Agenda Item No: 9.10 Report No: 132/17

Report Title: Ward Issues Raised by Councillors at Council

Report To: Cabinet Date: 27 September 2017

Cabinet Members: Councillors Franklin, Giles and Linington

Ward(s) Affected: Peacehaven West and Newhaven Valley

Report By: Catherine Knight, Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic

Services

Contact Officer(s)-

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Purpose of Report:

To respond to ward issues raised by councillors at Meetings of the Council.

Officers Recommendation(s):

To note and agree the officer action detailed in the Report.

Reasons for Recommendations

To ensure that appropriate follow up action is taken.

Information

The following Ward issues were raised at the Council meeting on 17 July 2017:

Councillor/Ward	Ward Issue Concerning	
Councillor Robertson –	With regard to the Council's car parks and recycling areas	
Peacehaven West Ward	Suggested action to be taken by the Council:	
	That, once each year, the Council provide a waste collection skip at its car parks into which residents could be encouraged to put their waste items rather than dumping them in the car parks.	DSD

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	Councillor/Ward	Ward Issue Concerning			
	Comment by Chief Officer (Director of Service Delivery): There has been no notable increase of fly-tipping reports at any of our car parks in recent months.				
	If Lewes District Council were to agree to this suggestion then the provision of the skips and the disposal of the items collected would require additional budget provision. If we were to offer this service to each of the 40 car parks we inspect and maintain then the cost of this would be circa £100,000. Also any material collected in this way would go to landfill with no recycling possible. With 3 household waste tip sites covering the District, then the Council would encourage residents to deposit their waste items at those sites so that suitable items can be recycled correctly. Additionally the Council offers its residents a domestic bulky waste collection scheme if they have no access to the waste tip sites.				
	Councillor Saunders – Newhaven Valley Ward	Residents were concerned at the effect of the potential move of the Crown Post Office in Newhaven High Street to a franchise arrangement in a new newsagents that was based in Newhaven Square.			
		Elsewhere, Dee's Newsagents was a long established newsagents in Newhaven, having been trading for decades. Suggested action to be taken by the Council:			

Suggested action to be taken by the Council:

What was the Council going to do to support the long established business and mitigate the effect on it by the new premises?

DRP

Comment by Chief Officer (Director of Regeneration and Planning):

Last year, the Post Office began consultation to close the Crown Counter in Newhaven. This was of great concern to the District Council, as well as the Town Council and we began working with the Post Office to see whether there was anything the Council could do to ensure that Newhaven didn't lose the vital Post Office service.

Despite representations from both NTC and LDC, the Post Office have decided to close the Crown Counter, but have offered a Post Office franchise instead. It is not ideal that the franchise has been offered to a newsagent when there is another one in the town already. However, retaining the Post Office service is important and the business case for the franchise, undertaken by the Post Office, has been made knowing that there was already a newsagents in the town.

Councillor/Ward	Ward Issue Concerning	
Councillor Carr – Newhaven Valley Ward	Councillor Carr reported that she was Vice-Chair of the Riverside Park Group in Newhaven which had successfully spearheaded the Council's dog fouling campaign to encourage dog owners to clean-up after their pet had defecated and to put the feces in the dog waste bins that were provided in the Park. However, there was a problem in that the Park's dog waste bins were not emptied sufficiently often. Suggested action to be taken by the Council: That the Council arrange for the dog waste bins which were located at Riverside Park, Newhaven, to be added to the Council's regular emptying schedule and that they be emptied at least on a weekly basis.	DSD
 (Note: Councillor Carr declared her personal, non-prejudicial interest in this item as she was Vice-Chair of the Riverside Park Group to which she referred in her Ward Issue. However, she was able to take part in the discussion thereon). Comment by Chief Officer (Director of Service Delivery): It is clear that the Riverside Park group campaign has been very successful at this location – so much so that we are planning to introduce another bin soon and also step up the bin emptying schedule at this location. From Monday 7th August, our contractor Burleys will be emptying the 3 bins here on a Monday, Wednesday & Friday. This will be monitored for the next 6 months. 		

Financial Appraisal

2 None arising from this Report.

Legal Implications

3 None arising from this Report.

Risk Management Implications

I have not completed the Risk Management Checklist as there is no need to undertake a risk assessment.

Equality Screening

I have not completed the Equality Analysis checklist as this Report is free from the requirement to do so.

Background Papers

6 None

Appendices

7 None