

August 2016

Welcome to the August edition of Streetscene.

Natural Environment

Power station gates refurbishment, Portishead

The Gordano Society recently instigated the repair and repainting of the former power station gates which were kept as features at the entrance to the residential development at Port Marine.



This beautiful pair of ornate gates once stood at the entrance to the two power stations on the dockside.

It is likely that they date from the building of Power Station A in 1927/28. If this is the case, they would have then been moved to Station Road when Power Station B was erected in the 1950s.

The gates now stand outside Portishead Primary School in Gateway Terrace which is very close to their last position when the power stations were functioning.

Although they were partly refurbished about 15 years ago, the gates were in need of complete restoration, many of the joints having rusted very badly.

Acorn Restorations, metalwork specialists based in Portishead, restored the gates and

painted them in Portishead blue and gold.

Funding was provided by the Gordano Society, Portishead Town Council and North Somerset Council.

Our officer in charge of the project was Kevin Carlton, S106 Project Officer.

Donkey Stand, Clevedon

The Clevedon Civic Society continued its valuable contribution to the management of the seafront area by organising a working party of volunteers to tidy up the Donkey Stand on 22 August.

It was amazing how much “greenery” needed to be cut back (mainly brambles) and litter collected. The area is looking much tidier as a result.



The next working party is on Monday 19 September when the society plans to paint the gates to the Community Centre.

Photos courtesy of Angela Slotte.



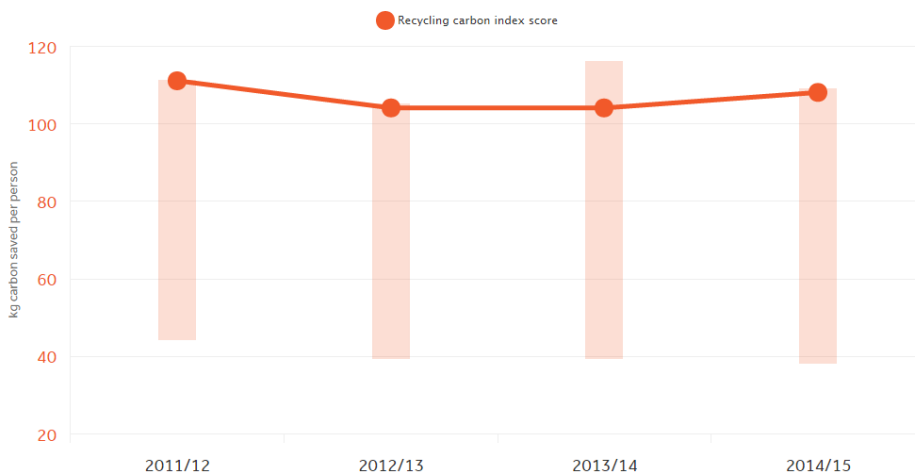
Waste

Recycling Carbon Index

North Somerset Council has been named as the second highest performer in Eunomia's Recycling Carbon Index 2014/15, with an estimated CO2 eq. saving of 108kg per person (just 1kg less than the top performing authority).

Since Eunomia first published the list four years ago North Somerset Council has consistently been in the top three highest performing authorities.

The Recycling Carbon Index calculates the amount of carbon dioxide emissions equivalent that are prevented as a result of local recycling and waste management activities. This offers an alternative to recycling rates for assessing the performance of our recycling service. Because the index gives different values to different materials, it is a better indication than simple tonnage data of the actual environmental impact the scheme is having.



About this graph: the rectangular range boxes surrounding each point on the graph indicate the maximum and minimum score for all Prospering UK authorities.

Report data	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Recycling Carbon Index Score	111	104	104	108
Recycling Carbon Index Rank	1	2	3	2
Recycling Carbon Index Rating	High Flyer	High Flyers	High Flyers	High Flyers

		13/14	14/15	
High Flyers	Cheshire West and Chester	116	109	▼
	North Somerset	104	108	▲
	Dorset Waste Partnership	96	98	▲
	Buckinghamshire	91	97	▲
	Surrey	94	97	▲
	Somerset	101	96	▼
	Devon	96	96	
	Leicestershire	99	95	▼
	Wokingham	91	93	▲
	Oxfordshire	91	93	▲
	Isle of Wight	92	91	▼

Area Officers

Potholes in Benches Lane, Winford

John Alvis of Lye Cross Farm contacted our Area Officer Gregg Brake on 2 August regarding the condition and potholes of a lane in Winford.

