

Westfield Parish Council



The Oval Office, St Peter's Business Park
Westfield, BA3 3BX
Phone: 01761 410669
Email: council@westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk

Chairman: Cllr P Wilkinson Parish Clerk: Ms L J Close FSLCC

Established 2011

All Council Meetings are open to the Public and Press

5th June 2023

TO: (a) All Members of the Environment and Development Committee
Cllrs Diana Cooper (Chair), Geoff Fuller, Ron Hopkins (Vice Chair), James Honess,
Eleanor Jackson, Paul Millard, Pat Williams.

(b) All other Members of the Council for information

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the **Environment and Development Committee** of Westfield Parish Council on **Monday 10th July 2023 at 7pm at the Board Room, Oval Office, Cobblers Way, Westfield BA3 3BX.**

The meeting will consider the items set out below.

Ms L J Close
Parish Clerk

Before the meeting there will be a 15-minute public session to enable residents of Westfield to ask questions, and make comments.

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for absence and to consider the reasons given** Council to receive apologies for absence and, if appropriate, to approve the reasons given.

2. **Declarations of interest and dispensations** Members to declare any interests they may have in agenda items, in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Code of Conduct. The Parish Council may consider agreeing a dispensation, providing the request is put in writing and the dispensation is allowed on the grounds set out in s.33 of the Localism Act 2011.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting** – To agree the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting held on 12th June 2023 (**Pages 1-4**)
4. **Neighbourhood Plan Review Working Group** verbal update
5. **Planning applications for consideration (Page 5)**
6. **Planning decisions (None at time of agenda)**
7. **B&NES Local Plan: The Future of the Somer Valley and Surrounding Areas Consultation (Page 6)**
8. **Somer Valley Links Project – Consultation from WECA (Page 7)**
9. **Report on speeding data collected on A367 w/c 7th June 2023 (Pages 8-10)**
10. **Enterprise Zone** – response from Sophie Broadfield, Director of Sustainable Communities (**Page 11**)
11. **The extended Bio Diversity Duty for Public Authorities (Page 12)**
12. **Meeting with the Dog Warden 22/6/23 (Pages 13-14)**
13. **Recreation Ground – Norton Hill**
 - New Office – verbal update
14. **Recreation Ground – Westhill**
 - Changing Rooms – verbal update
15. **Waterside Valley**
 - Waterside Valley Hedgerow Improvements – verbal update of meeting on site on 3rd July with Sonia Parsons of CPRE
16. **Events**
 - Grant Presentation Event – verbal update (Cllr Cooper)
 - 80th Anniversary of D-Day 6th June 2024
17. **Barriers on the footpaths at Inner Elm Terrace / Wesley Ave and Woodpecker Ave / Lynton Road**
 - Consultation responses (**Pages 15-31**)
 - Quotes/funding for barriers – verbal update
18. **Facilities for Young People - Meeting with the Police** – Verbal update

To resolve that, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within those paragraphs indicated in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.

19. Quotes

- Bridges at Waterside Valley
- Dogs on Leads signs

Westfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Environment and Development Committee Meeting held in the boardroom at the Oval Office, Cobblers Way, Westfield on 12th June 2023 commencing at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs Diana Cooper (Chair), James Honess, Ron Hopkins (Vice Chair), Eleanor Jackson, Phil Wilkinson and Pat Williams

Also attending: Lesley Close, Parish Clerk, Tracey Stephens, Deputy Clerk,

Absent: Cllrs Geoff Fuller and Paul Millard

Phoebe Webster of Somer Valley Rediscovered and Emily Malik of EcoWild attended to present the work they were undertaking on Social Prescribing. Attendees would be given activities outside all year around – six times six week sessions - and they were requesting permission to use a fire bowl on the land at Waterside Valley. A full draft risk assessment had been sent and it was proposed that the fire bowl would be used to keep people warm in the colder weather as this prescription was to get people moving around outside in all weathers.

19. Apologies for absence and to consider the reasons given

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Fuller and Millard.

20. Declarations of interest and dispensation

There were no declarations of interest.

21. Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved: The minutes of the last meeting held on 22nd May 2023 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

22. Neighbourhood Plan working group

Cllr Hopkins reported on the resolution to form a working group and put forward a proposed amended Neighbourhood Plan.

23. Planning applications for consideration

There were no objections to the following:

23/01956/FUL	1 Shelley Road	Erection of a single storey side extension, erection of wall to south-west boundary and increase height of south-east boundary
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**30.05.2023 22/02932/FUL CURO Orchard Vale, Midsomer Norton
Isabel Daone Demolition of Nos.26 and 28 Orchard Vale and
development of 60 new homes with open space, landscaping and all
associated infrastructure (Cross boundary application with Mendip).**

Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed Dated

Westfield Parish Council

Committee reiterated previous comments. “ Whilst this is a cross border planning application, it is recognised that the highways implications will be most severe within B&NES. This is true not just in the immediate vicinity of the application, but also within the wider highways infrastructure. In particular, Westfield Parish Council is concerned about the impact of this application on traffic on the A367. The Parish Council asks that this is examined in detail. The additional 60 houses will place an undue burden on this road which already suffers severe congestion and high levels of air pollution through the Westfield community.”

Committee also commented that there would be considerable extra pressure on local services

24.Planning Decisions

There were no planning decisions to note

25.Local Green Space review

Resolved: There were no spaces in Westfield to put forward under this review.

Parking Restrictions Consultation – there were two proposed parking restriction notices applying to Westfield. The restriction on Wells Road was not clear. There were no comments relating to proposed restrictions at St Peters Road.

Resolved: Clerk to clarify the length of the restriction proposed on Wells Road.

WESTlocal – A fund was available from WECA with the view to help communities design and run their own version of new public transport in their area. How to access this fund was discussed.

Resolved: The Clerk to contact a coach company in the area to discuss further.

26.Meeting with the Police

An update was given on the meeting with the Police, Sam Plummer of Youth Connect and a local parent.

Resolved: (1) to obtain a quote for a barrier at Inner Elm Terrace and Lynton Road to Woodpecker Avenue to prevent bikes from travelling at speed in the area.

(2) to consult with residents near these pathways.

(3) to then seek funding from the PCC Road Safety Fund and the High Sheriff’s Neighbourhood and PCSP Policing Fund.

