

The Mound Recycling

Introduction

There have for a long time been complaints from residents about the state of the Mound recycling area at Tattenham Corner. Recently the situation appears to have become worse with massive cardboard over spill and illegal fly tipping. Just for a record over a period of 10 days pictures were taken on a daily basis of the area.

Images for successive days are shown. As a simplistic comparison the state of the new recycling area at Burgh Heath ASDA is shown.

It can be seen that over the time period the days when the situation was very bad were Saturday and Sunday, with Sunday evening being the absolute worst. Monday morning is still a mess while the separate cardboard and fly tipping collections are underway. A lot of cardboard is dumped on the Tuesday, presumably the presence of the council vehicles on Monday makes disposal difficult and the fact that the bins are again empty on Tuesday morning. The pictures show that on the Tuesday a lot of the cardboard is left on top of the bins, while many bins are barely used.

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday are relatively tidy, then the whole area becomes very untidy through Saturday and by Sunday evening is overflowing into the car park, with very large amounts of illegal cardboard disposal and fly tipping evident.

The rather tired and outdated signage warning of CCTV and prosecutions is obviously being ignored. This appears to be the case for other similar council recycling sites in the area.

Some ideas on mitigation and prevention are suggested at the end of the pictures section.

Prepared by the Tattenham Corner & Preston Residents Association



The Mound Recycling



| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Bin count: | |
| Card & Paper | 20 |
| Glass & Jars | 4 |
| Plastics | 4 |
| Cans & Aerosols | 2 |
| Clothing | 4 |

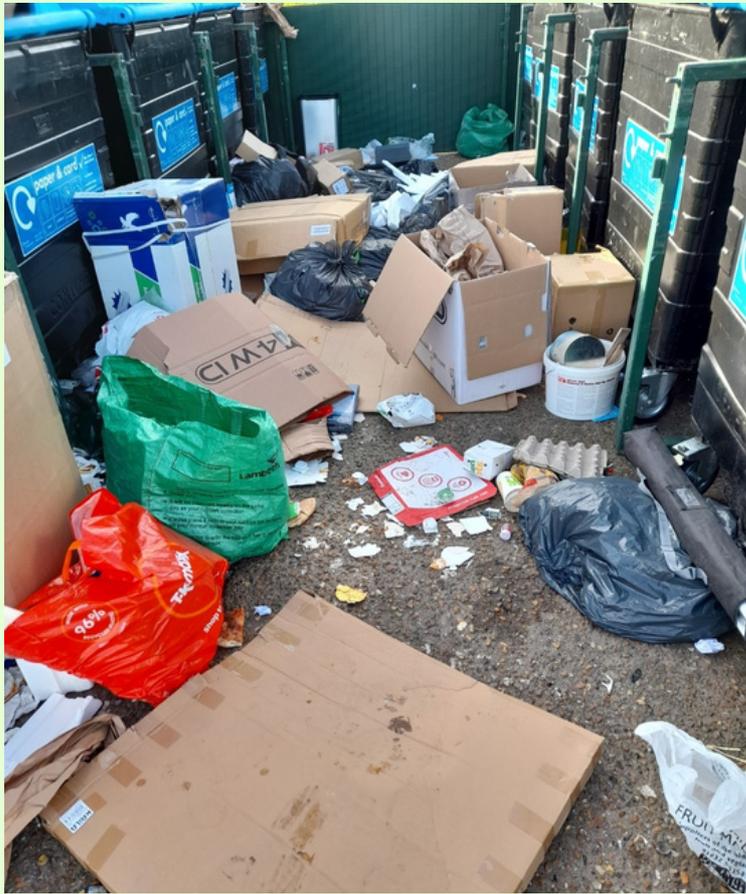


| | | | | |
|------------------|----------|----------|---------------|---------------|
| Cans Aerosols | Plastics | Plastics | Glass Jars | Glass Jars |
| | | | | |
| Cans Aerosols | Plastics | Plastics | Glass Jars | Glass Jars |
| | | | | |
| Cardboard Only | | | | |
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| Cardboard Only | | | | |
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| Cardboard Only | | | | |
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| Cardboard Only | | | | |
| | | | | |