Gregg fortunately wasted no time in seizing the opportunity of a lull in our contractor's workload, due to holidays, and arranged repairs within the week.



Mr Alvis gratefully responded to Gregg:

*"Dear Mr Brake
Many thanks for your very swift response
to this problem; it is much appreciated by
all users of Benches Lane."*



Seafront and Events Team

Dairy Festival

Weston Dairy Festival returned to the Beach Lawns for the second year in a row from 3 to 7 August, with farming and animal displays as well as entertainment.



The event included livestock displays, sheep shearing, milking demonstrations and a petting zoo, as well as a craft marquee.

The Eat Weston Food Marquee offered the chance to taste and buy some of the best products on offer in the South West, including cheeses, meats, preserves and, of course, cider.

The Moosic Baa was open on Friday, Saturday and Sunday with local bands and artists entertaining visitors.

The Seafront and Events Team ensured all health and safety and DEFRA requirements were met, particularly around the livestock element of the event.

Weston Flower Show

The Town Square looked blooming lovely on Saturday 13 August for the annual Weston Flower Show.

Organised by the Weston Horticultural Society and supported by Weston in Bloom, the Town Council and Weston BID, the event showcased the growing, baking and craft skills of local residents.

Prizes were awarded for category winners, and local schoolchildren displayed their planted wheelbarrows.

This was the second year the event returned to the town centre and hundreds of visitors enjoyed the displays and the local producers' market. The Seafront and Events Team worked with the Horticultural Society and Weston BID on the event planning and ensured all health and safety requirements and licensing were in place.



History Weekend

The Vikings invaded Weston seafront when Weston Museum took its History Weekend to the Beach Lawns on 20 and 21 August.

The main attraction was the Hildsvin Viking Re-enactment Group who set up their encampment on the lawns, complete with Viking Oseberg tents, Dark-Age forges and metal work, bone working, a working kitchen, wolf-dogs and a raven.



The group held fierce battles in the arena with authentic-looking weapons, and held 'kiddie vikes' sessions where children were trained to be warriors.

The event proved popular with visitors on the Saturday, but unfortunately due to terrible weather conditions overnight the Vikings had to take down their encampment and the event couldn't go ahead on the Sunday. The Vikings hope to return to Weston and are looking forward to better weather next time!

The Seafront and Events Team supported the Museum staff with the logistics of running an outdoor event and ensured all paperwork and requirements were in place.

RYA 2016 P750 British Championship Thundercats Racing

The normally peaceful Clevedon seafront came alive with the roar of engines over the Bank Holiday weekend, as power boat racing came to the town on 27 and 28 August.



Clevedon hosted rounds 9 and 10 of the RYA British Thundercat Championship, with hundreds of spectators turning out to enjoy the adrenalin-filled racing.

More than 20 boats, known as racing rigs, took part in a two-day relay race between Marine Lake and Clevedon Pier.

There was four hours of racing each day accompanied by a full commentary.

The event was organised by Clevedon Chamber of Commerce, supported by a number of local businesses. The Thundercat team already races in other UK seaside resorts including Newquay in Cornwall, but this was the first time power boat racing - described as one of the world's most exhilarating water sports - has taken place in Clevedon.

The Seafront and Events Team worked with the Chair of the Chamber of Commerce and the M2M Racing Club to ensure all necessary arrangements and safety precautions were put in place to ensure the success of this exciting new event.

Alive After 5ive

A variety of *Alive After 5ive* events took place in Princess Royal Square and Big Lamp Corner in Weston every Wednesday evening throughout August.

Entertainment included the Sam Goodburn unicycle and juggling show, the Van Buren magic and illusion show, Whacky Wheelers crazy bikes, Circus Whiz circus workshops and the Bernie Bennett tightrope show.

The events encouraged people to stay in the town centre after 5pm, and were organised and staffed by the Seafront and Events Team on behalf of Weston BID.



Theatre @ The Bay

An exciting programme of theatre performances took place at the Tropicana during August, with a range of shows to suit all ages and tastes.

