

## LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE

### 1. Littering:

1.1 The Parish Council receives requests for litter bins from local volunteers and members of the public. In the last 3 years, the Parish Council has tripled the number of bins available to the public. Studies into littering have generally found that the addition of new bins does not have an impact on litter long term, nor the amount of material found in bins. Communication is more likely to have an impact on litter reduction strategies. It is also noted that people can display a range of behaviours with regards to littering. Observations include:

- Some people will routinely litter some items but not others e.g. cigarette butts, food
- Visibly full or overflowing bins attract more litter than empty ones e.g. people will add litter to the bin or leave it next to it.

Littering behaviour is a complex issue and the use of anti-litter and litter prevention strategies should be based on an understanding of the characteristics of local people using local spaces, including their typical activities and disposal behaviours.

1.2 Volunteers have been actively collecting litter throughout the last year. Members of the Plastic Free Swindon group have spent many hours in the Mannington to Blagrove area and other hot spots tackling long term litter accumulations.

1.3 Litter picking is not yet coordinated with the grass cutting cycle which can lead to the shredding of litter creating more pieces of waste.

1.4 In West Swindon it has been noted that littering from vehicles is a factor. Long stay lorry parking has had a sustained negative impact in locations at Rivermead and Blagrove and take away wrappings are found in lay-bys, car parks and parking areas near fast food outlets.

1.5 Litter bins can also attract flytipping. There are bins in West Swindon that are regularly filled with bags of household waste or regularly have household furniture/scrap left beside them.

1.6 From communications with the Parish Office, it is clear that not all residents are aware that there is no longer a requirement to separate waste and that all bins can be used to deposit dog waste. There is scope to promote awareness of this. All full-size bins have advertising windows which could be utilised.

## **2. Bin requests**

2.1 The Parish Council has received a number of requests for extra bins:

### *Resident requests*

- entrance to Simply Gym
- Aldi (propose swap out red dog bin)
- entrance to Saddleback Road
- Bess Road play area
- Spencer Close subway
- Flint Hill bus stop
- Shaw Ridge behind Grandison Close (number of existing bins here – could be shuffled)
- footpath rear of Shaw Forest (request considered before – vehicle access is not ideal)
- Sparcells footpath to Shaw Forest
- Mead Way subway (Claypits) to Shaw Forest (propose swap out small bin)

### *Parish requests*

- Frankland Road – Hagbourne Copse x 3

## **3. Financial Implications**

3.1 The expenditure on bins is factored into the annual budget. The purchase cost of a full size bin is approximately £258.00.

3.2 The addition of bins has an impact on the length of time allocated to bin emptying. This includes journey time, emptying and replacing time and journey time to Waterside for disposal. The bins are emptied twice weekly and village centre bins daily, Monday to Friday. Ahead of bank holiday weekends, the team tie extra black sacks to the bin locations in problem areas.

## **4. Recommendations**

4.1 That the Committee consider the list of requests and approves locations for new bins

4.2 That the Committee consider further work to promote community messaging on littering.