

## Note to the Parish Council about litter in the village

I am sure that you will all agree that litter is unsightly and certain areas of our village are prone to surprising amounts. Twelve villagers are now signed up to litter pick twelve areas of the village as research shows people are less likely to drop litter if an area is clear. The same probably applies to dog poo and because of this the Parish Council obtain regular supplies of biodegradable poo bags which are made available in the Post office and Newsagents.

Recently the Parish Council kindly supplied twelve portable ashtrays in the hope we can cut down on the number of cigarette ends in the gutters. They will be given out to known smokers in order to see if this will encourage people to bin them at home. The plastic filters in cigarettes are one of the worst pollutants of our seas and waterways as not only do they not biodegrade but they can contain nicotine, lead, arsenic and formaldehyde to name but a few toxins.

A few weeks ago I attended a zoom meeting about single use plastic and the purpose of the meeting was to persuade areas of West Cheshire to apply for the Bronze level in removing single use plastics. This first part involves us in three tasks:

- 1 To set up a regular litter picking hub (which we have already done).
- 2 Engage with the school which we have already done. Hopefully they will be having a talk from Helen Tandy director of the Eco communities project about single use plastic which will explain why it is important to bin litter rather than leave it on the park or our streets. The children are also going to make a plastic monster with a sculptor in the Autumn term which will be placed on the park to remind people to bin their litter. This has been enabled by a grant from Mike Jones.
- 3 To engage with local businesses in the village (one of which is already involved) and they need to demonstrate they have cut down on the use of three plastic items in their work place eg plastic cups or toilet paper without plastic.

Transition Tattenhall is having two pop up stalls explaining the issues with single use plastic and the need to cut down on their use. Also a few of their members are involved in litter picking.

I do hope the Parish Council will see this is a useful initiative and an achievable goal and support the project. We should then be able to obtain the Bronze level award and decrease our villagers use of single use plastic.

Thank you Yvonne Keeping