(4) to try to arrange the next meeting at 6pm on 10/7/23

Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed **Dated**

27. Recreation Ground – Norton Hill

New Office – It was noted that the closing date for tenders had been extended to the end of June.

Damage to coping stones by tennis court

Resolved: to accept the quote from Foundations Up for £660 to repair and replace the coping stones by the steps to the tennis court.

Football at Norton Hill and Westhill –

A report was given on a meeting with representatives from Westfield A and Somer Valley Reserves, who both use Norton Hill currently and would like to use Westhill when facilities are available. The meeting was to discuss obtaining funding to repair the football pitches.

Resolved: Office to submit a grant application to the Football Foundation with the assistance of Simon Cox of Westfield Football Club and Tim Wells of Somer Valley Football Club.

28. Recreation Ground - Westhill

Dogs on leads – Comments from concerned residents were received.

Resolved: The Clerk to discuss with the Dog Warden at B&NES to investigate a way of encouraging dog walkers to abide by the rule to keep dogs on leads.

29. Waterside Valley

Hedgerow improvements – communication had been received from Sonia Parsons of CPRE regarding the possibility of training volunteers to manage the hedgerows at Waterside Valley.

Resolved: to set up a meeting with Sonia Parsons and any volunteers that may be interested.

Motorbikes – an email had been received from a resident about motorbikes between Westfield and Haydon Batch. This had been discussed with the police and the resident encouraged to discuss further with the police.

Resolved: to respond to the resident advising action is being taken.

Fire bowl used by EcoWild – Committee discussed the proposition given by Phoebe Webster and Emily Malik at the start of the meeting.

Resolved: to allow the use of a fire bowl by EcoWild with the proviso that it was used in one designated area and the risk assessment

Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed **Dated**

Westfield Parish Council

ensured proper disposal after sessions had completed, by a vote of 6 for and 1 against.

30. Events

Possible Fun Day at Norton Hill – No further communication had been received from Dan Moyse so no further action to be taken.

Remembrance –

Resolved: (1) to thank Chris Maddox of Bridges for the invitation to join them at their Remembrance service on Friday 10th November.
(2) Cllr Jackson reported that the Methodist Church would include the laying of wreaths at the Memorial Stone on Remembrance Sunday. No event for Remembrance is to be organised by the Parish Council.

Grant presentation event – Cllr Cooper was to discuss this further with Mardons.

It was agreed to exclude the press and public on the grounds that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

31. Quotes

Fencing at Ash Tree Court –

Resolved: to accept the quote from C&R Fencing for £583 to repair the fencing at Ash Tree Court/Westhill Recreation Ground with chain link fencing, asking if a different colour would make the fence more visible. Should this be the case and more expensive, to delegate authority to the Chair of the Committee and Chair of the Council to decide whether to go ahead.

The meeting closed at 8.27pm

Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed Dated

Westfield Parish Council Planning Applications – JULY 2023

Date Rec'd	App No	Applicant	Location	Case Officer	Proposal	Response By
19/06/23	23/02143/TPO	Mr Tony Matthews	Somer View, 39a Nightingale Way	Jane Brewer	Lime Tree, TPO 533/35, reduce main canopy by up to 2m max. Reduce to areas/limbs further than max 2m, remove identified lower limbs, remove all epicormic growth from main stem, remove deadwood	10 th July
21/06/23	23/02244/FUL	Larner Sing Ltd	Byfields Wells Road Westfield Radstock Bath And North East Somerset BA3 3US	Owen Hoare	Remove of existing single storey side extensions, part of the existing swimming pool and building and all the garage outbuildings. Construction of new single storey side extensions, a new car ort and a new Gym building (Resubmission).	12/07/23
22/06/23	23/02064/OUT	Mr Mike Hill	60 Wells Road	Danielle Milsom	Erection of 2no. dwellings on land to west of existing dwelling (Outline application with all matters reserved)	13/07/2023

Indicates application received since agenda printed

Parish Clerk

From: Eleanor Jackson (Cllr) <Eleanor_Jackson@BATHNES.GOV.UK>
Sent: 19 June 2023 21:44
To: Parish Clerk
Subject: FW: The future the Somer Valley and surrounding areas: have your say

From: Planning Policy <Planning_Policy@bathnes.gov.uk>
Sent: 07 June 2023 14:29
Subject: The future the Somer Valley and surrounding areas: have your say

Dear Consultee,

The future the Somer Valley and surrounding areas: have your say

We are pleased to announce that the next phase of workshops for the development of Bath and North East Somerset's new Local Plan is now underway. You are invited to join us once again at a workshop on 26th July 2023, where your invaluable insights and perspectives will help address key issues and start to prepare options for shaping the future of our local area. Together, we can collectively shape a vision that ensures a prosperous and sustainable future for all.

Your involvement in these workshops will feed into a formal, District-wide public consultation later this year, relating to which options should be included in the Local Plan.

A representative from your parish is invited to the following workshop:

- **Somer Valley Area Workshop**
- Date & Time: 26th July 2023 at 16:30 – 19:00
- Location: Somer Centre, Gullock Tynning, Midsomer Norton, BA3 2UH

To confirm attendance, please click on the following [link](#), and fill in the attendance form

Please note, due to venue limitations we can only accommodate one representative from each parish. Apologies for any inconvenience caused by this, but it is necessary to get a wide range of stakeholder views.

If you are filling out the attendance form on behalf of somebody else, please include the workshop attendee's name and email address on the form.

Some parishes and stakeholders may be invited to multiple workshops, due to the sessions being place-based. If this is the case, please feel free to send a representative to multiple sessions, but please note that you will need to fill out a separate attendance form for each workshop.

If you have any queries, please contact the planning policy team at; planning_policy@bathnes.gov.uk

Regards

Richard Daone
Deputy Head of Planning (Policy)
Bath & North East Somerset Council
planning_policy@bathnes.gov.uk

Parish Clerk

From: Consultation <Consultation@westofengland-ca.gov.uk>
Sent: 26 June 2023 17:59
Subject: Somer Valley Links project: Public consultation begins today (Monday 26 June)

The West of England Mayoral Combined Authority is working with local councils to improve transport across our region. We want to provide better and more sustainable transport to help people move around more easily, lower carbon emissions and improve the environment we live in.

