



## Dodderhill Parish Council

### Question:

*I would like to ask, why it was declined for the hedgerow along Stoke Road to be trimmed back in order to provide a pathway for people to walk along Stoke Road safely, yet now you wish to completely rip out over 60ft of hedgerow?*

*Why is the safety of people walking along a very busy road less important than supposedly addressing a water issue on the allotments, for which nobody using the allotments has raised an issue?*

### Response:

This was raised on a Parish Council meeting some months ago.

For information, Dodderhill Parish Council owns the hedgerow, however the hedgerow has overgrown the boundary line with County Council Land and the metal fence can be seen inside the hedgerow.

The safety of people walking along a busy road is very important to Dodderhill Parish Council, however the reinstatement of the path is outside our remit and we can only support requests made by residents.

We have been advised that Wychavon District Council have no plans at this time to support the reinstatement of the pathway.

The Parish Council could consider as part of the current project plans to put a pedestrian gate (in wood - see image) at either end of the field onto Stoke Road so that pedestrians can walk with the safety of the hedge covering from the road traffic but in essence the gate would go to nowhere except leading straight onto the road, as neither Wychavon, Worcester County Council, the Parish Council or highways have any jurisdictions over private land without a court order. Vehicle access to the field has to be locked to prevent unwanted vehicles on the recreational field.



With respect to the 60ft of hedgerow being ripped out; It is not the intention of the Parish Council to remove 60 metres of hedging but to move 20 metres of the hedging, inwards three metres from the road to provide a safer access facility for the allotment tenants who use vehicles to access their allotment.

The hedgerow was described in the biodiversity report as of poor quality, in respect of animal habitat and growth. Part of the plan for the legacy grant was to address the biodiversity of the recreational field.



## Dodderhill Parish Council

