

# Ditton Priors Parish Council

Upper Netchwood-Ruthall-Hillside-Lightwood-Middleton Priors-  
Derrington Lower Netchwood.

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## Statement on Duties Related to Biodiversity and Crime and Disorder

### 1. Biodiversity

Under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard to the purpose of conserving biodiversity. Ditton Priors Parish Council's aim is to care for the environment through its own policies and practices and by encouraging others to do the same. The Parish Council will endeavour to be as conscientious as possible about biodiversity, conservation and use of resources. The Parish Council will keep aware of the environmental regulations that apply to its business and ensure that its legal obligations are met. The Parish Council will communicate this policy to Councillors and officers through channels such as meetings and work planning, and it will encourage suggestions of ways to provide a positive environmental impact.

#### ***Ditton Priors Parish Council practices and initiatives to improve biodiversity include:***

- Assessing chemicals, if used by contractor carrying out the environmental maintenance contract a qualified person is used to ensure the chemical is used in an appropriate manner, stored correctly and disposed of correctly. Qualifications are seen. Contractor is a member of CHAS.
- Composting and shredding garden waste, no burning is allowed.
- Mulching horticultural waste where possible;

#### ***Examples of biodiversity at Parish Council amenity sites and contracts delivery:***

- *The Allotment plot holders all have 2 compost bins and are encouraged to use them.*
- *The use of garden chemicals is discouraged to ensure each plot holder can grow their produce as organically as possible.*
- *No burning is allowed on the site.*

### 2. Crime and Disorder

People want to live in a safe environment. The Parish Council values working in partnership with the Police, and Community Safety Initiatives have helped forge a close working relationship. Under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Ditton Priors Parish Council has a duty to consider the impact of its functions and decisions on crime and

disorder in its area. Ditton Priors Parish Council seeks to represent the views of its community and ensure that local crime reduction strategies represent those views. As an integral part of this policy Ditton Priors Parish Council will regularly review the ways in which it carries out its functions and duties to help reduce crime and disorder.

***The Parish Council's Community Safety initiatives include the following elements:***

- *At least quarterly written newsletter from The Safer Neighbourhood team presented to Full Council.*
- *Police are invited to report to the Annual Parish Meeting;*
- *The Parish has worked with the West Mercia We don't buy crime team to distribute Smartwater kits throughout the parish, including to local business. The rural crime officer is well known to clerk.*
- *Ditton Priors Parish Council provides a defibrillator at the foot of The Brown Clee Hill.*
- *West Mercia Police provide a defibrillator in the centre of the village of Ditton Priors.*
- *The local surgery has a defibrillator and trained staff.*
- *The two local nursing homes have defibrillators.*
- *Street lighting is LED with partnight switches. Allowing for total darkness in the early hours. This also allows wildlife to have natural light to do what it does at night.*

**3. Awareness Raising**

Councillors are reminded of their duties regarding bio-diversity and crime and disorder when making key decisions on Parish Council services and functions. This includes commenting on planning applications and when considering grant applications.

Jayne Madeley Clerk April 2021. Review May 2022