We are working on several projects with Bath & North East Somerset Council to put in place the infrastructure to improve bus services and walking, cycling and - if you use a mobility scooter or wheelchair – wheeling opportunities. This is part of our vision for a greener, better connected transport network in the West of England.

One of these projects is the “Somer Valley Links” which covers travel between Midsomer Norton, Westfield and Radstock and Bath /Bristol along the A37, A362 and A367.

The proposals include:

- Improved bus stops
- Extended bus lanes and improved junctions
- New cycling and walking routes
- Mobility hubs - where people can switch between different types of transport easily.

The changes are intended to bring practical benefits like more punctual, quicker buses and more sustainable travel options. But there will also be challenges such as reduced car parking in some places. We have limited space on our roads, and we recognise the solutions won't be perfect for everyone. There will be tough choices to make along the way.

Feedback from local residents will help us understand whether we've got the initial proposed changes right and understand what matters to them most as we consider the options available to us all.

The consultation runs for six weeks from today (Monday 26 June), and people can take part on several ways, including:

A consultation website www.haveyoursaywest.co.uk which outlines the proposals in detail. People can have their say by completing a digital survey.

Webinar - Thursday 6 July, 6.30pm - 7.30pm

Drop-in events

- Wednesday 12 July, 2pm-7pm: Trinity Methodist Church, Radstock, BA3 3XA
- Wednesday 19 July, 3pm-8pm: St Luke's Church, Hatfield Road, Bath, BA2 2BD
- Monday 24 July, 2pm-7pm: Memorial Hall, Church Lane, Farrington Gurney, BS39 6UA

Please share this information and encourage as many people as possible to attend the events or complete the survey. To help you, we are putting together a digital pack with key information and social media posts to share if you wish – we will forward this in the next couple of days.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us on consultation@westofengland-ca.gov.uk

Data on speeds through Westfield w/c 5th June in four locations along the A367

The radars were put in position for one week from 6th June. Below is a report on the volume of traffic in an *average* day over the week.

Just North of Charlton Road

Southbound

	Number of vehicles	15-20 mph	20-25 mph	25-30 mph	30-35 mph	35-40 mph	40-50 mph
7am-7pm	4178	1483	1701	520	59	9	2
6am-10pm	4968	1643	2058	722	97	18	5
6am-12am	5125	1662	2127	773	109	21	6
12am-12am	5280	1671	2173	834	136	29	9

The statistics for northbound on this radar are not accurate in terms of numbers of vehicles. Of those that were detected the figures are as follows:

Northbound

	Number of vehicles	15-20 mph	20-25 mph	25-30 mph	30-35 mph	35-40 mph	40-50 mph
7am-7pm	1756	657	777	171	15	1	0
6am-10pm	2092	729	938	254	26	2	1
6am-12am	2150	733	962	278	30	3	1
12am-12am	2219	737	990	305	37	4	2

The 85th percentile is used to calculate average speeds and at this radar it was noted that 85% of vehicles were travelling at 26.3mph or less over 24 hours. The peak time for speeding vehicles was 5am when 5 vehicles, out of 518, were travelling at 35-40mph and 1 at 40mph or more.

Just south of Longfellow Road

Southbound

	Number of vehicles	15-20 mph	20-25 mph	25-30 mph	30-35 mph	35-40 mph	40-50 mph
7am-7pm	4344	937	1896	1103	185	24	5
6am-10pm	5164	1007	2183	1437	277	44	10
6am-12am	5321	1018	2230	1503	298	51	13
12am-12am	5512	1027	2262	1577	344	69	19

Northbound

	Number of vehicles	15-20 mph	20-25 mph	25-30 mph	30-35 mph	35-40 mph	40-50 mph
7am-7pm	5827	1253	2591	1016	107	10	2
6am-10pm	6810	1350	3033	1369	175	19	5
6am-12am	6996	1366	3116	1430	195	22	6
12am-12am	7130	1373	3153	1486	217	29	9

85% of vehicles were detected travelling at an average speed of 27.3mph over 24 hours. The peak time for speeding was 5-6am when 13 vehicles, out of 898, were travelling between 35-40mph and 3 vehicles were travelling at 40mph or more.

West of Highfields junction

Southbound

	Number of vehicles	15-20 mph	20-25 mph	25-30 mph	30-35 mph	35-40 mph	40-50 mph
7am-7pm	4543	453	2029	1643	265	26	3
6am-10pm	5279	492	2275	1963	371	45	7
6am-12am	5443	502	2339	2030	387	49	8
12am-12am	5598	506	2365	2095	430	63	10

1 vehicle between 10pm and midnight was travelling at 50-55mph.

Northbound

	Number of vehicles	15-20 mph	20-25 mph	25-30 mph	30-35 mph	35-40 mph	40-50 mph
7am-7pm	5228	483	1783	2192	552	64	11
6am-10pm	6090	517	1959	2597	742	102	20
6am-12am	6234	523	1988	2659	774	111	24
12am-12am	6395	530	2009	2717	823	125	32

3 vehicles between 10pm and 6am were travelling at 50-60mph.

85% of vehicles were detected travelling at an average speed of 29.6mph in the peak hours of 7am – 7pm and 30.1 over 24 hours. The peak time for speeding was 5am-6am when 15 cars, out of 439, were travelling between 35-40mph, 3 between 40-45mph and 2 between 45-50mph

College entrance

Again there is a slight volume undercount on this camera in both directions.

Southbound

	Number of vehicles	15-20 mph	20-25 mph	25-30 mph	30-35 mph	35-40 mph	40-50 mph
7am-7pm	4185	532	1494	1460	303	59	10
6am-10pm	4935	570	1696	1792	431	93	18
6am-12am	5117	580	1754	1870	456	98	21
12am-12am	5270	585	1781	1930	493	114	27

Northbound

	Number of vehicles	15-20 mph	20-25 mph	25-30 mph	30-35 mph	35-40 mph	40-50 mph
7am-7pm	4405	526	2006	1467	181	15	2
6am-10pm	5167	555	2233	1855	277	30	5
6am-12am	5288	557	2278	1912	290	32	6
12am-12am	5449	559	2308	1985	334	42	8

85% of traffic was travelling at an average of 28.9mph over 24 hours. The peak time for speeding was between 6am-7am when 17 vehicles were travelling at 35-40mph, 4 vehicles between 40-45mph and 1 vehicle between 45-50mph.

