

Grindleton Parish Council

Clerk: **Mrs Carol Baird**
Goosebutts Farmhouse
Goosebutts Lane
CLITHEROE
BB7 1JT

Tel: 01200 458200
Email: bairdfamily5@talktalk.net

Dog Warden Service and Dog Fouling

The following information was provided by James Russell, the Environmental Health Manager at Ribble Valley Borough Council:

The Council employs a Dog Warden who covers the entire Borough and routinely deals with reported sick/injured dogs, collection of Stray Dogs, Dog fouling complaints, dog barking complaints etc. The Dog Warden also supports the Police where possible dealing with dangerous dogs and investigating dog attacks. It is estimated that an average of 1 in 4 households has a dog. This equates to approximately 6,500 dogs being resident within the Borough.

Dog fouling is a highly emotive subject in the Borough and is one of the most significant causes of complaint reported to Ribble Valley Borough Council. Every year, the Council receives in the order of 150 to 200 dog fouling complaints. Dog fouling usually increases in severity and number as days shorten and the weather deteriorates with the onset of winter. The majority of complaints relate to single isolated incidents where a dog owner has failed to clean up a single deposit. In these circumstances, it is almost impossible to trace and confront the culprit, and practically all that can be done is for the deposit to be bagged and ultimately disposed of in with the household refuse.

Where regular fouling occurs, then monitoring and enhanced patrols are undertaken and **with the help of local residents usually the offending parties can be identified**, are approached and where possible a Fixed Penalty Notice or prosecution is pursued. Normally, between 5 and 10 FPN's are issued every year. **Any one experiencing dog fouling problems is asked to report their concerns to the Dog Warden Service on 01200 414466.**

The service is currently seeing an increase relating to dog waste being discarded in plastic bags, following being initially picked up. This is an alarming and very puzzling trend that appears to defy any sensible logic. Anyone found discarding dog fouling in this fashion will be dealt with severely and will face a significant penalty upon successful prosecution.

Regards James Russell

Any one experiencing dog fouling problems is asked to report their concerns to the Dog Warden Service on 01200 414466.