On 5 August children and families enjoyed *The Sea Show*, with puppets, tall tales, silly slapstick and songs. *Nutty Noah* returned to the venue on 8 and 22 August with his unique style of magic, music and mayhem. *Flit, Flap and Fly* invited children to join them in a giant bird's nest for a charming tale with live music and audience participation on 10 and 11 August.

Stones and Bones on 18 August was a mix of history and mystery, with stone-age ancestors, giants, wizards, erupting volcanos and even a dinosaur or two.



A rock 'n' rock production of *Macbeth* brought Shakespeare's story to life in an hilarious and unexpected way alongside a soundtrack of classic songs on 24 August.

More shows are booked for the next few months. The Seafront and Events Team works with Theatre Orchard and The Tobacco Factory to arrange the performances.

Other events: The Seafront and Events Team also facilitated a number of other events and ensured all paperwork was in place and health and safety requirements met. These included:

North Somerset's first ultra-marathon took place on 6 August as the Mendip Marauder covered 50 miles across the countryside from Frome, before heading into North Somerset along the West Mendip Way and finishing on the beach at Uphill.

The annual DB Max Portishead Triathlon took place on 13 August at Portishead Lido and the surrounding roads in Portishead and Weston-in-Gordano.

Weston RNLI held its annual Open Day at Anchor Head and Marine Lake on 14 August, with lifesaving skills on display and the chance to look at the lifeboats, as well as a sea rescue demonstration by helicopter.

The annual Clevedon Flower Show took place at Salthouse Fields on 27 and 28 August, with displays of flowers, vegetables and crafts, as well as stalls and refreshments.

Highways and Transport

Down Road, Portishead

Works to improve the road surface on Down Road, Portishead took place in August.

The works were completed within the school holidays to minimise disruption to the schools on Down Road and allowed us to work longer days to keep the length of the road closure to a minimum.

We used a process called In situ recycling to repair the road. In situ recycling is a cost effective method of resurfacing a road by using the existing surface while remaining at the location.

The top 50mm layer of the existing road surface is taken up and then the remaining surface is pulverised and recycled before being mixed with binding agents and re-laid to form a new road surface.

This method of road resurfacing has various advantages including:

- a faster completion time – meaning that resurfacing takes less time than other methods, reducing the amount of time a road may need to be closed for and minimising disruption.
- recycling the existing road material means that less is sent to landfill – this is environmentally responsible and saves the council money.
- because the method happens in situ there are fewer lorry movements – saving energy and potentially reducing the impact on communities near the works.
- spending less on imported materials and lower transportation costs mean that this method saves the council money.

The works also provided a perfect opportunity to invite district and town councillors to visit the site and on week two of the scheme we hosted a visit from Cllr Jolley (ward member for Portishead West) and a number of Portishead town councillors.



The councillors were able to speak to Peter King, the scheme engineer, and representatives from our contractor to find out more about the processes being used as well as ask any questions they had.

We received positive feedback afterwards with those who had attended, passing on their thanks to us for organising it.

We were able to talk through the works, explaining what we were doing and why. Hopefully in the future we'll be able to arrange similar visits when we undertake works in other areas.

The works, which cost in the region of £380,000, were organised by Peter King and supervised by Terry Bridgwood, and were undertaken by Stabilised Pavements, CH Contracting, Wainwrights, Oakus and WJ Roadmarkings, on behalf of Skanska.

Surface dressing 2016

The £800,000 surface dressing programme covering around 40 kilometers of North Somerset's roads has been largely completed.

It was on budget and two days behind schedule which, given the weather over the 12 days of the works in question, was a considerable achievement. Twitter and Facebook was used to send live updates as to where the crew was and approximate timings of when we attended site to undertake the works.

Surface dressing is undertaken by North Somerset Council as a major part of its ongoing, low-cost annual maintenance programme.



It is a widely used process that provides a simple but cost effective form of maintenance, maximising the use of limited highway maintenance funding (costing only around one-quarter of conventional resurfacing).

Surface dressing does rely on a surplus of chippings being left on the road to ensure they are properly embedded in the road surface. The road is swept at intervals so the chippings are removed fully after about two weeks. Road markings are currently in the process of being reinstated.

The scheme was organised and supervised by Peter King, with the works carried out by Kielys on behalf of Skanska.

Find out more about roadworks

Did you know that there are over 20 organisations who dig more than 4,500 holes in North Somerset's roads each year?

