



South Neighbourhood Panel Update

January 2013

East Cambridgeshire District Council – Action Updates:

Priority:

Priority - Increase Parish Council awareness of the Code of Conduct	
Objective	To increase Parish Councils awareness of the Parish Council Code of Conduct
Action Taken	<p>Note that changes to the Localism Act in relation to the Code of Conduct were confirmed to the Clerks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ 3 February 2012 – letter sent to Parish Clerks about all the new requirements under the Localism Act and consulting on what Parish Councils wanted in new Code. Asked for comments before 29 February 2012 for a Monitoring Officer discussion on a Cambridgeshire draft Code or for Standards Committee, by 31 March 2012. One Parish Council responded. ❑ In May 2012, had been informed that there was likely delay in implementation – until October 2012. Clarification sought from DCLG in May. Stated intention to implement but Regulations not ready, but intended implementation date 1 July 2012. ❑ On 6 June 2012 – update provided to Parish Councils about this issue warned that new provisions may need to be in place from 1 July. ❑ Disclosable Pecuniary Interest Regulations notified to Council on 8 June. ❑ On 12 July - notification of this sent to the Parish Clerks – explained process for Code adoption at ECDC and about NALC version of the Code. ❑ 6 July 2012 – explanation of the process on the Code sent to Parish Councils again and explanation of the District Council's procedure for adoption via Council on 26 July 2012 & form for dispensation sent. ❑ 27 July 2012 – notification to Parish Councils of the adoption and copies of the Code and other documents sent to Clerks. Documents and advice on Code provided since then. ❑ Notification of training sent to all Parish Clerks to arrange 9 sessions at local Parish/Town venues covering the Neighbourhood Panel configurations of Parish Councils (and one additional early session held in September at Grange). One of 9 sessions cancelled – covering the Brinkley/ Burrough Green/ Dullingham/ Stetchworth <i>due to lack of sufficient interest</i> (scheduled for 8 November 2012). All Councillors were welcome to attend any of the sessions across the District and were notified accordingly. ❑ Pocket guide to the Code distributed to all Councillors who attended training. ❑ Full guide to Code available on the District Council website and Clerks notified of this. <p>Principal Democratic Services Officer explained what engagement there had been with Town and Parish Clerks and the 9 training sessions proposed across the District between September – November 2012 at the last Panel meeting.</p>
Current Situation	All training sessions completed. Circa 40% of Clerks and Councillors across District have attended one of the training sessions. No further sessions proposed.
Continue or Discharge	

Other Issues

No.	Issue	Action Taken
1	Eagle Lane, Dullingham, Litter issue and on the outskirts of the village	A litter clearing team has been assigned to Eagle Lane on week commencing 29.10.12. Other areas to be assessed & issues resolved at time of visit.
2	Old Salt depot, Dullingham. No planning permission/ change of use for shed in connection with the distillery.	A meeting has taken place with representatives from Dullingham parish Council, looking into a number of planning issues. A planning application has now been submitted for the Old Salt Depot and will dealt with accordingly.

Current Issues and Information:

1. ECDC sports club directory

East Cambridgeshire District Council has recently launched a new online sport club directory. We would like to encourage sport clubs to register online to help raise the profile of sport clubs, promote new sessions and increase memberships. The sport club directory will be published on the council website and be a focal point for residents to find out more information about sport clubs and services. If you would like to register a sport club please visit www.eastcambs.gov.uk/sports/sports-club-directory
Or for more information e-mail sportandhealth@eastcambs.gov.uk or call 01353 665555.

2. Waste and recycling bid is a winner

East Cambridgeshire District Council has successfully won a £5 million bid from Central Government to fund a new recycling service and retain weekly waste collections.

The funding, from the Department for Communities and Local Government's 'Weekly Collection Reward Scheme', means residents will find it easier to recycle more of their waste with the new service being introduced in late 2013 or early 2014.

The current brown sack and black box collection system will be replaced with:

- * A new wheeled bin recycling collection, including paper, glass, metal cans, plastics, cartons and cardboard. This will be collected fortnightly.
- * A new wheeled bin collection for organics to include food and garden waste. This will also be collected fortnightly.
- * A fleet of new vehicles for the new services as well as a rescheduling of rounds to reduce carbon emissions.

The weekly waste collections would be retained and collected via black sacks.

The work to put in place the new system will include a survey of all households in the district to identify anyone whose property would not be suitable for the new service. These homes would retain the current black box and brown sack collection service while other households would convert to the wheeled bin service.