Parish Clerk

From: Sophie Broadfield <Sophie_Broadfield@BATHNES.GOV.UK>
Sent: 13 June 2023 09:47
To: Parish Clerk
Cc: Midsomer Norton Town Council; George Clutten; Phil Wilkinson; Deputy Clerk; Admin Assistant; Ella Thomas; Richard Holden; Kevin Guy (Cllr)
Subject: RE: Enterprise Zone

Dear Cllr Wilkinson,

Thank you for getting in contact regarding the Somer Valley Enterprise Zone (SVEZ). The plans included within the Local Development Order (LDO) include an eastern segregated pedestrian and cycle path that links up with the Norton Radstock Greenway. This active travel route offers employees and visitors to the SVEZ the opportunity to use alternative transport mechanisms to access the site, with the aim of reducing the car borne traffic to site.

The full Transport Assessment for the LDO is included within the documents on the Planning Portal (in 4 parts) under references 26/00076/LDO for your review, which breaks down expected trip generations for the different use types on the SVEZ as well as the impact on the surrounding transport network via traffic modelling. The scope of the traffic modelling was agreed with Highways Development Control based upon the key routes on the local transport network and the forecast routing of trips generated by the proposed development. Local trips from Westfield are forecast to route via A367 in Westfield, however this makes up a relatively small proportion of trips to the SVEZ and a detailed assessment of the A367 in Westfield was therefore not required.

The LDO has allocated one plot to act as a distribution centre, Plot 10. Given the geographic location of SVEZ and the size of the unit at Plot 10, it is anticipated that this would suit a local/regional operator rather than a national scale operator.

Following the first statutory consultation of the LDO in January 2023, it is our intention to submit revised documentation for a secondary statutory consultation at the end of June once the Paulton elections have taken place. I hope that my email and the traffic modelling provide some reassurance, but nonetheless this will provide an opportunity for the Parish Council to submit formal comment via the Planning Portal if you wish to follow up your concerns.

Kind regards,

Sophie

Sophie Broadfield | Director of Sustainable Communities | Bath & North East Somerset Council | 07971888774

From: Parish Clerk <parishclerk@westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk>
Sent: 06 June 2023 12:00
To: Sophie Broadfield <Sophie_Broadfield@BATHNES.GOV.UK>; Richard Daone <Richard_Daone@BATHNES.GOV.UK>; Kevin Guy (Cllr) <Kevin_Guy@BATHNES.GOV.UK>
Cc: Midsomer Norton Town Council <townclerk@midsomernortontowncouncil.co.uk>; George Clutten <george.clutten@radstock-tc.gov.uk>; Phil Wilkinson <phil.wilkinson@westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk>; Deputy Clerk <deputyclerk@westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk>; Admin Assistant <adminassistant@westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk>
Subject: Enterprise Zone

Please find attached a letter from Westfield Parish Council.

Kind regards,

The Extended Biodiversity Duty for public authorities, including parish and town councils.

The new extended biodiversity duty for public authorities came into force on 1 January 2023.

This is the strengthened 'biodiversity duty' that the Environment Act 2021 introduced. It means that, as a public authority, we must: Consider what we can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity. Agree policies and specific objectives based on our consideration.

In the first instance I would suggest that we keep the policy simple. Suggested wording below:

As a Parish Council we will:

- a. Consider the impact on biodiversity in the decisions we make through our committees and working groups, by seeking to minimise adverse impacts on biodiversity and identifying opportunities to increase biodiversity when practicable.
- b. Highlight the importance of protecting and enhancing biodiversity as part of our Green Spaces section in the Westfield Neighbourhood Plan Review. The Neighbourhood Plan Review will actively seek the views of local people on how to conserve and increase biodiversity in the parish.
- c. Encourage practices and projects beneficial to biodiversity through grants we make.
- d. As a landowner we will: (1) Proactively remove invasive species as required under appropriate legislation in order to prevent harm to native species
(2) Consider practices which are beneficial to biodiversity when contracts are placed.

**Notes of a meeting with the Dog Warden Jo Brain,
the Clerk Lesley Close and the Admin Assistant Caitlin Brown 22/6/23**

1. Following suggestions raised at E&D to address dogs off leads at the Trust Grounds, we met the B&NES Dog Warden on 22nd June for guidance on how we can most effectively use our time and resources to address this growing problem.
2. Jo outlined that since the pandemic dog ownership has grown enormously, and with it has come a growing number of dog related incidences such as dog fights, dog attacks on humans and a growing number of stray dogs. B&NES's Dog Warden remit is therefore shrinking to prioritise and meet its statutory obligation in relation to picking up stray dogs. So, the meeting was advisory only and the Dog Warden can not give time in terms of surveillance or an individual response to dog fouling / dogs off leads.
3. **Dog Walking Enclosures** – the Dog Warden agreed with the view of the Committee that a dog enclosure would by no means be used by all dog walkers and some people will still let their dogs runs free on the recreation ground, especially at Westhill where a dog walk involves walking a few times around the track.
4. **CCTV** – We discussed the value of CCTV in terms of obtaining evidence for prosecutions. To put it in context, there has been only one successful prosecution for dog fouling in B&NES since 2016. So, to try to put measures in place which actively seek prosecutions might not be the best way to channel our limited time and resources.
5. **Security** – Jo said that B&NES does use a security service (3GS) in public spaces to stop littering. As long as the security service was advisory only, this might be an initiative worth trying. If someone from a security service, wearing a Westfield Parish Council high viz vest, was to walk the grounds at peak times advising people that their dogs should be kept on leads, encouraging them to use Waterside Valley to let their dogs run free, perhaps giving out leaflets from the Dogs Trust etc it might start to change some behaviours. It might be worth trialling this for a couple of months. I am happy to contact some security services to see if it is feasible and, if so, the costs.
6. **Community Protection Notices** – if we have video evidence of dog fouling and the owner clearly walking away without picking up, plus a witness who is prepared to give a witness statement and if we can identify the person concerned, then Jo would be prepared to look at issuing a warning under the Community Protection Notice. The warning remains in place for a year and after three warnings a prosecution could take place providing there was sufficient evidence.
7. **Working with schools** – Jo highlighted the value of children learning in school about keeping dogs on leads and picking up after them and she highlighted the resources in the Dogs Trust. Caitlin is looking into this further.
8. **Holding a Dog Day** – Jo mentioned that combining information about responsible dog ownership at appropriate events is worthwhile. For example, inviting the local vets, dog groomers etc to give out information.

