

Our local Councillors for Castle Ward

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About Semilong

Semilong is located a short walk north of Northampton town centre, adjacent to the large Racecourse recreational ground and Millers Meadow, beside St Andrews Road. Our neighbourhood benefits from being in walking distance of the main bus and train stations and so is ideally placed to help people live a life that does not rely on the use of a private car.

History

Semilong was built on land that was previously used as 'Market Gardens' and so many residents now successfully grow plants and vegetables in the quality soil - to the envy of people living elsewhere in Northampton.

As Victorian Northampton grew, Semilong developed from its beginnings in the area of Hester Street and Semilong Road and then spread to become a neighbourhood of over 2,000 homes.

Perceptions of Semilong

This neighbourhood some times gets a bad 'press'. This is appreciated as the news from this area from the 1980's to 2003 has been less than positive. Even today, people who have never lived here give inaccurate views of how things are. This guide is designed to help people appreciate the benefits of our area and to extend to others the reasons why it is 'on the up'.

Semilong Today

The problems of the past are well managed thanks to the visibility of our Police 'Safer Community Team' who are keen to see this neighbourhood improve as much as local people want it to. The way they do this is by meeting monthly with residents and recording opinions whenever they meet with residents during their normal work. They are also joined by our Neighbourhood Warden who removes abandoned cars, reports graffiti and sorts out fly-tipping. The problems of the past no longer seem to be a problem to residents.

Semilong today also benefits from the continued interest of the Semilong Community Forum. This volunteer group has been instrumental in removing phone boxes that were used for anti-social behaviour, informing how Millers Meadow should be developed and has ensured Alliston Gardens Youth and Community Centre gained funding.

These day's the community atmosphere continues with local resident dog walkers meeting each day on the Racecourse, the local Post Office being open Monday to Saturday to provide all the essential services including foreign currency, a launderette, a Co-op and other businesses all over the neighbourhood. Quite simply, there are few neighbourhoods and others that call themselves 'villages' in and around Northampton which really enjoy the benefits that Semilong people have previously and continue to enjoy.