for the possible provision of new/replacement bins. The Committee should note that when this funding is expended, the continued emptying costs for bins will have to be budgeted for in each financial year. The price for a new dog waste bin and the cost for emptying is as follows:

- Supply and installation of a dog waste bin (25L) - £236.08 (excl. VAT)
- Cost of emptying a dog waste bin (per collection) - £3.21 (excl. VAT)

The Committee should also note that the price for a new litter/dog waste bin and the cost for emptying is as follows:

- Supply and installation of a litter/dog waste bin – £417.26 (excl. VAT)
- Cost of emptying a litter/dog waste bin (per collection) - £7.25 (excl. VAT) – 2 collections per week currently equates to £667.00 per annum.

Recommendations

Members are invited to note the report and consider the following:

1. the requests to install bins as requested;
2. If the Committee wishes to install the bins, Officers ascertain land ownerships and permissions and arrange installation in the next financial year;
3. the Committee considers entering into a contract for emptying the bins for 1 year

initially but as bins/collections are being considered as part of the Council's Open Spaces Strategy, there may be potential to bring the collection in-house.

Appendices

- APPENDIX 1 Coral Springs Bin Request
- APPENDIX 2 Coral Springs Location Map
- APPENDIX 3 Coral Springs Location Picture
- APPENDIX 4 Newland Mill Bin Request
- APPENDIX 5 Newland Mill Location Map
- APPENDIX 6 Holloway Road Location Picture
- APPENDIX 7 Burford Road Bin Request
- APPENDIX 8 Burford Road Approximate Location