

Dear Trawden Parish Council,

I was recently informed that you wish to have me attend one of your meetings to discuss me paying rent to use the parking area adjacent to our home.

Let me initially set out recent chronology in relation to this.

Whilst without formal permission since the park transferred to you, we have been correctly allowed to park in the space adjacent to our home.

Adele informed us a few months or so ago that you wanted to tidy up and improve this area and that you had a budget of some £300 for this purpose. She requested that I draw up plans for consideration.

I have not found the time to do this with other priorities being more pressing.

I recently corresponded with Adele as I have some buddleias that could be planted there and wished to do this as a preliminary step to improving the area, something you indicated you wanted to do.

I did not request any funding, simply permission to spot spray where these would be planted to aid their establishment.

I was frankly disgusted with the response from Parish Councillors, namely that you wish to charge us rent.

Firstly, after everything that I have contributed free of charge this is completely inappropriate and seems that you rather than acknowledging my good will you are treating me with disrespect despite me for wanting to make the area better. Hence my absolute disgust.

Secondly this is now the third occasion where you have acted in a manner that attempts to prevent us from enjoying our home. This in our view now constitutes harassment.

Given this, unless the situation is resolved to our satisfaction, I cannot continue to chair the Friends Group or volunteer in any way within the park. This includes revision of the management plan and organising volunteers.

We have our AGM in early June where I shall be forced against my will because of your continued harassment to resign.

Secondly, we believe as a result of the continued use by the owners of Riverside Cottage (Formerly the Whitehouse) of the area for parking over a substantial period of time we have accrued a permanent right of easement.

Thirdly we also believe that as a result of our right to unrestricted access along with the inability to safely park in our drive, we also have a right to park in this area. It must be noted that accessing and egressing our drive cannot be done safely in terms of users of

the park because of the angles and restricted sight involved. Furthermore, our drive is insufficiently wide to park and get out both sides and we regularly have our grandson come to visit who requires a wheelchair at times as a result of his leukaemia. The drive cannot be widened as a result of the position of the house and boundary.

Given the above we are unable to stop parking in the area adjacent to our home.

We are also unwilling to attend a Parish Council meeting as whilst we had started to trust the Parish Council again, you have decided to start to harass us once again.

With all that said and also given that we would much prefer to have a good relationship with the Parish Council and be able to continue to offer the benefits that have come from my volunteering, we seek an amicable solution.

We would be pleased to meet with one or a maximum of two of your representatives at a neutral venue to look to a solution that would end once and for all the intermittent harassment and respect our legal rights and ensure the safety of users of the park.

We are away for 5 weeks from 21st April, however on our return will meet at a mutually convenient time.

With this said if we cannot reach an amicable solution, we may have no other option than to take legal action to ensure our rights are protected and your harassment stops.

[REDACTED]