Station Road gateway

Non-Confidential

Report by: Elaine Atkin

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Report to: Parish Council 11/2026

The gate at Station Road recreation ground is set back from the road, leaving potential room for a vehicle to park off the road without going through the gate, which is kept locked.

We have a sign on the gate asking people not to park there and saying that access is required at all times. Members of the bowls club, u3a Railway Group and staff have keys and are permitted to take their vehicles onto the land. From time to time, we also have contractors working either at the pavilion or cutting the grass, and they also need access.



We have an ongoing issue with one member of the public who regularly parks in the gateway whilst walking their dog on the field. This has at time prevented members of staff gaining access through the gate. When asked to move, the member of public has been unfriendly, unreasonable and un-cooperative – and also stated that there is nothing we can do to prevent it.

We have consulted our local PCSO to see what, if anything we can do. They have confirmed that the member of public's behaviour seems unreasonable, however:

"Legally the sign is not enforceable and he realises this hence this is why he is parking there. I think your best course of action would be to target harden the area. I know this may involve cost but perhaps another gate so creating almost a sterile area."

We have considered an option to bring the gate further forward (i.e. nearer the road). Whilst this should prevent anyone parking in front of and blocking the gate, we believe this would potentially just create a further (possibly dangerous) issue on the road as anyone

legitimately needing access, would have to stop in the road whilst unlocking and opening the gate, and then whilst closing and locking the gate as they exit.

Recommendation

Council to consider whether it is happy to leave the issue as it is or whether it want to explore other alternatives.