

Haxey Parish Council, Newsletter, February 2010

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Dog Control Order (DCO) – issued from North Lincolnshire Council

Calls to report the existence of fouling are important so we can allocate dog bins, clear away mess and educate dog walkers / owners but it isn't enough to tackle this messy problem. What we need on top of the reports of dog mess requiring attention is for residents, councillors, police colleagues and partner agencies to record and report the following:

1. Name and address of dog walker. There's a high probability that the dog walker will be local and will be known to residents.
2. Registration and description of any vehicle used by a dog walker who isn't a local resident.
3. Time, location, dog description, weather conditions and what the witnesses actually saw linked into 1 and 2 above.
4. If 1 and 2 are not known, as no one is ever seen dog walking, 'event diaries' require to be kept to help us build up the habits of the offending dog walker(s) so Wardens can be tasked on the most likely days / times to 'meet and greet' potential offenders.

The above are the bare basics of what we need to start taking a more proactive stance against the MINORITY of irresponsible / selfish dog owners / walkers. When dog walkers are greeted by Wardens we always educate and persuade first and only step into enforcement 'mode' when appropriate. When asked who complained (and we are) we say - this community or this neighbourhood!

Parish Handyman

During consultation with Parishioners as part of the Haxey Parish Plan process, issues emerged that would be candidate topics for taking forward in the Plan, expected to be published in Spring 10, but were projects that the Parish Council could begin to take forward now. One such issue was the potential provision of a "Parish Handyman". Therefore, the Parish Council has commenced work on this project as part of the Parish Council Land Working Party (LWP) remit and a cost benefit analysis is currently underway.

Options could include the direct employment of a part time employee to carry out work in the Parish for a limited number of hours a month; the employment of a Contractor to carry out work in the Parish for a limited number of hours a month, both under the direct control of the Clerk and the final option would be not to further the project on cost/benefit grounds.

Tasks currently envisaged for the Handyman are: Churchyard work; Parish Pump maintenance; Notice Board maintenance; maintenance of Dr Dyson's garden; general litter pick-up through the villages/playing fields; tidiness of Westwoodside Pond area; watering of hanging baskets/planting of village spaces.

Data gathering on the potential for a Handyman for the Parish continues and the Land Working Party will meet formally in the next month to consider the information collected and come up with a way forward for the Parish Council to consider.

Update on Northside

The status of Northside Lane, Haxey was raised initially by a local resident a year ago. North Lincolnshire Council's initial response was that it was a Private Road. The Parish Council disagreed with this and following extensive consultations with local residents, parishioners generally, visitors, North Lincolnshire Council, the Police and Lincolnshire Archives, decided at their December meeting to ask North Lincolnshire Council to create a Bridleway along the Lane from The Nooking to Upperthorpe Road.

Copies of old documents have also been submitted to North Lincolnshire Council that may mean that it is in fact classed as an "Ancient Highway". Whether as a Bridleway or an "Ancient Highway" the Lane will be preserved in its present state, be maintained by North Lincolnshire Council and be a Public Right of Way throughout its length.

The Parish Council share local residents concerns about illegal use by motor vehicles and this issue will be discussed at the Parish Council meeting in February.