

LEE Committee 7 January 2020

Agenda Item – LEE1533/20

Dog Hygiene

Background

Over the past few months, the Committee has been reviewing the dog hygiene service the Council provides to the residents of Croxley Green.

The Office ran an inspection of the dog bins to gauge their use and an informational PowerPoint was provided to Councillors about the findings.

The Committee wished to review the funding as it makes up 5% of the Council's Annual Budget and Members wanted to make sure that all residents are receiving value for money.

A short survey was made available for residents to complete with their thoughts and suggestions on the current service.

Discussion

For the current year, the Committee has budgeted £15,500 for Dog Hygiene. This relates to the emptying of all 44 bins twice per week, the supplying of dog bags to residents from the Council office & Library, and operating three dog bag dispensers.

The Committee agreed that Croxley Green does not currently have a problem with dog fouling in the area and this was backed up with feedback from residents. Although some mess is found, predominantly in the Orchard that causes problems for the Rangers, the streets of Croxley Green are not blighted with dog mess. This represents a success for the Council who lead the initiative to drive down dog mess in the village.

From the inspection, we have identified a small number of bins (2, 11, 14, 15, 43), which are hardly used, and can be removed without detracting from the quality of the service. The removal of these five bins would represent a saving to residents of over £1300.

Furthermore, bin number 5 in the Orchard is often full and one of the most used in the village. One option is that it be changed for large bin 28 in the Guild by the footpath to Yorke Mead School.

A map of the bins can be viewed at <https://croxleygreen-pc.gov.uk/images/Misc/MapofDogBinsCroxley.pdf>.

Recommendations

That:

1. Signs be added to dog bins to inform residents of where the next nearest bin is
2. If possible, bin number 5 is swapped with bin 28
3. Bin numbers 2, 11, 14, 15 & 43 be removed
4. No new bins are installed in the next financial year
5. All bins continue to be emptied twice per week
6. That further checks are made throughout the year to gauge the use of the dog bins