Councillor Richard Hobbs, Chairman of the Community and Environment Committee at East Cambridgeshire District Council, said: "Winning the funding to improve our recycling service is fantastic news. In a recent public consultation we had overwhelming support for our plans so it is great to know we can now deliver a recycling service which people want.

"The task ahead of us now is to bring the service in as soon as we can. This will mean a lot of hard work from buying the vehicles and wheeled bins to deliver the service to identifying the homes which will not be suitable for the service. We hope to complete this by next summer and have the service up and running from late 2013 or early 2014. During this process we will ensure residents are kept fully up to date with the progress of our work. Finally I would like to thank the Environmental Team at the District Council who has made our bid successful. It is very exciting to know our recycling rates are set to rise and we can continue to collect black bag rubbish every week in the years to come."

For more information on the waste and recycling service in East Cambridgeshire please visit www.eastcambs.gov.uk or call 01353 665555.



Fly Tipping Reports and Enforcement Actions 2012/13

South Neighbourhood Panel

Parish/Village	Reported Fly Tips												Total
	Apr	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	
Ashley	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0
Bottisham	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0				1
Brinkley	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0				2
Burwell	0	0	0	1	1	4	3	1					10
Burrough Green	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0
Cheveley	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				1
Dullingham	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0				1
Kirtling	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	0					5
Lode	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0
Newmarket	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0
Reach	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				1
Saxon Street	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0
Six Mile Bottom	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1					1
Stetchworth	0	0	1	0	2	1	2	0					6
Swaffham Bulbeck	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0					3
Swaffham Prior	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	1					5
Upend	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0
Westley Waterless	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0
Woodditton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0
Month total	1	2	5	5	5	8	7	3	0	0	0	0	36

Total Fly Tipping Reports in East Cambridgeshire

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
2012/13	26	24		27	25	25	13	22	19				
2011/12	27	23		23	25	28	38	43	30	32	54	0	0
2010/11	47	15		35	31	33	16	28	20	19	18	30	28
2009/10	41	20		24	39	17	40	24	35	32	27	32	57
2008/09	42	19		30	37	32	30	50	28	18	47	29	37

Fly Tipping Enforcement Actions 2012/13 (District)

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Investigation	27	16	33	32	42	31	31	28					240
Warning letter	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0					1
Statutory Notice	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0					1
Fixed Penalty Notice	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0					1
Duty of Care Inspection	3	0	1	1	1	0	14	9					29
Stop & Search	7	1	1	0	0	9	0	0					18
Formal Caution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0
Formal Caution With Costs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0
Prosecution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0

Fly Tipping Enforcement Actions 2011/12 (District)

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Investigation	32	17	21	27	42	37	61	53	38	74	33	57	492
Warning letter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Notice	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fixed Penalty Notice	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Duty of Care Inspection	2	3	2	0	3	2	2	2	0	0	0	1	17
Stop & Search	0	0	1	5	0	0	2	0	0	0	5	10	23
Formal Caution	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Formal Caution With Costs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prosecution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Fly Tipping Enforcement Options

Investigation	Inspection of fly tip for evidence that could lead to enforcement action being taken, together with related enquiries.
Warning letter	Used where formal enforcement action is not considered appropriate as a warning of the potential consequences of further infringements.
Statutory Notice	A legal requirement to provide information that will assist with investigation of an offence.
Fixed Penalty Notice	Agreement to accept a standard penalty fee as an alternative to formal legal action.
Duty of Care Inspection	Check that a business has correct arrangements in place for the storage, transport and disposal of its waste.
Stop & Search	Check on vehicle carrying waste for waste carriers licence and waste disposal documentation.
Formal Caution	An offender having admitted an offence is formerly cautioned by the Head of Service. A record is kept of the Caution for 5 years.
Formal Caution With Costs	As Formal Caution, but investigation and clear up costs are charged to the offender.
Prosecution	Formal prosecution through the Court System.

