

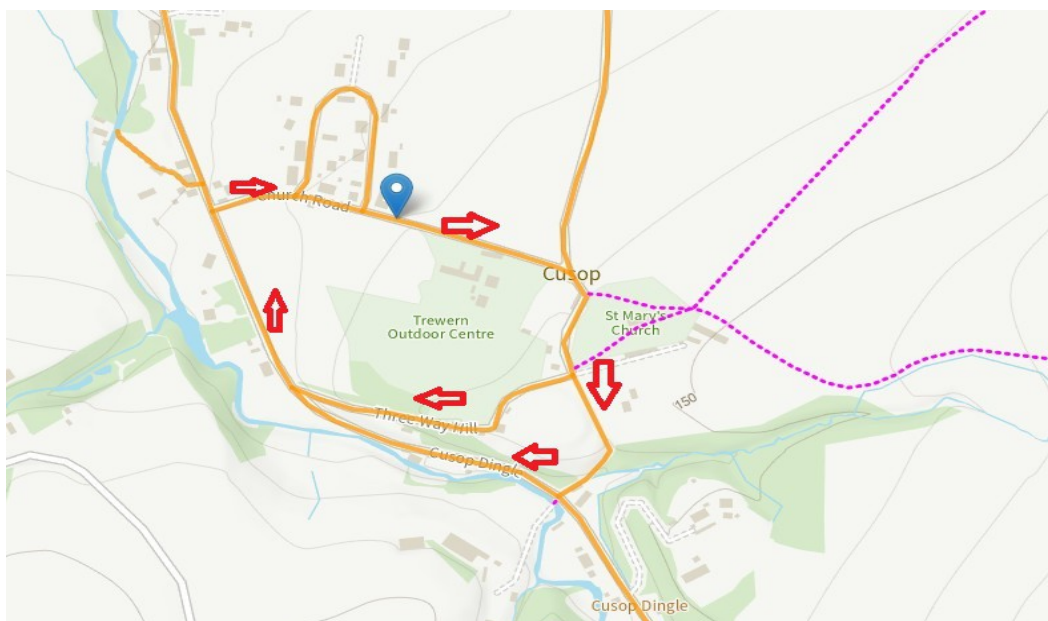
CUSOP PARISH COUNCIL

8th July 2026

DOG WASTE: REPORT OF THE CLERK

Introduction

1. Councillors have been approached by residents seeking addition dog waste bins. A specific request from a resident has now been received for dog waste bins on the popular dog-walking loop from the junction of Cusop Dingle (U75246) with Church Road (U75242) then down either Three Way Hill (U75241) or the track to Old Mill (U75249) to their junction with Cusop Dingle, and returning to the start, as shown below:



2. Until recently the Parish Council placed and owned ten small dog waste bins. They were removed six years ago when it became apparent they were not emptied regularly. The Council agreed to the removal of the final bin - at the Council's playground at Cusop Dingle - earlier this year and for the same reason (14th January 2026, Minute 2025/117). There are no Herefordshire Council litter or dog waste bins in the parish. There is a privately operated litter bin at the Co-Op, Newport Street.

Option 1: Gather evidence which persuades Herefordshire Council to place bins

3. I approached Herefordshire Council's group manager for Streetscene operations. His reply was: "At this moment in time, we are not installing news bins unless there is clear evidence that a new installation is required (i.e. no bin in the local area). We have over 1,400 across the county, our current focus is to ensure these are being emptied as required by M Group before we look to install new provision." M Group is Herefordshire's new public realm contractor: they began work on 1st June 2026.

4. The "clear evidence" Herefordshire requires includes reports of dog fouling – which can be made online at <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/dogpoop> and evidence that there are no adequate bins already placed. Encouraging residents to make reports online – and to let the parish council know

the locations and the reference number generated by the complaint – would generate a body of evidence.

5. Herefordshire install BX45G 2550 Boxrap Derby steel bins (pictured): they do not install the smaller (often lamp-post) mounted dog waste bins that were once popular, and which Cusop operated, because they fill too quickly and as a result cause an offensive waste nuisance.

6. It is worth noting that the Council has the power to contribute towards the cost of Herefordshire Council providing or emptying bins, if it wishes (Local Government Act 1972, section 136).



Option 2: The Parish Council Installs and Empties Dog Waste Bins

7. The parish council has no specific power in regard to dog waste, but is empowered to provide litter bins (Litter Act 1983, sections 5 and 6). Bagged dog waste is regarded as non-hazardous but offensive.¹ To place bins on the highway verge would likely require a structures license from the Highways Authority (Highways Act 1980, section 177). In practise this means that the parish council could only instal the types of bin preferred by Herefordshire Council, the Boxrap Derby as above. The manufacturer quotes a price of £369 excluding VAT.²

8. Herefordshire Council does not empty bins it does not own, and if the parish council were to install bins it would need to arrange for them to be emptied. There are two approaches: collection from a central point, or from individual bins.

9. I approached Veolia UK for an indicative price for weekly collection from a single collection point (a larger wheeled bin into which the output of individual bins would be placed). Their price was an annual cost of £3,200 excl VAT for a weekly collection of non-hazardous waste. Arrangements would need to be made to collect sacks from individual bins and place them in the hopper at the single collection point. This poses additional cost and/or organisational and risk issues.

10. Alternative solutions include direct collection by a specialist from individual bins. I approached Direct365³ for an indicative price for fortnightly removal from 140L wheely bins, which are

1 <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/classify-different-types-of-waste-your-legal-responsibilities>

2 <https://www.broxap.com/derby-standard-litter-bin.html>

3 <https://www.direct365.co.uk/waste/cat-and-dog-waste-disposal>

provided free and remain the contractor's property. The cost of collection is £99 per visit per bin, in addition to £2.99 monthly duty of care paperwork for disposal of offensive waste. Thus if one bin was emptied fortnightly this would £2574 plus £35.88 for duty of care, a total of £2609.88 excl VAT. The price for two bins would be £5183.88 excl VAT. The advantage of this approach is no capital cost, and a 12 month contract, so the council could abandon the project if it proved unsuccessful or unpopular.

Conclusions

11. Prices are provided for the purposes of discussion/scoping the likely cost. Were the council to proceed with either approaches the usual procurement requirements of the Financial Regulations would apply. The eventual cost may be higher or lower.

12. The parish council has already attempted, and abandoned, the provision of its own dog waste bins. The problem of waste disposal which prompted the abandonment can be resolved, but both solutions involve continuing cost. The costs should be understood in the context of Cusop Parish Council 2025-26 expenditure of £31,000.

13. The solution offered by contractors such as Direct365 would involve the long-term placing wheelie bins in conspicuous locations, a price which residents may find disagreeable. The solution offered by Veolia implies higher up-front capital costs and the cost, or nuisance, of collection from individual bins. In both cases this will involve management time and a consideration of insurance and other risks.

14. There are few litter bins in the parish, whether on the Dingle loop mapped above, or elsewhere. The parish is underserved and this could be corrected.

Recommendation

15. The Council is recommended to adopt Option 1 to accumulate evidence that will justify the placing of dog waste and litter bins by Herefordshire Council in various places in the parish, and to encourage residents to help provide that evidence by making online reports of dog fouling.

16. That at a future date the Council consider exercising its rights under Local Government Act 1972, section 136 and/or Highways Act 1980, section 130.

David Thame
25th June 2026