

Clean and Green Newsletter

October 2023

This newsletter includes the latest updates of cleansing activities completed across Parks, Cleansing and Highways services as a result of extra investment to help keep B&NES tidy.

Recycle Week 2023

Bath and North East Somerset Council partnered with our neighbouring local authorities in the West of England area to spread combined messages as part of the Recycle Week between 16 – 22 October. The team promoted a national led campaign, The Big Recycling Hunt, which focused on recyclable items commonly placed in rubbish bins, such as cleaning bottles, empty aerosols, shampoo bottles and food tins.

On 19 October, our Waste Education Officer, Kirstie Hunter, visited Shoscombe Church School to inform children how to best recycle. This included an interactive game testing knowledge on waste and recycling in B&NES, followed by a Q&A in classrooms.



Learn which items can be recycled by visiting our page:
<https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/recycling-z>

Highway Maintenance and Drainage

This year's investment supports Highways maintenance budget for roads, filling of grit bins and gully emptying. The team filled over 400 grit bins and inspected **1990** gullies of which **1829** were cleaned in October.

Discover how we grit in B&NES [here](#).

Graffiti Removal

Clean and Green continue to clear offensive and non-offensive graffiti from domestic and commercial properties in B&NES. Homeowners can request the graffiti removal service for free, while business owners will need to pay an at-cost charge. To request this service, property owners can fill out the [online form](#).



Black spray-painted graffiti removed from wall on River Avon walkway in Kingsmead
Please visit the council's [Report it page](#) to inform our team of defaced public spaces.

Main Road Litter Picking

Clean and Green's funding contributes to an increased main road litter picking support on A4, A39 and A37. This October, Street Cleansing attended to Marksbury, The Globe, Hicks gate to the South Gloucestershire Boundary and from Hicks gate to Broadmead Roundabout. The team cleared **167** bags of litter.



Operatives using litter pickers to remove fly-tipped items on the route from Marksbury Co-Op to Chelwood Village

Environmental Enforcement

B&NES Environmental Officers routinely carry out littering and fly-tipping inspections across the district. Lay-bys are a primary area of concern for illegal waste disposal. In October, **48** penalty notices were issued relating to commercial waste, littering, fly-tipping, and escape of controlled waste. The officers recently issued a penalty notice of £400 to an offender for fly-tipping of the materials below.



To report fly-tipping in B&NES, click here: <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/report-fly-tipping>

Community Action

Somer Valley Rediscovered project recently organised a litter pick with the Prince's Trust Community team. One of the project aims is to improve accessibility and nature recovery. On 24 October, volunteers litter picked for over two hours and collected **3** bags of litter in Waterside Valley, Westfield.



Find your nearest hub to carry out litter picks and weed removal events:
<https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/organise-litter-pick>

Clean and Green Action Weeks

The Clean and Green teams are responding to litter picking, weeding, sweeping, overgrown vegetation, cleaning of signs and woodland issues. The Cleansing and Response team fixed and closed **87** reports of this nature in October.

The teams visited a variety of B&NES wards, including Keynsham, Peasedown, Paulton, Walcot, Bathwick, Mendip, Chew Valley, Moorlands and Widcombe and Lyncombe. Check out the before and after pictures below.

Weed removal



Alleyway cleared of weeds from Tenby Road to Coronation Avenue in Keynsham



Weed removal action completed along Battle Lane in Chew Valley ward

Cleaning of signs

The Response team supported sign-cleaning in Peasedown St John. Operatives washed road signs using brushes and squeegees with cleaning solutions to remove dirt and stains.



Reuse Shop

On 25 October, we opened the new Reuse shop in [Keynsham Recycling Centre](https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/keynsham-recycling-centre). The Reuse shop is cashless, taking card payments or payment via the customers smart phone only. Income received will cover staffing costs to ensure long term viability of the shop, with an extra supporting the council's wider recycling services. We have also partnered with local charities such as Julian House and Bath Share and Repair to ensure items can be distributed to where most needed too. During opening week, 312 residents visited the shop.



Check for opening times here: <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/keynsham-reuse-shop>

Community Feedback

'Thank you for weeding and cleansing our Town. Please say a huge thank you to your team. You have done a great job.' – Keynsham Town Council

'Thank you for all the work your team carried out.' – Paulton Parish Council

'As usual a sterling job completed and it is the small things like this that our residents love to see.'
– Peasedown St John councillor

'That is wonderful and very much appreciated...Please pass on my thanks to the crew.' – Walcot ward councillor

'A gang of chaps have just done a great job of weeding and tidying the edge of the pavements in Upper East Hayes, it looks really nice. I've also noticed in the past week or two that the pavements along London Road near Balustrade have been weeded too. They now look really neat and cared for. Thank you.' – B&NES resident

'Fly tipping So good to know your system works well. Actioned within hours of reporting, well done and thanks.' – B&NES resident

'There is a public lane running alongside our property. It is frequently used by the general public. We have of late had to complain regularly to council because of falling leaves and human faeces. I'm not sure how often cleaning of this lane is scheduled for but it seems more frequent lately. The guys today did an amazing job and I just wanted to say "Thank you," and how much it is appreciated.' – B&NES resident

'I have just returned from your redeveloped recycling centre in Keynsham. It's been many months – perhaps a year – since I last had reason to visit, and the transformation is remarkable. I have been harping on about recycling and reusing where possible for many, many years, and your new set up is a huge leap forward. Thank you SO much. It's clean, welcoming, simple to use, the staff were informed, friendly and delighted to engage, and I'm impressed with the new Reuse shop. I have no criticism whatsoever. You really have produced a centre worthy of compliment.'
– B&NES resident

'A resident came in to the library and wants to thank and compliment the Street cleansing team for the amazing job done around the Keynsham Civic Centre.' – B&NES resident

Communications

For more information about Clean and Green, visit our page: www.bathnes.gov.uk/cleanandgreen

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