Lesley Close

22/6/23

Parish Clerk

From: Dog Warden <Dog_Warden@BATHNES.GOV.UK>
Sent: 23 June 2023 11:05
To: Parish Clerk
Subject: RE: Recreation Grounds in Westfield

Lesley

I received a request similar to your yesterday regarding signage asking for dogs to be on leads and some people not adhering to it.

The person supplied me with a name and address of the offender and details of the dog off lead and a few 'incidents' that had occurred, so I have issued a pre Community Protection warning letter to the dog owner with certain recommendations under the Anti-Social Crime & Policing Act 2014, see paragraph below:-

It is recommended that when in public/private places, responsible dog owners should

- **Keep their dog(s) on a lead if they are known to behave aggressively**
- **Always keep the dog under proper control**
- **Keep the dog within proximity and supervised accordingly**
- **Take note of signage displayed by the Councils or Trusts that maintain the grounds.**

If there has been a specific 'incident with a dog off lead' in one of your recreation grounds and the information comes from a reliable source and the name/address of the dog owner and breed of dog is provided, I can consider doing the same for you.'

We do not act on anonymous reports.

Hope this may be helpful.

Regards

Jo

Joanna Brain
Public Protection Technical Officer
Dog Warden
Joanna_brain@bathnes.gov.uk
07980998858

From: Parish Clerk <parishclerk@westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk>
Sent: 14 June 2023 12:14
To: Dog Warden <Dog_Warden@BATHNES.GOV.UK>
Cc: Deputy Clerk <deputyclerk@westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk>; Admin Assistant <adminassistant@westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk>
Subject: RE: Recreation Grounds in Westfield


Thank you Jo, I look forward to see you next week.




With best wishes,

Inner Elm Terrace / Wesley Avenue

Date: 15/06/23	Received via: Email	Name / Address: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Comment: We live at [REDACTED] We object in the strongest possible terms to your proposal to install a gate at the end of the lane directly opposite our kitchen, bathroom and dining room windows. This proposal will encourage youths to congregate and cause nuisance which thankfully we have mostly avoided in this area to date. Another point is that the Council does not own the grass bank so any gate will have little use as the bikes will merely use the grass area to avoid the gate. Unless you have already consulted the owner of the land then your proposal seems to be a non starter. We will certainly not agree to any part of the gate encroaching on our property viz the land with the fir trees. My wife is currently having to use a mobility scooter and the design of gate proposed does not facilitate access for this as demonstrated at the access to Paulton Memorial park. My wife is not alone in this respect as a number of mobility scooters use this lane on a regular basis. It seems to us that a gate suitable for mobility scooters will exacerbate the problem for us as the pit bikes will be able to negotiate them albeit with some delay and even more sustained noise for us. I did report the problem of the pit bikes to the police with details of times, which often coincide with times schools close and increase at weekends and school holidays. This is not an isolated problem as we can hear the bikes accelerate away at the end of the lane up Inner Elm Terrace and when they get to the A367. The bikes have no number plates and are obviously being ridden illegally on the road. Installation of the gate would in our opinion move the problem elsewhere.
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16/06/23	Email	[REDACTED]	<p>If the Police are unable to catch the perpetrators and after recent events it seems that it would be unwise to follow them then perhaps education could be the solution to the problem. We would suggest the the police could visit local schools and clubs (should such exist) and explain that the riders actions are illegal and the consequences should they be caught. Not least there is the possibility of serious accident damage to the riders and members of the public which could be fatal even, due to the speed at which some riders negotiate both Inner Elm Terrace and the lane.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Further to our email of yesterday.</p> <p>After talking to some of our neighbours no one is quite sure where you intend to install the gate. Your cross is actually on the "road" an absolutely preposterous idea blocking essential access, such as refuse and recycling. We would also be blocked from the emergency services such as ambulance and fire. We would also have reduced access to our own properties, some vehicles are unable to negotiate the turn at the bottom of the butcher's garden (ask the recyclers).</p> <p>Having said that school must be out, a dirt bike went past just now. Our opinion remains the same the perpetrators need education, personally we have only ever seen one adult male of approximately 40 ride a bike down the lane mostly it is youths.</p> <p>We would suggest you contact the media re the the problem perhaps if the riders are aware they are under scrutiny they will stop-would save expense if nothing else.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>To whom it may concern,</p>
15/06/23	Email	[REDACTED]	

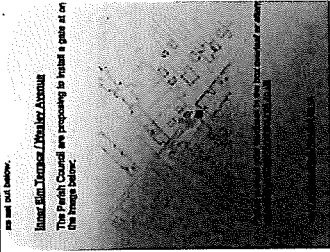
			<p>I am writing in response to the letter received from yourselves seeking consultation on the proposal to install a gate at the end of Inner Elm Terrace to discourage pit bike access to the footpath leading to Wesley Avenue.</p> <p>I agree that the issue needs to be tackled however this is not the way to address it and I strongly disagree with your proposal for several reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-As a father of two children aged three and under, your example gate would prohibit us gaining access from our house on Inner Elm Terrace in the direction of MSN High Street with the children in a pushchair.-A resident of Inner Elm Terrace has a mobility scooter, her access would also be restricted through this gate-Another resident is a carer for a severely mobility impaired adult who uses a powered wheelchair, their access would also be impaired.- Your consultation reach for this proposal is far too narrow having contacted only 18 of the 22 houses on Inner Elm Terrace and some of Wesley Ave, many more members of the wider community who use this path would be impacted in the same ways as mentioned above.- Your proposal has an X for the location of the proposed gate, I assume its location is misplaced and was intended to be on the path as the X is on the vehicular access route to the rear of our properties, kindly note the Deeds of our house allow for vehicular access around the sides and across the back of Inner Elm Terrace, your proposed gate at the point X on the map would prevent this. Should your proposed X be correct with a justification that there is additional access at the other end of the terrace, kindly note this entrance is significantly tighter and larger vehicles including the Refuse Collection lorry and Ambulances are
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			<p>unable to navigate that tighter turn, they must enter round the back of number 19.</p> <p>- Tackling illegal and antisocial behaviour goes beyond the remit of the Parish Council, I would kindly suggest that the effort and expense involved in installing the proposed gate would be better spent working with the local Constabulary to address the minority root cause and not punish the majority.</p> <p>In summary, your proposal is poorly considered as it is extremely exclusionary to some sectors in our society, it punishes the majority for the actions of the minority, and would reflect poorly on the judgement of the Parish Council if this was implemented. I strongly disagree with this proposal, the antisocial behaviour needs to be tackled via alternative means.</p> <p>Please can you confirm receipt of my objection to this proposal?</p> <p>Kind regards   Parish council</p>
15/06/23	Email		<p>I have received this letter today from you about putting a gate as pictured in the letter at one end of the lane , you seem to have put a cross on the actual road and this surely can't be done as it will stop a number of vehicles getting round to service the back of the houses such as dustbin /recycling carts / ambulance and some residents vans that people use for work , also a number of people use the path as a route</p>

