

ADDERBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Date of Parish Council Meeting	Tuesday 23 February 2021
Agenda Item Number	<i>Item 10 (iv)</i>
Author	Adderbury Parish Council
Title of Report	Public Access to Milton Road Field
Summary	To discuss a request for the public to access the Milton Road field.
Recommendation	Access not be permitted to the public.
Reasons for the Recommendation	<p>Now that work has started on the new build project at Milton Road, access to the land by the public is not appropriate for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and safety of the public because work is starting on the chicane outside the site and the entrance. Contractors will from time to time, also be in the site itself and the Parish Council cannot put the public at risk. • A number of Conditions under the Planning permissions for this land restrict public access until such time as the development is completed. • There is not a designated Public Right of Way across the land and it does not connect to other footpaths. The adjacent landowners, have closed off routes which are not a PRoW, permissive footpath or bridleway. So access across the Parish Council land would not lead anywhere. • There are many other footpaths around the village which residents can enjoy. There is no reason why the field, which does not have a PRoW, permissive footpath or bridleway, should be open to the public. • As we have seen on other footpaths in the village, walkers do not necessarily stick to the correct route and could divert across the new pitch which has been seeded and could get damaged. Any repairs would then have to come from public funds. • Walkers often let dogs off their leads when using the footpaths. If dog mess is left on the pitch, it could get damaged and any repairs would have to come from public funds. • If walkers do not stick to the proposed route and got close to the attenuation basin, this could be a health and safety issue, especially for young children who are not aware of the dangers of water. • The fencing which has been offered to the Parish Council to mark the route is owned by another body and could get damaged, stolen or cause an accident. This would pose difficulties with insurance with regard to ownership and responsibility of the fencing and its safety.
Impact on Budget	None

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Risks	<p>If there is no public access and no fencing is erected there is no risk. The health benefits detailed in the request can be addressed by walkers using other footpaths in the village.</p> <p>If the fencing is erected, the potential risks are outlined above.</p> <p>If access is permitted the PC will be contravening the Planning permissions.</p>
Background	<p>The Parish Council received an email from a group of Adderbury residents offering to erect fencing within the Milton Road land to allow people to walk within the field.</p>
Supporting documents; advice, reports etc should always be attached to the report and listed here	N/A