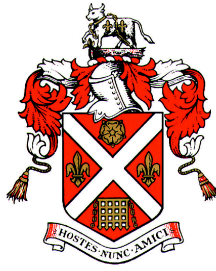


ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN MAYOR

CLLR TONY KONIECZNY



TOWN CLERK

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19th December 2022

Response to PSPO consultation.

Dog Fouling in public areas

Bailey Park Belgrave Park & Lower Meadow.

There is an existing order requiring dogs to be kept on a lead in these parks which is widely ignored. Both parks have children's play areas and in the case of Bailey Park and Lower Meadow significant areas of marked sports pitches for rugby and football to take place. Proposed PSPOs should target specific areas such as requiring dogs to be kept on leads in any areas of mixed recreational activity. It would be appropriate to ban dogs completely from all school grounds, children's play areas and marked sports pitches

The proposed PSPO should compel those in charge of dogs to collect and dispose of dog mess but importantly also compelling owners to carry the means (dog mess bags), including the carrying of means to collect and dispose of dog mess. Enforcement Officers would be able to implement and fine those who ignored the order in a meaningful and targeted way. Enforcement Officer have often had an issue with proving those in charge of specific dogs were liable for dog mess. Fixed penalty notices for those without means to dispose of mess have been effective.

Castle Meadows

The meadows are a very popular area for exercise for both dogs and humans. There are no designated sports areas or play areas. The meadows are currently exempt from enforcement measures to keep dogs on leads. However during the preparations for the National Eisteddfod it was noted how much of the site was contaminated with dog fouling. The proposed PSPO should compel those in charge of dogs to collect and dispose of dog mess but importantly also compelling owners to carry the means (dog mess bags), including the carrying of means to collect and dispose of dog mess. Enforcement Officers would be able to implement and fine those who ignored the order in a meaningful and targeted way. Enforcement Officer have often had an issue with proving those in charge of specific dogs were liable for dog mess. Fixed penalty notices for those without means to dispose of mess have been effective.

Recommendations

- Recommend the use of targeted PSPOs for Bailey Park, Belgrave Park, and Lower Meadow
- Recommend PSPO's designed to address dog fouling incorporate Fixed Penalty notices for not carrying the means (bags) for disposal.
- Recommend Dolydd y Castell / Castle Meadows are exempt from any enforcement measure on leads to continue to meet the Animal Welfare Act 2006 section 9 requirements

Cllr Tony Konieczny
Chair – Environment Committee
Abergavenny Town Council