

# **PRESS RELEASE**

## **CHILDREN JOIN BATTLE AGAINST DOG FOULING (WITH PIC)**

Local schoolchildren have joined the battle against dog fouling.

The youngsters from Appleton Wiske Primary School invited Hambleton's Dog Warden, Dave Granger, along with Alison Gray from Dogs Trust to talk to them about responsible dog ownership.

The children learned about the diseases carried in dog mess and heard how the Dog Warden service encourages dog owners to clear up after their pets. They were urged to pass the message on to friends and family in a bid to keep the streets clean of dog mess – and if necessary report irresponsible dog owners to the council.

They are taking on the fight against dog fouling by designing posters highlighting the anti-social behavior and asked their guest speaker to judge more than 80 posters - the winners have been reproduced to display on the streets around the school.

Councillor Stephen Watson, Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Environment, said: "I congratulate the youngsters for doing this. Unfortunately it's the irresponsible few dog owners who let the side down and they need to know that they run the risk of a heavy fine if they are caught."

Anyone caught allowing their dog to mess in a public place may be issued with a fixed penalty notice for £50. Failure to pay could lead to a fine of up to £1,000.

For more information, or to report a dog owner to the Council, contact 01609 779977.

The winning poster designers are pictured with Cllr Stephen Watson (left), Dave Granger and Alison Gray.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

Aly Thompson (communications officer) on 01609 767063

**October 19, 2017**