



AYLESBURY VALE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Democratic Services

Please ask for: Craig Saunders , csaunders@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk;
Switchboard: 01296 585858
Text Relay Prefix your telephone number with 18001

29 August 2019

LICENSING COMMITTEE

A meeting of the **Licensing Committee** will be held at **10.00 am** on **Monday 9 September 2019** in **The Paralympic Room, Aylesbury Vale District Council, The Gateway, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury, HP19 8FF**, when your attendance is requested.

Contact Officer for meeting arrangements: Craig Saunders , csaunders@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk;

Membership: Councillors: S Renshell (Chairman), T Mills (Vice-Chairman), M Collins, P Cooper, M Hawkett, S Lambert, L Monger, S Morgan, G Powell, B Russel and Sir Beville Stanier Bt (ex-Officio)

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. TEMPORARY CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP

Any changes will be reported at the meeting.

3. MINUTES (Pages 3 - 6)

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 28 May, 2019.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members to declare any interests.

5. REVIEW OF THE PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDERS FOR AYLESBURY TOWN CENTRE, ALFRED ROSE MEMORIAL PARK, BEDGROVE PARK AND EDINBURGH PLAYING FIELDS (Pages 7 - 56)

For Members to consider the attached report.

Contact officer: Simon Gallacher 01296 585083

This page is intentionally left blank

Licensing Committee

28 MAY 2019

PRESENT: Councillor S Renshell (Chairman); Councillors T Mills (Vice-Chairman), M Collins (In place of J Brandis), S Lambert, S Morgan, G Powell and Sir Beville Stanier Bt (ex-Officio)

APOLOGIES: Councillors P Cooper, M Hawkeett, L Monger and B Russel

1. CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP

The Chairman welcomed Councillor M Collins as a permanent member of the Committee in place of Councillor J Brandis.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes of the meetings held on 18 March 2019 and 15 May 2019 be approved as a correct record.

3. REVIEW OF PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDERS

The Committee received a report which sought views from Members on the extension of Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for Aylesbury town centre and the variation of PSPOs in place for Alfred Rose Memorial Park, Bedgrove Park and Edinburgh Playing Fields. The variations included the prohibitions on the use of mechanically propelled vehicles that had or may be capable of causing nuisance within the park. Maps of the areas were included in the officer's report.

Local authorities were responsible for the making of PSPOs and were created if the Council was satisfied that there was an evidence base for their use. PSPOs needed to specify the public space that the prohibitions applied to, require people to do or not do something, and can apply at all times/circumstances or within specified times/circumstances. The making, extending, or variation of a PSPO required the Council to consult with the Chief Office of Police, the Police and Crime Commissioner, appropriate community representatives and the owner/occupier of the land within the restricted area. AVDC had a number of PSPOs in place in the Vale, for instance the centres of Aylesbury, Buckingham, Winslow and Aston Clinton, in addition to a significant number in parks and greenspaces.

The report outlined the existing Aylesbury Town Centre PSPO which was made in November 2016 and it needed to be reviewed prior to its expiration in November 2019. Prior to expiration, a decision needed to be made as to whether the PSPO should be extended further, vary its existing scope, discharge it or allow it to lapse. Officers had made enquiries with policing teams in the town centre and they had indicated a preference for the PSPO to remain in place. Persistent street drinking was an issue in the town centre and was associated with anti-social behaviour so may be within the scope of the PSPO's terms, The intention was for a consultation to be run on the basis that the order be extended for a further three years. Proposed consultees would be invited to complete a questionnaire and the Council's media channels would promote the consultation wider. The consultation would commence from 3 June for six weeks until 14 July 2019. The results would be reported back to the Licensing Committee at their meeting in September 2019 for a final decision on the PSPO.

