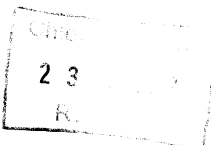


**CATSHILL AND NORTH MARLBROOK
PARISH COUNCIL**

Clerk: Mrs. C. A. Russam
75 Rutherford Road,
Bromsgrove,
B60 3SA.
Email clerk@catshillandnorthmarlbrook-pc.gov.uk
Tel. No. 07813671899
Date 15th October 2007

Kevin Dicks
Chief Executive
Bromsgrove District Council
The Council House
Burcot Lane
BROMSGROVE
B60 1AA



Dear Mr Dicks

WINTER GARDEN WASTE COLLECTIONS

The Parish Council of Catshill and North Marlbrook understand that you have received a letter of complaint from Barnt Green, Cofton Hackett, and Lickey And Blackwell Parish Councils about your decision to suspend collection of garden waste during the winter months. We would like to support their letter and also express our disappointment at your decision.

Last winter we too received a large number of complaints on this subject. Householders believe that the council increases their revenue each year by 5%, whilst reducing their services to the rate payers. While the private sector are not increasing wages by the same amount, householders are becoming increasingly poorer by generally paying greater taxes of which Council Tax is one part.

Whilst not collecting garden waste the overall effect is a very negative impact on your residents. This consists of greater pollution of vehicles visiting the household waste collection points, increased flytipping, and a general feeling of being treated as fools.

We have note that the aforementioned councils have suggested a reduced period of suspension. Catshill and North Marlbrook would like to suggest that the suspension is lifted to be replaced by a monthly (4 weekly) collection. This would appease all concerned. Using your figures the lorries would be 2/3rds full and consumption would be as normal. Your residents would feel that you have given them back a little of what they pay. Finally the environment would benefit as originally planned when this scheme was introduced.

We hope you will consider this option favourably, and wish you a peaceful Christmas and New Year!

Yours sincerely

Cllr. Gordon Witcomb,
Chairman, Catshill and North Marlbrook Parish Council