Dog Fouling Reports 2012/13

South Neighbourhood Panel

Parish/Village	Fouling Reports												Total
	Apr	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	
Ashley	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bottisham	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brinkley	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burwell	1	2	1	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	8
Burrough Green	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cheveley	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4
Dullingham	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kirtling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lode	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reach	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stetchworth	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Swaffham Bulbeck	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Swaffham Prior	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Westley Waterless	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Woodditton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Month total	2	4	2	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	14

Total Dog Fouling Reports in East Cambridgeshire

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total	Monthly Ave.
2012/13	7	7	7	4	8	12	9	8						
2011/12	5	4	0	1	1	6	4	12	10	24	0	0	67	2.20
2010/11	4	7	7	8	4	5	9	8	13	19	21	12	117	6.00
2009/10	2	4	1	4	1	0	7	3	8	11	14	9	64	5.33

Cambridgeshire County Council – Action Updates:

Priorities: None Identified

Other Issues:

Number	Issue	Action Taken
1	Rumble strips worn away on Heath Road, Swaffham Bulbeck.	This will be inspected by the relevant Highways Supervisor and any repair works found to be necessary will be included within the 2013/14 maintenance programme.
2	SUBJECT TO MORE INFO FROM SWAFFHAM BULBECK PARISH COUNCIL: Hedges encroaching on Abbey Lane, Swaffham Bulbeck	<p>This issue is being addressed, in the first instance, by the Parish Council.</p> <p>Generally boundary hedges or planted shrubs adjacent to the public highway are in the ownership of the respective adjoining property/land owners and, therefore, the responsibility to maintain such planting - to ensure that there is no obstruction to the highway - rests with those property/land owners.</p> <p>However, the County Council, as Local Highway Authority, is happy to send letters to property/land owners, to both remind them of their duties and request that they trim back hedges and/or shrubs. Although the County Council could take such action, it considers that a local community approach to the property/land owner in these cases is the most appropriate approach.</p>
3	SUBJECT TO MORE INFO FROM WESTLEY WATERLESS PARISH COUNCIL: Overgrown hedges on Westley Waterless High Street	<p>This issue is being addressed, in the first instance, by the Parish Council.</p> <p>Generally boundary hedges or planted shrubs adjacent to the public highway are in the ownership of the respective adjoining property/land owners and, therefore, the responsibility to maintain such planting - to ensure that there is no obstruction to the highway - rests with those property/land owners.</p> <p>However, the County Council, as Local Highway Authority, is happy to send letters to property/land owners, to both remind them of their duties and request that they trim back hedges and/or shrubs. Although the County Council could take such action, it considers that a local community approach to the property/land owner in these cases is the most appropriate approach.</p>
4	SUBJECT TO MORE INFO FROM REACH PARISH COUNCIL: Footpaths in Reach: residents greenery encroaching, Parish Council already contacting owners	<p>This issue is being addressed, in the first instance, by the Parish Council.</p> <p>Generally boundary hedges or planted shrubs adjacent to the public highway are in the ownership of the respective adjoining property/land owners and, therefore, the responsibility to maintain such planting - to ensure that there is no obstruction to the highway - rests with those property/land owners.</p>

		<p>However, the County Council, as Local Highway Authority, is happy to send letters to property/land owners, to both remind them of their duties and request that they trim back hedges and/or shrubs. Although the County Council could take such action, it considers that a local community approach to the property/land owner in these cases is the most appropriate approach.</p>
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Current Issues:

1.	
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Sanctuary Housing – Action Updates:

Priorities: None set

Other Issues: None identified

Current issues:

The Government is reducing the amount of housing benefit some people can claim.

If you claim housing benefit to help pay your rent you may be affected by changes from April 2013. The changes mean that some people will get less housing benefit than they did before.

From April 2013, if you live in a council or housing association home and you have one or more 'spare' bedrooms your housing benefit may be reduced.

This could affect you:

- if you are 16 to 61 years old
- even if you only get a small amount of housing benefit – for example, if you are working
- even if you are sick or disabled

You won't be affected if:

- you live in a one bedroom flat or bedsit, or if
- you or your partner are old enough to receive pension credits.
- In April 2013 the pension credit age will be around 61 years and 6 months

The new benefit rules will apply from April 2013, so now is the time to get help and support.

What is a 'spare' bedroom?

Under the new rules if you have more bedrooms than the Government says you need, you will lose part of your housing benefit. The new rules mean you will be allocated one bedroom for:

- each adult couple

- any other person aged 16 or over
- two children of the same sex under the age of 16
- two children under the age of 10 regardless of their sex
- any other child
- a carer (who does not normally live with you) if you or your partner need overnight care.

It does not matter how the 'spare' bedroom is used, the new rules will apply even if:

- you and your partner need to sleep apart because of a medical condition
- the main residence of your children is another address, but you have a spare room for when they stay with you.