			<p>to the high street that are in a mobility scooters and they won't get through. It also seems that you have missed a house out on the letters as there are 19 houses in the terrace and 2 to the side</p> <p>So I think this is a bad idea you need to put the gate on the path .</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>15/06/23</p>	<p>Email</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>I'm not a resident but use this footpath in service of some residents as I deliver food. Please, if there is to be a gate allow space for the delivery of boxes of food roughly 80cm wide. It is unsafe to take our vans from the main road into Inner Elm, and parking on the main road can also be dangerous, difficult and cause more disruption on an already busy road.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>15/06/23</p>	<p>Email</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>From this letter I have received today (15/6/23) I can't help but notice the gate has been proposed to be on the road rather than the path. This area of the road is used every single day as our road is a one way system and that end of the road is much wider. The width makes it possible for bin lorries, ambulances, vans and longer vehicles to get down which I hope you agree that it is essential that they can get down here. I understand that pit bikes are an issue along here but the gate should be on the path and not the road. A final, minor, thing that I notice about your letter is that you've addressed it to 1-18 Inner Elm Terrace and this error may effect 1-21.</p> <p>Thanks,</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p>15/06/23</p>	<p>Email</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>Hello!</p> <p>Some feedback on the consultation through my door today:</p>

<p>I'm not sure from the photo whether these gates would allow push bikes through? If not it would be a real shame if bikes couldn't use this footpath as this is the way towards the pit path cycleway.</p> <p>There is obviously an issue if the police have highlighted it but I can honestly say I have never seen or heard of bikes using that footpath. I live on the end of inner Elm Terrace near the footpath.</p> <p>Lastly, not a comment on the consultation but I notice that the houses consulted are 1-18 Inner Elm Terrace. You may have delivered to others anyway, but just to let you know there is a number 19 at the end of the terrace plus numbers 20-24 Inner Elm Terrace which are adjacent to Fosseway field. 😊</p> <p>Thanks for consulting</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>			
<p>Me again, with another quick response!!</p> <p>A couple of neighbours pointed out to me that the cross on the map for the location of the gates appears to be in the road itself. We assume this isn't correct as it would prevent us driving our car around to our driveways?? Is the gate meant to be on the footpath?</p> <p>I would certainly object to a gate preventing us residents from using the road but I'm sure this wasn't the intention.</p> <p>Thank you!!</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>Email</p>	<p>18/06/23</p>
<p>Dear council,</p> <p>I have seen your plans to install a gate between these two roads and strongly object.</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>Email</p>	<p>16/06/23</p>

			<p>There is insufficient width here for a gate of this type and if installed this would prevent wheelchairs, mobility scooters and wider pushchairs using this path.</p> <p>From personal experience of decades there are many more legitimate users than pit bikes on this path, don't use a sledgehammer to crack a nut.</p> <p>Kind regards</p>
16/06/23	Email	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>As residents of Inner Elm Terrace we would love to see an end to these pit bikes.</p> <p>Could you please clarify exactly where it is planned to install a gate?</p> <p>The map shows it to be on the access road around the Inner Elm Terrace houses rather than across the footpath entrance. This would impact the one way system that we use to access our parking safely. Also anyone that wanted to avoid using the gate would just come around the back of our houses to access the footpath. We would have any & everybody using our parking/ garden areas as a public footpath, impacting our privacy and the pit bike problem will still continue.</p> <p>Surely the barrier would need to be across the entrance to the footpath.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Dear [REDACTED]</p>
16/06/23	Email	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>I welcome an initiative to try and prevent pit bikes speeding down inner Elm Terrace. The proposed gate looks fine. I would ask you ensure it's easily accessible/wide enough for prams and wheelchairs. Often these types of gates are difficult to navigate with a pushchair.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>

17/06/23	Email	<p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p>	<p>I think the gate is very much needed and a fantastic idea but the positioning of the gate is completely in the wrong place. For people who live on inner elm terrace it would be an absolute nightmare getting in and out, it wouldn't stop pit bikes being rode along the path as they will go around the back of the houses rather than the front. This is proposed place suggested by council (black cross, after speaking with neighbours we think a better place were the orange cross is would be more effective</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> 
18/06/23	Email	<p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p>	<p>Hi There,</p> <p>Hope this email finds you well.</p> <p>Regarding the proposal to put a gate at the end of the lane between Wesley Avenue and Inner Elm Terrace. This is a great idea and needed, these motor bikes are an accident waiting to happen.</p> <p>The description sounds like it will be at the end of the lane in-between each road but on the map, the x shows that the gate will be in Inner Elm Terrace and the residents will not be able to drive around to their back gardens, the recycling trucks or emergency vehicles will not be able to get around.</p> <p>Please can you clarify whereabouts the gate will be?</p>

