

## Item 11M

Hi Adele, as you will be aware, there was an otter on ballgrove for a period this year. Now whilst a lot of people like to see them and think they are cute, they are having a devastating impact on many areas. They decimate fish stocks, bird life, invertebrates and generally damage the ecosystem of a lake. We wanted to ask if the council would consider letting us otter fence the lake at ballgrove? This would be done with the angling trust who fund these projects to protect waters. If this would be considered, I can go into more details about how it looks, access, locations etc. it wouldn't affect the cafe or the footpaths. Another consideration is the cost impact to the club having to keep replacing the lost fish every year and as we build the junior angling programme that is important to do. If the council will consider this, let me know and I'll get a detailed plan together for them to go over to make an informed decision. Thanks Shane



This is an example of an otter fence, it has the overturned top to stop them climbing over. There would be gates in various places for anglers to access. Obviously it will need properly planning etc and this is just a tentative enquiry as to whether it is something they would consider. It would also offer a level of safety by keeping people away from the waters edge but still able to see everything and feed the birds etc.

The group suggests that the water safety boards are still installed as there will be accessible gates.