What happens if you have a 'spare' bedroom?

If you have one 'spare' bedroom your housing benefit will be cut by 14% of the rent you pay every week. If you have two or more spare bedrooms, you will lose 25%. If your benefit is cut you will have to pay your landlord the difference between your housing benefit and your rent.

Limit on benefits

From April 2013, the overall amount of benefit you can receive will be capped. The Government will add up how much money you get from a range of benefits, including: housing benefit, jobseeker's allowance, employment support allowance, child benefit, child tax credit and carer's allowance.

If the total comes to more than the maximum amount allowed your housing benefit payments will be reduced.

The maximum amount of benefit you will be able to receive from April 2013 will be:

- £500 per week for single parents
- £500 per week for couples with or without children
- £350 per week for single people without children.

This will not apply to you if:

- you get pension credit or working tax credit
- a member of your household is claiming disability living allowance, attendance allowance or the support element of employment support allowance.

If you are worried about being able to afford to pay your rent from April 2013 you should ask for advice now. If you don't pay your rent you could lose your home, so talk to your landlord about different ways to pay. You can also:

- Talk to your landlord about transferring to a smaller home or taking in a lodger
- Contact your council to ask about extra financial help. Councils have a limited amount of money available to make discretionary payments towards housing costs. Your council may prioritise your claim if you have a disability and your house has been adapted.
- Get in touch with your local citizens advice bureau (www.citizensadvice.org.uk) or other local advice agencies
- Make sure you are claiming all the benefits you can – for example, money to help with the costs of a disability
- Try to find some paid work to increase your income
- Get more information about the cap on benefits by calling the Government's information line on 0845 605 7064.

Do you have a disability and need overnight care?

If you are of working age, have a disability and need a 'spare' bedroom so that a carer can stay overnight you should contact your local council now so that staff can help you keep more of your housing benefit.

Changes to council tax benefit

From April 2013, if you are of working age and claim council tax benefit, the amount of support you receive may be cut. This is because the Government is reducing the amount of money available and asking local councils to run their own schemes, which may vary from area to area. Contact your local council for details.

If you have any questions about the information in this leaflet you can talk to your:

- Landlord
- local council
- citizens advice bureau
- local advice agency.

East Cambridgeshire Local Policing Team – Action Updates:

Priorities:

