

TOLLER PORCORUM PARISH COUNCIL

Full Parish Council meeting | Wednesday 15 January 2025

Appendix B – Update from the clerk on matters arising at the last meeting Minute reference: 25/01-06

Members of the public asked questions in the Public Democratic Forum part of the Parish Council meeting held 13 November 2024. The clerk investigated the matters raised and answers and updates listed below.

Medicine blister packs

Q: Can medicine blister packs be recycled for metal at the tip (household recycling centre)?

A: Blister packs that are made just from foil can be put in any of the Alufoil banks at smaller recycling centres as well as at Household Recycling Centres (the tip). These types of blister packs can also be put in the metal skips at tips.

Blister packs that are a mixture of foil and plastic CAN NOT be recycled at the tip or through the household recycling collection. The village Post Office has a collection point for such items that are then sent to a specialised recycler. These blister packs can also be dropped off at branches of Superdrug that house a pharmacy such as the branch at Dorchester.

Below is Dorset Council's guidance regarding blister pack recycling:

Due to the extended range of materials now being accepted for recycling, there is a continual need for innovation within the overarching recycling industry. It is for that reason why items such as the blister packs are better to remain within a closed loop recycling scheme whilst technologies emerge and cascade. Companies such as Terracycle enable bespoke recyclables to be directed to a dedicated closed loop recycling stream.

Blister packs comprising 100% aluminium foil are able to be placed within the metal / foil receptacles at our smaller recycling centres and Household Recycling Centres. At this time, while the new provision for including aluminium foil into the kerbside collection becomes embedded within residents' own behaviours, we would encourage residents to follow this practice, or use the free of charge collection services available within pharmacies and veterinary practices etc.

Costs of fly tipping

Q: How much does it cost Dorset Council to clear fly tipping and have charges at tips lead to an increase in the crime?

A: The costs incurred by Dorset Council for clearing fly tipping for that last three years on land owned by Dorset Council were: 2021 - £106,189, 2022 - £101,121, 2023 - £96,224

In response to whether fly tipping has increased since charges for certain items were introduced at Household Recycling Centres (the tip), Dorset Council provided the following press release from 2018: <https://news.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/2018/05/16/charges-at-the-dump-cause-fly-tipping-time-to-think-again/>

Hedge cutting debris

Q: Who is responsible for clearing discarded hedge cuttings after Dorset Council have cut hedges. Where should claims for damages to vehicles etc, resulting from the cuttings, be directed?

AWAITING RESPONSE FROM DORSET COUNCIL

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Community litter pick

Q: Could a community litter pick could be started as it is sometimes needed, particularly on Toller Lane? (the member of the public volunteered to lead any litter pick).

A: A poll on Toller Porcorum Community Facebook page ran for seven days with 18 people taking part. The results were in favour of a community litter pick with nine people voting yes and wanting to be involved, 5 further votes in favour and 4 votes against.

The clerk will contact those who would like to be involved and put them in touch with the member of the public who volunteered to lead a litter pick.