

PC/16/08

Litter and Dog Bins

Background

1. At the 6 June 2016 Council meeting, it was suggested that the dog bin on the Village Green should be moved to a location close to Otterton Bridge, as there was a need for a bin there, and the litter bin on the Green (located quite close to it) could be used for dog waste.
2. When I contacted EDDC to request this, it was put to me that there should be a full review of all dog and waste bins in the village. Otterton was said to be the only parish in the East Devon area where such a review had not taken place.
3. At present, there are **dog bins** at Stantyway Cross and in Park Lane, owned by the Parish Council, and at the Jubilee Playground entrance and on the Village Green, owned by EDDC, which are emptied 3 times each week. There are 4 in total in the village.
4. There are large floor-mounted **litter bins** on the Village Green (by the bus shelter) and at the cemetery entrance. The ownership of these is not clear – they are emptied weekly. There are also post-mounted litter bins in the bus shelters opposite the Green and at the junction of Fore Street, Bell Street and Ottery Street; outside the King's Arms; outside 20 Fore Street; and at the entrance to the Jubilee Children's Playground – a total of 2 floor-mounted and 5 post-mounted bins.
5. There is a post-mounted litter bin in the cemetery, owned by the Parish Council. At present there is no system in place for emptying this bin; it is cleared by the Clerk and others on an ad hoc basis.

Proposals

6. EDDC has carried out a review (not including the cemetery bin). They have responded to our original request (para 1), and also sought to replace old style bins, remove those that are not much used and simplify collection arrangements. Their proposals are as follows:
 - The floor-mounted bin to be moved from the cemetery entrance to Otterton Bridge (to be located in the small space on the northern side of the road). This can also be used for dog waste. At present this bin is filled primarily with green waste from the cemetery; another solution must be found for this – see below.
 - The green floor-mounted bin on the Village Green to be replaced by a new up to date floor mounted bin to be located just to the west of the bus shelter.
 - The post-mounted bin in the bus shelter opposite the Green to be removed.
 - The green post-mounted bin by the King's Arms to remain.

- The green post-mounted bin by 20 Fore Street to be removed. The rationale for this is that it contains very little litter, and at times is wrongly used for household waste.
 - The post-mounted bin in the bus shelter at the Fore Street/Ottery Street/Bell Street junction to be removed, and a green post-mounted bin to be fixed to the bus stop post. The rationale for this is that the existing bin is not visible and hardly used.
 - The dog bin and litter bin at the Jubilee Playground entrance to remain.
 - The dog bin on the Village Green to be moved to the cemetery entrance. This is no longer needed on the Green and currently detracts from the appearance of the Green, located as it is directly in front of the Village sign.
7. The dog bins at Stantyway Cross and Park Lane, which we own, will remain in place.
8. I think all the proposals are reasonable, other than the final one - moving the dog bin from the Green to the cemetery. After consulting a number of residents I suggest that this be relocated to Ladram Road, close to either the junction with Bars Lane or Chockenhole Lane
9. EDDC has informed me that these changes can be put in place without cost to the Parish Council.
10. A solution must, however, be found for the clearing of rubbish from the cemetery. The existing cemetery bin is mostly filled with green compostable material, with a few pieces of wrapping paper, plant pots and oases. There is a space at the western end of the cemetery, behind a small fence, which could be made into a compost heap and which users should be encouraged to deposit their green waste. This could then be used as compost. We would then need a separate bin, for non-recyclable material, and would have to make arrangements for regular emptying. This could not be done without some cost.

Mike Miller

September 2016