

District Councillor Report to Marchwood Parish Council

The Promenade

I contacted HCC regarding the issues that residents were experiencing along the Promenade with Fishermen and their activities. Paula Edwards responded with some suggestions which whilst being perfectly sensible I believe most of the suggestions have already been employed by the Parish Council in an effort to contain the unsociable activities.

These were her suggestions

Liaise with New Forest District Council to see if they could send their pedestrian sweeper along the promenade on a regular basis – **I have already spoken with Byron to see if the chaps are reporting hooks when they cut the Promenade, his reply was that the machines would just mash them up so they would have no knowledge of their existence.**

Is there the potential for NFDC to provide or increase the number of these? **I believe there are litter bins plus additional fish hook bins, do those bins have notices on them asking the fisherman to use them at all times.**

With regard to hooks and lines being thrown into the sea and fish being thrown back I'm not sure that there is anything that the Highway Authority can do about this.

Signage is an obvious thing that could be done and HCC would be happy to approve the erection of any provided by the district or Parish Council, but I'm not sure what impact this would have if any; people who fish should know the damage their lines and hooks can do and how to use their equipment safely.

Could the Parish use social media or approach any local fishing clubs or forums to publicise the issue and promote some self-policing within the fishing community? **Is this a possibility?**

As a last resort you could speak to the legal officers at NFDC to see if there are any byelaw's that could be put in place to stop fishing is all else fails? **I am willing to ask but as NFDC are not the landowner that may not be possible.**

I seem to remember when this issue arose before the local PC or PCSO took a walk along the Promenade and spoke to individuals fishing to advise them of the difficulties with fishing hooks being discarded on the ground and lines being left unattended.

Is that a possibility?

Garden Waste Collections

From 13th September garden waste collections will recommence on a four-week basis. Until the service gets back up to speed no new garden waste customers can be accepted and no additional bags will be sold. This will be review on an ongoing basis but is likely to continue until Christmas at least allowing time for staffing levels to recover.

Planning

The Council is advising developers and homeowners who are planning any building project at home to know the best time to carry out an ecological survey or potentially face delays to the planning process.

“Assessing the likely ecological impacts of a development is often complex so employing a suitably qualified ecological consultant is usually cost effective and valuable. Pre-application discussion with the Local Planning Authority will ensure all issues are considered before an application is submitted and help prevent delays.”

The survey season for many species ends in the next couple of months. Residents can see information about optimal survey periods at <https://newforest.gov.uk/article/2780>

For pre-application planning advice, see <https://newforest.gov.uk/article/1464/Pre-application-planning-advice>

Cllr. Sue Bennison

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