

Leisure, Events and Environment Committee

Agenda Item - LEE1569/20

Creation of a Litter Reduction Sub-committee

Introduction

Since the implementation of COVID-19 Lockdown restrictions in March this year our open spaces in Croxley Green have been used by much larger numbers of the public both from within Croxley and from neighbouring areas. This usage is likely to continue this year as more people have “discovered” our open spaces and since people are also unlikely to travel widely for their leisure time until Lockdown is fully relaxed and people feel it is safe to do so.

This paper proposes setting up a working party to agree actions that could be put in place by the council to address some of the issues that have arisen due to this increased usage.

Discussion

Many residents have reported on Social Media during the last few months the increased amount of litter present in our parks and open spaces as more families enjoy the fine weather outside. Some residents have taken it on themselves to do litter picking and help tidy up after those who do not care as much about our environment. As a Parish Council we should understand the issues that we have and also decide how we can address the problems that have arisen.

Several areas we could consider are: -

1. Starting a campaign around shaming people into taking more responsibility for their environment along the lines that have been taken by other countries such as New Zealand. This could include designing our own Croxley Specific signs along the following lines:-



2. We could involve local primary schools in the village to design posters and slogans and take advantage of pupil pester power to influence parents and siblings.

3. We could coordinate local resident litter picking initiatives and provide resources to support them.
4. Much of the litter (bottles, cans and takeaway packaging) comes from businesses in Croxley Green. We could engage with the potential sources of the litter to encourage socially responsible messaging to be displayed at shops and takeaways and also on packaging and bags.
5. This may be a good way of spending some of the funds identified for COVID-19 activities and could have long term benefit for the health and wellbeing of our community.

Recommendation

- That LEE set up a Litter Reduction Sub-committee to review and implement actions that could be taken to address the increased littering taking place in our open spaces.
- That the draft Terms of Reference are adopted – see below.
- That a budget of £2500 be set aside for the Litter Reduction Sub-committee

Members are invited to join the Sub-committee.

Cllr David Montague
Ryan Bennett (Clerk)
June 2020

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE LITTER REDUCTION SUB-COMMITTEE

(Sub-Committee appointed by the Leisure, Events & Environment Committee)

Constitution

1. The Sub-committee shall be called the "Litter Reduction Sub-committee".
2. The Sub-committee shall be comprised of any members of the Leisure, Events & Environment committee who wish to join.
3. The Chair & Vice-Chair of the Parish Council shall also be 'Ex officio' members of the Sub-committee with full voting rights and entitlement to attend all meetings.
4. The quorum shall be three voting members.
5. The Chair of the Sub-Committee will be elected at the first meeting of the Sub-committee.
6. The Parish Council's Standing Orders relating to conduct of meetings, rules of debate, admission of the public, etc. shall apply to the Sub-committee.
7. Meetings will be held on an ad-hoc basis.
8. The Administrative Officer will be the Clerk to the Sub-committee.
9. Meetings shall be minuted by a member of staff. The minutes of each meeting of the Sub-committee shall be made available for scrutiny at the next meeting of the Leisure, Events & Environment committee.
10. The Sub-committee may appoint external "Advisers" to provide it with professional and other specialist support considered necessary to help reduce the amount of litter in Croxley Green. "Advisers" will be entitled to participate fully in the work of the Sub-committee but shall not have voting rights.
11. A Budget will be set by the Leisure, Events & Environment committee for use by the Sub-Committee to meet its responsibilities.

Responsibilities

The Sub-committee shall have the power to take decisions on the following issue:

1. Developing and implementing schemes and initiatives to help reduce the amount of litter found in Croxley Green.

The Sub-committee does not have responsibility over any other areas of Committee business including the management of dog waste bins.