

Dogs on Edlesborough Green

Edlesborough Parish Council and AVDC have both received complaints regarding dogs on Edlesborough Green.

EPC remind parishioners that the Byelaw No 4 states the following:

“A person shall not cause or suffer any dog belonging to him or in his charge to remain in the ground unless such dog be and continue to be under proper control and effectually restrained from causing annoyance to any person and from worrying or disturbing any animal.”



Some people interpret that to mean all dogs must be on a lead at all times, but what constitutes effective restraint depends to some extent on the dog and the owner. An unruly dog on a longish lead can cause problems, whereas a well-trained dog that responds immediately to its owner's commands can be effectively restrained without the use of a lead.

The problem with any byelaw of course is enforcement. Thames Valley Police have provided the following information:

- The law states that dog on dog attacks are a civil matter, where owners should exchange details and the offending dog's owner should cover any vets costs; however they do not have to.
- If the injury is a serious one, people can call the police who would look at whether or not that dog is a danger and could oversee payment by liaising between parties.
- Dogs being a nuisance and not in proper control, is a dog Warden issue and should be reported to AVDC Environmental Health.
- Dogs that bite a person causing injury is a police matter and the police should be called every time.
- In addition if a dog is seen fouling and it is not being picked up and photographic evidence is presented the police can issue an on the spot fine as can a dog warden.

EPC reminds dog owners that:

- Not all users of the Green are “dog people” and an excited dog bounding up to say hello can be terrifying to adults, children and other dogs.
- Dogs must not enter the play area under any circumstances.
- EPC provides numerous dog bins around the edge of the green, all dog owners must clear up after their dogs.

If you think you witness any users of the Green breaching the Byelaws please report this to Thames Valley Police on 101.

A full copy of the Byelaws is displayed on the Pavilion, parishioners can also request a copy from the Clerk.