And each one has the potential to cause disruption to motorists, residents and businesses.

With that in mind, the council's network management team has been working hard to improve the way we can keep people informed of roadworks and other events that might impact on the public highway.

You might already be familiar with the Elgin system that you can view on the roadworks page of our [website](#).

We've recently added traffic management and communication tools to the map so, as well as viewing current and future works across the area, you can also now see details of road closures and the diversionary routes.

Not only will this assist the network team with co-ordinating works, it also means that members of the public can stay more up to date with what's happening on our network – helping them to plan and make informed decisions about their journeys.

The system is tablet and smartphone ready and details of road closures can be tweeted from within the page and syndicated via other social media channels.

Users can also set up email alerts providing disruption information – something that can be used by public transport operators, emergency services, traffic officers and utility companies as well as members of the public.

So to keep up to date with what's happening on the roads around you visit: northsomerset.roadworks.org.

'Thank yous'

Weston-super-Mare – Mansfield Road

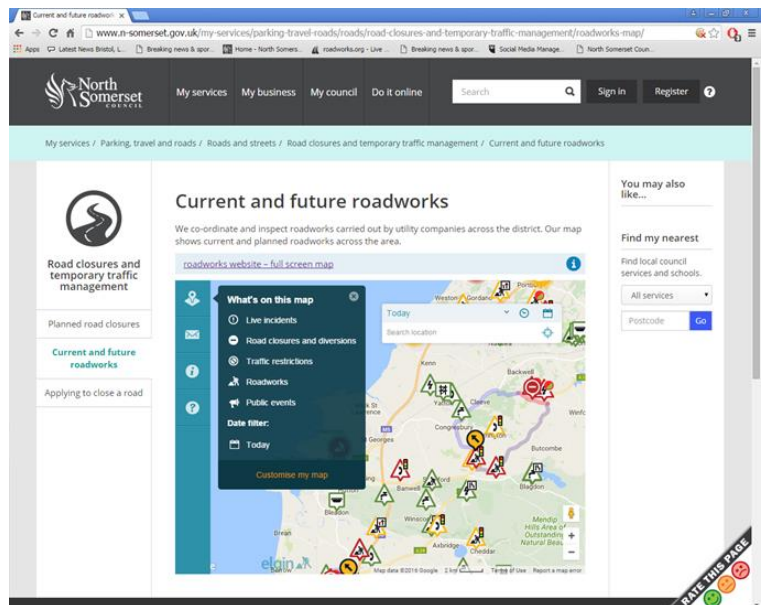
Rhian Jones emailed to praise improvements to the recycling service:

"I'd like to commend today's crew. Whilst walking down the same road today (Mansfield Road) following the recycling collection, the boxes were all neatly set down and not causing any hazard."

Weston-super-Mare – Ellenborough Park South

Kate and James Jones wrote to thank Area Officer Pepe Sanjurjo for arranging a contractor to clear the gutters along Ellenborough Park South:

"We met Andy this morning, a very pleasant young man who has made a really thorough job of quite a task. We would like to commend him to his organisation, as I suspect they get little praise for their daily tasks. Ruth, our neighbour, is also pleased to have this work done. She, together with us, do a daily litter-pick and this has really encouraged us to keep it up."



You and your team have a mammoth task, on a daily basis we think our small effort is very worthwhile as we all care very much about our environment and love living in Weston-super-Mare.

On a lighter note, tomorrow will be the Sixtieth Anniversary of our marriage and you can imagine our pleasure in having such a lovely clean road - it's a bit like a gift."

Pill

Mike Nixon, of Rudleigh Avenue, wrote in to thank Daran Bevan, Recycling and Waste Officer, for sorting out a number of missed and non-collection issues in a most courteous manner.

Yatton

Anna Curvan, of Lodge Close, rang to say how lovely her waste collectors are. They always have a chat with her and, although some of the crew have changed over time, they are all equally pleasant.



Councillor Elfan Ap Rees
Deputy Leader of the Council,
Executive Member for Planning,
Highways, Transport,
Economic Development,
Housing



Councillor Felicity Baker
Executive Member for Community,
Tourism and Leisure, Corporate Communications,
Electoral Services, Libraries, Licensing



Councillor Peter Bryant
Executive Member for Waste, Streets and Open Spaces

If you would like to know more about Streetscene or our work, contact:
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