			<p>Many Thanks [Redacted] [Redacted]</p>
19/06/23	Email	[Redacted] [Redacted]	<p>It's come to my attention that you are asking some residents of Inner Elm Terrace and Wesley Avenue, their opinions on putting a kissing gate on the cut through of these 2 roads. Having seen the letter, the "X marks the spot" shows said gate being installed on the roadway, not the path!! I'm sure this must be an oversight/error, but I expect to have a response, assuring me, and all other residents of Westfield, that this is the case. I await your response. [Redacted]</p>
21/06/23	Email	[Redacted] [Redacted]	<p>Many thanks for your return call regarding the location of the proposed gate. Which I initial thought would be actually on the lane and not at the entrance to the footpath. As shown on diagram. My concerns with any gate are that mobility scooter and double pushchairs will not be able to manoeuvre through it. As we are one of the main walkways through from Westfield to Midsomer Norton, mobility scooters use this path daily. I agree that the pit bikes are slightly annoying, but like past teenage generations, they will grow up and pass their driving tests and move on. It's always been an issue. And will continue to be an issue with the next generation. Regards [Redacted]</p>
22/06/23	Email	[Redacted]	<p>Thank you for your reply. On Sunday we were going to walk down the footpath but heard a pit bike approaching as I blocked the path he had to stop. I told him the Police were looking for him and he replied he'd just been spoken to by them (?). He pushed his bike up the lane before mounting and riding up Wesley Ave. We have not seen or heard a pit bike since. Perhaps the Police did speak to him or perhaps I did what the Police were unable to</p>

			<p>do. The absence of the pit bike may not be permanent but we think it would be a mistake to erect a gate at this point.</p> <p>We should also state that we are very anti your proposal to erect a gate directly outside our windows creating a "pinch point" with the possibility of attracting gatherings at this point. We would also like to know how a gate which would let mobility scooter/wheelchair gain access prevent a similar size pit bike also gaining access. If you are intent on erecting the gate we would suggest you erect it at the Wesley Ave end of the lane. At that position it would not be directly outside of anyone's window.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>
23/06/23	Email	[REDACTED]	<p>Thanks [REDACTED]</p> <p>RE point 3 'as accessible as possible' implies that it would be inaccessible to some, that's not really a proportionate response to deal with just 4 individuals on pit bikes.</p> <p>Has anyone considered which route the riders will inevitably take should the path be blocked? I think it's far fetched to believe that they will suddenly change their ways just because a gate is installed. The riders taking a different route still leaves the problem as the root cause hasn't been tackled and will simply have resulted in expense to the public purse and exclusion of access to some members of society.</p> <p>I urge you to rethink this strategy.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>

WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL



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Email: council@westfieldparishcouncil.co.uk
Chairman: Cllr P Wilkinson Parish Clerk: Mrs L J Close FSLCC

Established 2011

All responses should be submitted by 12 noon on Thursday 6th July.

It appears that you are painting the gate on the road, is this correct? As cars will not be able to drive round the back of the houses.

Thank you for taking the time to provide the Parish Council with your feedback. It is most appreciated.

Yours sincerely,



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May I suggest a barrier across the path similar to the barrier across the path on the opposite side of Wesley Avenue.

[Redacted signature]

Thank you for taking the time to provide the Parish Council with your feedback. It is most appreciated.

Yours sincerely,





MIDSOMER NORTON & RADSTOCK Social Club. Anonymous member · 15 h ·

advise against as it will most aerintely cause accessibility issues.

13 h Like Reply

Anything that would allow a wheelchair/ scooter user though(without carer to help) would be big enough for motorbikes to get through.

Also lots of families use double buggies.

4 h Like Reply

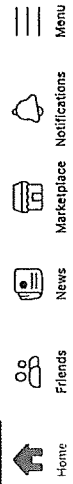
I suppose if you use the gate thing like a traffic calming measure so bikes can't whizz through at high speed because they have to stop each each to manoeuvre through then that's helping - just needs to be big enough to let through the folk who are just trying to walk through their community minding their own business

4 h Like Reply

Write a reply...

Rules

Write a comment...



MIDSOMER NORTON & RADSTOCK Social Club. Anonymous member · 15 h ·

Write a reply...

Use this path almost daily & never witnessed anyone on a pit bike. The path is not the widest, I would think a gate would definitely cause issues to mobility scooters and push chairs.

13 h Like Reply

My son is in a wheelchair and wouldn't be able to get through a gate like that. We live on Wesley Avenue

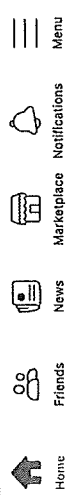
13 h Like Reply

I'm certain the one pictured is the one in Paulton and it's quite large yet it's still a challenge with a pushchair. I don't know the proposed location but if it's any smaller of a space than the one in Paulton I would advise against as it will most definitely cause accessibility issues.

13 h Like Reply

Rules

Write a comment...



MIDSOMER NORTON & RADSTOCK Social Club. Anonymous member · 15 h ·

Like Comment Send

1

All comments

I think it's worth asking them for the Equality Impact Assessment for it

14 h Like Reply

If it stops the motor bikes then go for it

14 h Like Reply

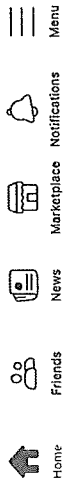
I'd welcome anything that stops those bikes haring up & down. The trouble is it also makes it tricky for others users.

13 h Like Reply

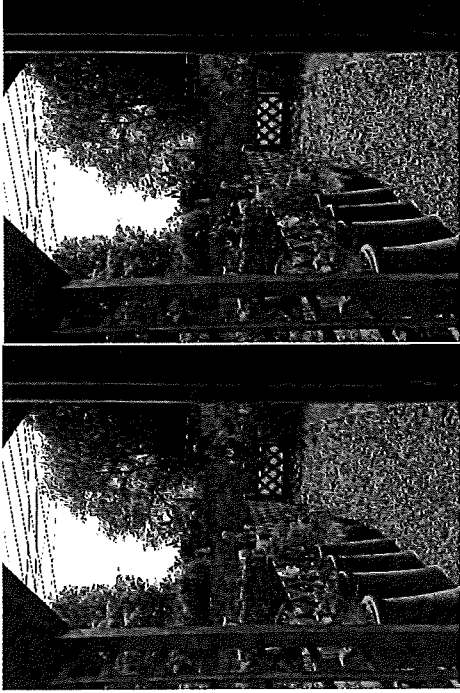
Write a reply...