The Mound Sunday Afternoon Jan 28



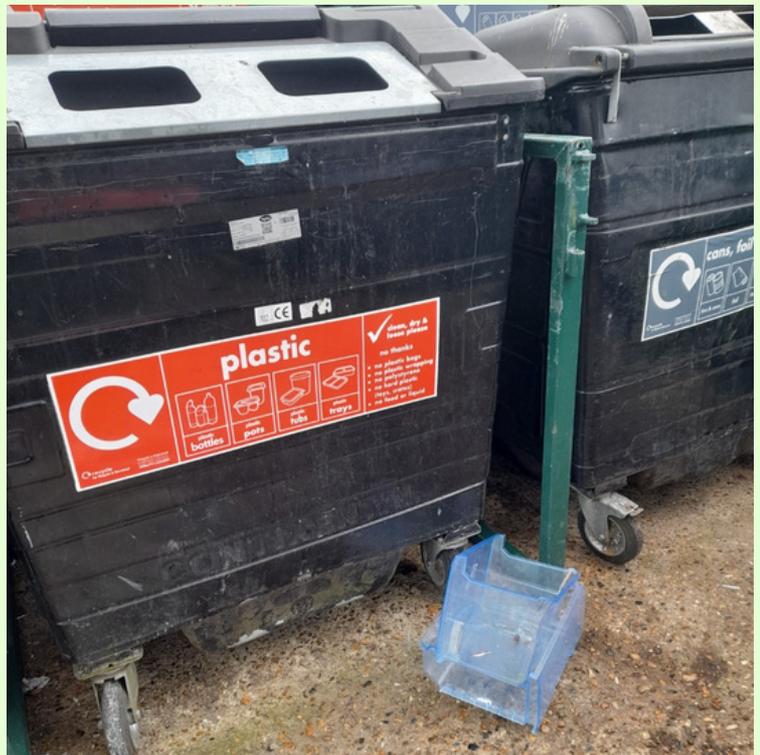
The Mound Sunday Afternoon Jan 28



Comments:

Fly tipping included an office chair, dozens of polystyrene herb containers, a full carton (640 pcs) of Covid test kits, cheap home office furniture pieces, and many plastic bags of general household waste, including food.

The Mound Monday Morning Jan 29



1100 - 1200 : Comments.
Before and after clearing by caged crew team who take away the fly tipping after the cardboard is cleared.

The Mound Tuesday Morning Jan 30



1130: Comments.
A large quantity of cardboard already dumped. Seven cardboard bins out of 20 nearly empty. One bin facing the wrong way so not accessible. Bins with no lids filling up first. Cardboard being placed on top of bins with lids due to limited access for large boxes, even when broken down.

The Mound Wednesday Morning Jan 31



1030: Comments.
Tidy. Wood dumped in cardboard bin. Shopping bag full of cans left on bin, access apertures too small.

The Mound Thursday Afternoon Feb 1



1430: Comments.
Tidy. Cleared today ? Fly tip included polystyrene boxes, broken plumbing appliances and some sort of seat in cardboard bin. One cardboard bin now repositioned the correct way.

The Mound Friday Morning Feb 2



1030 : Comments.
Tidy. A lot of DIY/Home Improvements packing, possibly tipped by installation contractors. The open topped bins are well utilised.

Fly tipping picked up ?



The Mound Saturday Feb 3



1100 and 1230 : Comments.
Much more cardboard and fly tipping. Several cardboard bins under utilised. A lot of glass, cans and plastic dumped in unopened plastic bags.
Last cardboard pickup ?

The Mound Sunday Feb 4



1130 : Comments.
Very large amounts of cardboard and fly tipping completely obstructing first bay. Back of bay inaccessible and comparatively clear. Large amounts of fly tipped plastic bags obstructing second bay area.

The Mound Sunday/Monday Feb 5



Sunday evening. Compare this to Sunday morning. Dumping continued after dark.



0745 : Comments.

Some clearing already done by council crew. The top picture taken Sunday evening gives a good idea of just how much cardboard and fly tip was dumped over the two days of the weekend.

Overspill obstructing vehicle access.

Note: RBBC staff, unprompted, recommended no lids, working cameras and good lighting.

