

CHANGES TO BIN COLLECTIONS

Shared bin services with the City Council will make changes to bin collections. The proposed changes will affect 82% of households across the district but will contribute to customer service improvements and the rebalancing of staff workloads and will deliver agreed savings and efficiency targets. The plan includes posters, website notification and delivery of a 4 page leaflet to all households early in February. The portfolio holder also approved changes to fees and charges for fly tipping fixed penalties. Previously there has been no fixed fee for fly tipping offences in legislation and offences have been dealt with by way of referral to Court or as an 'offence of depositing litter' which carries a maximum fine of £100. During the period April to November 2016 officers issued 13 fixed penalty notices and 4 official cautions and there have been 7 successful court convictions. There will be a new offence of fly tipping under the appropriate sections of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Penalties will be a £400 fine [reduced to £240 if paid within 10 days]. The maximum penalty on conviction will be a custodial sentence of up to 5 years and notably the maximum fine for this type of offence is not limited in either the magistrates or crown courts.

HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE REPAIR CAFE?

South Cambridgeshire's first repair cafe of 2017 has been hailed a success with many local residents getting broken items fixed instead of buying replacements in the sales.

The event, held in Girton on Sunday, saw a team of multi-skilled volunteers give a number of damaged and broken household belongings a new lease of life, including three bikes, two vacuum cleaners, four scalextric cars, a clock, radio, dehumidifier, and moth damaged jumper.

The next repair cafés scheduled to take place include:

- Scout HQ behind the Memorial Hall, Great Shelford, Saturday 28 January, 2pm to 5pm,
- Community Centre, Cottenham, Saturday 4 February, 10am to 2pm
- Market Hill Rooms, Royston, Sunday 5 February, 10am to 1pm
- St Andrew's Centre, Histon, Saturday 4 March, 10.30am to 1.30pm
- Free Church, Sawston, Saturday 25 March, 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

If you have any tired or broken items needing a new lease of life, from small household appliances, electrical items, computers and mobile phones to bicycles, clothes, gadgets and general bits 'n' bobs, book them in to be sure of a slot, or just turn up on the day.

For more information on any of these events including how to book items in for repair, please visit www.repaircafe.org.uk.

We wish all resident a Happy New Year, please contact us if you should need any information or queries please do contact us:

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