Rules

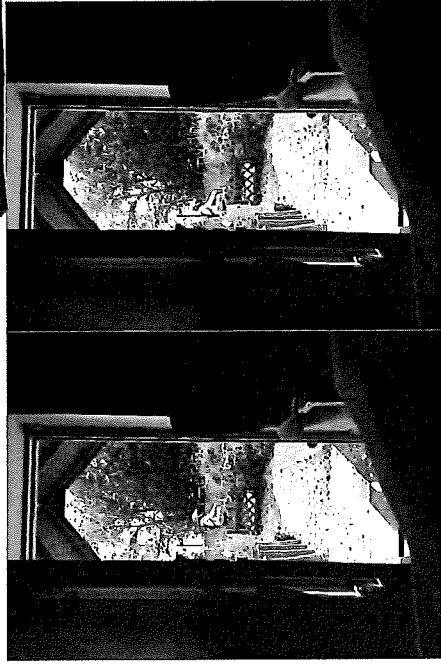
Write a comment...



[REDACTED]
Fri 16/06/2023 15:22 received from [REDACTED]
Sharing the attached images in case it helps actually identify one of the individuals involved.



[REDACTED]
Fri 16/06/2023 15:58 received from [REDACTED] And a second one.



Woodpecker Avenue / Lynton Road

Date:	Received via:	Name / Address:	Comment:
15/06/23	Email	<p>[Redacted Name / Address]</p>	<p>I'm [Redacted]</p> <p>I totally agree with your plans to install the chicane style railings Which is a great idea - sadly it solves only one issue - the other being the horrendous brambles that constantly are growing either side neighbours are having to continually cut them back for fear of children being caught up in them - which I've seen happen To my mind the whole lot needs taking out & concreting over it would stop all the hassle every growing season</p>
15/06/23	Email	<p>[Redacted Name / Address]</p>	<p>[Redacted]</p> <p>Dear parish council, we are in favour of the planned chicane style railings, motor cycles and scooters have been an issue since the footpath was built, on one occasion last summer, my son and my two grandchildren had a close escape when a pit bike came onto the footpath, from Lynton road, also while on the subject of the footpath, someone needs to address the upkeep I.E the boarders our side, and the hedge on the other side, I need to get access to my fences to treat them, the weeds ivy and thorns are coming through and damaging them, we have tried to upkeep it since the beginning, but we are both now in our sixties, with my wife suffering from osito arthritis. Yours hopefully</p>
16/06/23	Email	<p>[Redacted Name / Address]</p>	<p>Hello</p> <p>I write in response to the proposed new chicane style railings, and wanted to check what work had been done to ensure they will be fully inclusive, and not create access difficulties for anyone wishing to use the routes. I can't see measurements on the plans, but they look very narrow and I would think this is likely to cause issues for some members of the public - in particular disabled people.</p> <p>With kind regards</p>

22/06/23	Email	<p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p>	<p>[Redacted]</p> <p>Dear [Redacted]</p> <p>I am writing as a resident who has received a letter regarding the proposal for the footpath between Woodpecker Avenue and Lynton Road.</p> <p>Living [Redacted] I believe that we are arguably the most affected residents as the footpath spans the entirety of our house and garden.</p> <p>I believe that the chicane style railings would be of more detriment than benefit to our local community as I have concerns regarding accessibility.</p> <p>Working from home, I see how frequently this is used as a shortcut for individuals with accessibility needs using wheelchairs, mobility scooters etc as well as carers/parents with pushchairs. I feel that these railings would cause issue for such individuals, forcing them to take a much longer route along the main road. I note that another proposal for elsewhere in the community was discussed on Facebook recently and multiple individuals aired their concerns at how they are unable to use these railings with their mobility aids and/or pushchairs.</p> <p>Furthermore, I have lived here for five years and only a few times have I noticed push bikes using the footpath. The main irritation for me is that the users of these bikes enjoy doing the circuit of Lynton Road - Hazel Terrace - Fosseyway - Charlton Road, round and round and late at night which is incredibly noisy.</p> <p>I feel that the Parish Council's money would be far better used on maintaining the footpath in question from getting overgrown. I understand the footpath was recently adopted by the Council, and while some efforts have been made to maintain it, it still gets quickly overgrown with large and sharp brambles. There have also been</p>
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			<p>sightings of rats which at points have accessed my property (I have complained about this to the Council). I spend a lot of time trying to cut this back from my property as well as the access to [redacted] garages to the rear of our properties, as it gets overgrown quickly. I use my garden waste bin which I pay for to dispose of these cuttings. In some areas it is still reaching over 8 foot tall. Not only is this an irritant to us as residents but it is no doubt dangerous to children who use the footpath as the brambles become very sharp.</p> <p>I look forward to hearing the Council's plans on the matter and welcome any further discussion.</p> <p>Kind regards, [redacted]</p>
27/06/23	Email	[redacted]	<p>Dear [redacted]</p> <p>Thank you for providing a response. I will raise the issues with fixmystreet, however it is worth noting that when BANES originally took ownership of this area of land their initial clearing of the overgrown hedge was only ever half done - some areas were thoroughly cut back to a sensible height whereas other patches were left very tall. This is why I feel that the budget should be focused on a regular and thorough maintenance approach to the area rather than ad hoc maintenance only when residents raise the issue.</p> <p>Kind regards, [redacted]</p>

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FROM [REDACTED]

I THINK THAT THE PROPOSES STYLE RAILINGS AT THIS FOOTPATH WOULD CERTAINLY DISCOURAGE THE MOTOR BIKES THAT USE THIS AS A SHORT-CUT NOT ONLY BY DAY ALSO IN THE EVENINGS, ALSO I'VE SEEN PEDAL CYCLISTS EXIT THIS FOOTPATH AT SOME SPEED. ALTHOUGH THIS SEEMS TO BE THE YOUNGER AGE GROUP. THEREFOR I WOULD SUPPORT THE INSTALLATION OF THESE RAILINGS BEARING IN MIND THAT THERE ARE DISABLED PEOPLE AND MOTHERS WITH PUSHCHAIRS USING THIS PATH.

Thank you for taking the time to provide the Parish Council with your feedback. It is most appreciated.

Yours sincerely,



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[REDACTED]

We live very close to the footpath between Woodpecker Ave and Lynton Road. We have not noticed Pit bikes accessing the footpath although we are retired and home quite a bit. As for the chicane style railings if they are accessible by childrens double buggies as a lot of parents use this path or wheelchairs will this not be wide enough for Pit bikes to go through, obviously slower when path was opened there was 2 bollards at each end, then after complaints from mobility scooters they were removed and only one central bollard was put in at each end.

Thank you for taking the time to provide the Parish Council with your feedback. It is most appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