ASDA Recycling



Above: Thursday Feb 1st. Below 1200 Monday Feb 5th.



Monday 1200: Comments
Some cardboard overspill evident, although most cardboard bins are well utilised.
Some fly tipping evident.

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Bin count: | |
| Card & Paper | 11 |
| Glass & Jars | 3 |
| Plastics | 5 |
| Cans & Aerosols | 2 |
| Clothing | 4 |

The Mound Tuesday Feb 6



1100 : Comments.
A lot of cardboard already left. As usual bins without lids filled up first.
One dumped carpet cleaner.
Relatively tidy.

The Mound Wednesday Feb 7



1100 : Comments.
Relatively tidy.
Some rubble sacks. Fly tip cushions in cardboard bin.

The Mound Recycling

Reasons for Problem

Recently there appear to be increased amounts of cardboard and fly tipping at the Tattenham Corner recycling centre. Possible reasons include:

- Closure of the recycling centre at Epsom Sainsburys Kiln Lane.
- No equivalent recycling area in the Preston Estate and the new Tadworth Gardens.
- The fact that the Blenheim Road Recycling Centre is now closed two days a week.
- The easy access to Tattenham Corner from Epsom and surrounding areas.
- Businesses disposing of large quantities of cardboard is a problem.
- Probable that a large proportion of tipping is from outside the TC & P ward. In space of less than an hour observed two business vans leaving cardboard, from Sutton and Morden.
- Spreading awareness that the site is readily available for high levels of cardboard disposal and illegal fly tipping.

Mitigation Ideas

- Large amount of cardboard over spill and dumping due to inability to tip easily into bins. Hence significant number of cardboard bins empty or nearly empty. Some large pieces of cardboard simply cannot physically be folded down to a small size.
- Noted many cardboard bins underused due to access. Remove lids to encourage tipping into bin and not dumping on top or on ground. If any bins are unlidded locate to rear to encourage these to be filled first.
- Maybe increase cardboard bin capacity and reduce others.
- Use more extensive and clear No Parking road markings adjacent to the area.

Prevention ideas

- Height restriction. Keep out large business vehicles.
- Install **new** signage emphasising working CCTV/ANPR and successful prosecutions
- Installing effective CCTV/ANPR with subsequent successful prosecutions might work, or at least bring in income to offset fly tipping clean up costs.
- Install motion activated lighting and cameras for after dark activities.

Enforcement

- Install motion activated flood lighting and cameras.
- Have RBBC staff on site at random times to advise users of correct procedures and fly tipping laws.
- Investigate checking addresses in fly tip for evidence.
- It appears that council policy is that any photographic evidence used in prosecutions will require the person who took the photo to be identified. Can this be changed. ?

Comments:

- Is commercial and business waste allowed at the Mound.
- Cardboard is worth money. Is the income from cardboard more than the collection costs involved. What are the numbers.
- It is my understanding that Epsom Recycling Centre charges for commercial and business waste ?
- How many prosecutions for fly tipping, which sites, how much money actually received.
- Exactly how is mobile camera recording deployed. How effective is it.
- Possibility of using CIL money to finance any enforcement/prevention measures.
- Bearing in mind that any restrictions or hard limiting of cardboard disposal and fly tipping at the Mound may cause more dispersed fly tipping at other locations resulting in much more time travelling to pick up the waste, is the current situation a case of lesser of two evils.

For consideration:

- Mixed recycling, have we the capability? It will free up space for more cardboard bins.
- Doorstep collection, bigger bins?
- What are we missing out on if the operatives are constantly clearing the site, leaving time for little else.
- Is there a cost to RBBC to send items to Landfill ?

Contamination

When discussing the number of cardboard bins with or without lids the issue of contamination and its effects was raised. It was explained how excessive amounts of contamination can affect the quality of the cardboard waste, and that there are adverse financial consequences of having such waste rejected by the council's cardboard recipient organisation.

- It was noted that recently at Christmas all the lids were removed for a short period of time. Out of interest was any change in the amount of contamination noted ?
- During our short observation period some large objects were noted in the unlidded cardboard bins. Some of these are in the pictures. It was also noted that non cardboard waste was present in some of the lidded bins. Which may indicate that the small openings do not always prevent contamination of the cardboard.