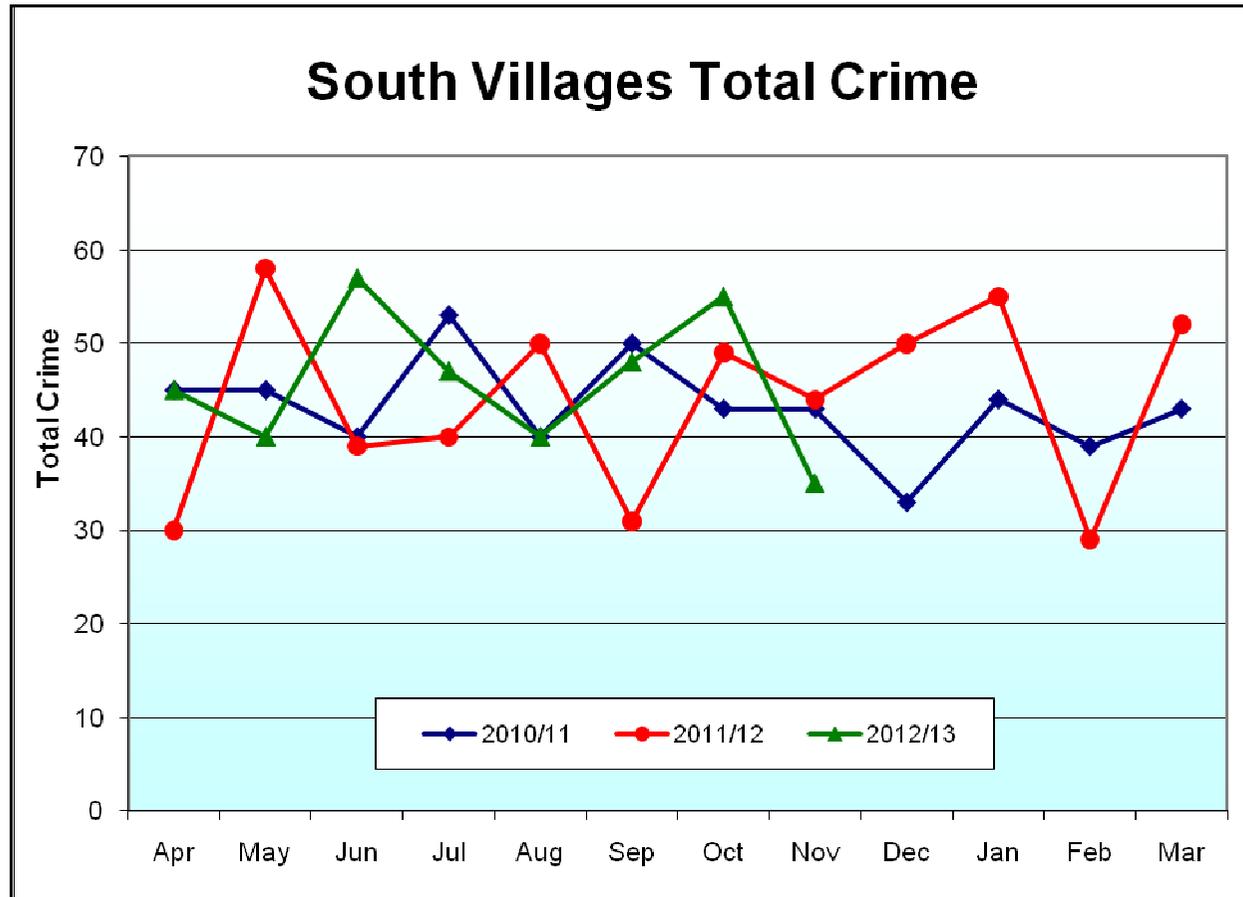
Priority - Speeding and Parking Offences across the Panel area	
Objective	To reduce speeding and parking offences as detailed under 'other issues' below
Action Taken	<p>Speed enforcement and Speedwatch activity has taken place across the area.</p> <p>A1303 Stetchworth Toll, Newmarket – 6 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs), 2 Process, 27 Speed Awareness Courses offered B1061 Dullingham Road, Newmarket – 5 FPNs, 13 Speed Awareness Courses Bell Road, Bottisham – 5 FPNs, 41 Speed Awareness Courses Newmarket Road, Burwell – 2 FPNs, 24 Speed Awareness Courses Swaffham Road, Burwell – 3 FPNs, 26 Speed Awareness Courses Ness Road, Burwell – 1 FPN, 1 Speedwatch letter, 5 verbal warnings</p> <p><u>Speedwatch Activity</u></p> <p>High Street, Brinkley – 2 letters sent High Street, Cheveley – no speeding vehicles observed</p> <p>Parking patrols continue in areas highlighted, though few offences were observed in these specific areas. In other areas tickets have continued to be issued for unnecessary obstruction, parking on double yellow lines, and vehicles without valid tax discs. The main parking problems continue to be around schools at dropping off and picking up time. PCSOs have been continuing with patrols outside schools, but have been confronted by parents who've claimed it's not an offence to park illegally if you're dropping your children off, and others who've demanded police vehicles be moved, so that they can park closer to the school.</p>
Current Situation	
Continue or Discharge	

Other Issues:

