

To All Parishes

***The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005
The Dog Control Orders (Prescribed Offences and Penalties, etc) Regulations 2006 (SI 2006/1059)
The Fouling of Land by Dogs (District of Stratford-on-Avon) Order 2009
Nuisance from Uncontrolled Dogs***

It has been brought to my attention that there has been an increase in dog on dog attacks across the Stratford-on-Avon District as well as dog fouling and I would like to take this opportunity to take note of the information below to inform all dog owners and dog walkers of their obligations to the community under the above legislation. **This letter has been sent to all residents and is not directed at any individual person.**

As a responsible dog owner, you are required to keep dogs under proper control and that you are responsible for any damage they may cause to people, livestock, pets or property. Dog owners and walkers need to be aware of the consequences they face if their dog attacks another dog. Dog on dog attacks is a civil dispute between the owners and if several attacks are made by the same dog, owners can prosecute in civil proceedings which if taken to court can result in an order on the owner and dog to be kept under control at all times as long as the complaint is justified. Dog owners can seek advice from the Dog Warden Service in regards to the law relating to their dog. The owners of uncontrolled dogs will be issued with warning notices if it continues as long as it can be backed by evidence.

The District Council has adopted the provisions of the Fouling of Land by Dogs (District of Stratford-on-Avon) Order 2009. This means that if you are a dog owner or walker and you allow the dog to foul on any land which the public have access to you are responsible for cleaning it up. If you fail to clean it up, then you are committing an offence for which you may receive a fixed penalty Notice of £75.00. You may receive a higher fine if you refuse to pay the fine and are taken to the Magistrates' court.

The District and Parish Councils take dog fouling very seriously and would like to advise you that if you are caught allowing your dog foul in any space which is open to the public, including bridleways and footpaths within the District you will be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice.

To all responsible dog owners who do pick up and keep their dogs under control, thank you for keeping our towns and villages a cleaner happier place to live. Dog foul, when bagged can be placed in a dog bin or any litter bin. If you require any further information or assistance or have any queries regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Sophie Peacock
Animal Welfare Officer
Dog Warden Service