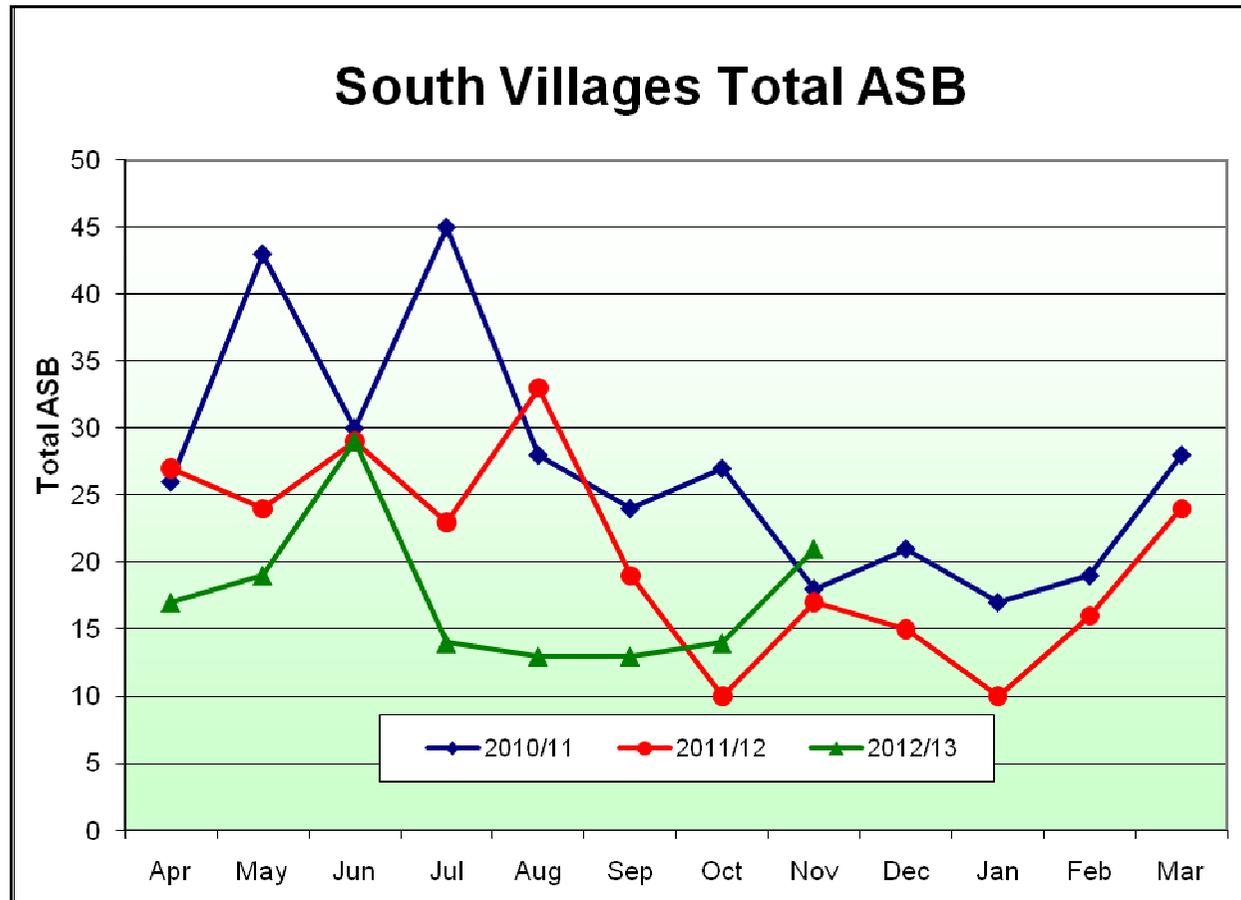
Number	Issue	Action Taken
1	Speeding in Bottisham	Bell Road, Bottisham – 5 FPNs and 41 Speed Awareness Courses offered as a result of enforcement activity.
2	Parking on double yellow lines in Bottisham	Regular checks made outside High St shops. The only vehicle that was seen parking on double yellow lines had a Disabled Badge displayed. Patrols also conducted outside the school and a number of parents spoken with. 1 FPN issued for obstruction of a dropped kerb in the village.
3	Speeding in Brinkley	Checks conducted; 2 Speedwatch letters sent.
4	Parking on blind bend in the middle of the high street, Brinkley.	Regular checks made, but no offences observed.
5	Parking near Chinese takeaway, Burwell	Regular checks made, but no offences observed.
6	Speeding in Burrough Green.	Checks conducted; no offences observed.
7	Speeding along Stetchworth Road and Station Road, Dullingham.	B1061 Dullingham Road, Newmarket – 5 FPNs, 13 Speed Awareness Courses Checks conducted on Station Road did not reveal any offences.

East Cambs South Area Emerging Issues:

South Villages Neighbourhood Area Total Crime



South Villages Neighbourhood Anti-Social Behaviour



Fire Service data

Primary and Secondary fires

Month	Ward	Is Primary Fire	Is Derelict	Is Chimney Fire	Property Category	Property Type	Is Property Regulated	Cause
Sept	The Swaffhams	Yes	No	No	Vehicle	Road vehicle	No	Deliberate
Sept	The Swaffhams	Yes	No	No	Vehicle	Road vehicle	No	Deliberate
Sept	The Swaffhams	No	No	No	Outdoor structure	Loose refuse	No	Accidental
Oct	Bottisham	Yes	No	No	Vehicle	Road vehicle	No	Accidental
Nov	Cheveley	No	No	No	Outdoor structure	Loose refuse	No	Accidental