The orders in place for Alfred Rose Memorial Park, Bedgrove Park and Edinburgh Playing Fields were converted from Designated Public Place Orders in October 2017 and related solely to prohibitions on the consumption of alcohol. Officers had received complaints on the use of motor bikes, including scrambler bikes and mini motos, and, on occasion, cars accessing and driving around these parks. There had also been an incident of a TVP Special Sergeant being seriously injured by a quad bike at Alfred Rose Park in September 2017. AVDC were, therefore, supportive of a variation on the PSPO to prohibit the use of such vehicles in these three parks. A draft questionnaire would be circulated for consultation with the timescales being the same as the Aylesbury Town Centre consultation.

Members sought more information and were advised that:-

- i. Enforcement of vehicle nuisance was discretionary and based on circumstance so would not affect those with permission (e.g. fairs or community events). At this stage, it was not possible to include remote control cars and drones in this as there were no reported issues and PSPOs could only be used on evidence based historic disturbances rather than pre-emptively.
- ii. There were no signs of anti-social behaviour being dispersed out from the PSPO areas.
- iii. Issues at St Mary's Church, Aylesbury, were due to a lack of enforcement and it was hoped improved signage would discourage this.
- iv. License Holders were expected to be aware of PSPOs in the area they operate.
- v. The Safeguarding Board would be considered as an additional consultee during the process.
- vi. Officers were currently categorising all orders for their transfer over to the new Buckinghamshire Council.
- vii. Including professional begging and aggressive begging into PSPOs was difficult for various reasons. This included the fact that aggressive begging was a criminal offence so therefore beyond the scope of the civil nature of PSPOs. There was also the desire to not be seen to criminalise homelessness. It was noted that professional beggars were organised and rotated people outside high footfall areas. Efforts would be better focussed to educate the public on this issue and encourage donations through charities. Officer advice was that there were 12 reported beggars in the Vale up to 6-7 weeks ago. Members did comment that there was a public perception that the Council was not tackling the issue.
- viii. Walton Court Park would be labelled more clearly on the questionnaire.
- ix. It was not intended for the questionnaire to be posted out to local residents within the PSPO and to do so now would be costly and challenging in terms of timeframe due to the consultation starting on Monday 3 June. There was also a fear of missing out households through this direct method. The questionnaire would be available electronically and would be circulated through AVDC's Comms Team. The Principal Licensing Officer would also liaise with Comms regarding the Council's Aylesbury Vale Times newsletter and see whether its next circulation coincided with the consultation period.

Members had detailed discussion on the issue of professional and aggressive begging and were advised regarding the possibility of including this in PSPOs. Advice from officers was that this would be unlikely so Members decided to move discussion on as it was outside the scope of the meeting. However the Committee saw merit in further discussion being had on professional and aggressive begging in future and inviting input from Councillor Mark Winn due to the work he had carried out under his Cabinet portfolio.

RESOLVED –

That the Licensing Committee's comments be noted prior to the commencement of the consultation.

This page is intentionally left blank

REVIEW OF THE PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDERS FOR AYLESBURY TOWN CENTRE, ALFRED ROSE MEMORIAL PARK, BEDGROVE PARK AND EDINBURGH PLAYING FIELDS

1 Purpose

- 1.1 For the Licensing Committee to consider:
- i) the extension of the Public Space Protection Order, "PSPO", for Aylesbury town centre;
 - ii) the variation of the existing PSPOs for Alfred Rose Memorial Park, Bedgrove Park and Edinburgh Playing Fields.

2 Recommendations/for decision

- 2.1 For members of the Licensing Committee to consider:
- i) an extension of the existing PSPO for Aylesbury Town Centre for a further 3 year period;
 - ii) a variation of the existing PSPOs for Alfred Rose Memorial Park, Bedgrove Park and Edinburgh Playing Fields to include prohibition on the use of mechanically propelled vehicles in a way that has caused or may be capable of causing nuisance and/or annoyance anywhere within the park.

3 Supporting information

- 3.1 PSPOs were introduced under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 as a means to tackle anti-social behaviour. They are designed to deal with a particular nuisance or problem in a specific area that is having a detrimental effect on the quality of life of the local community. This is achieved by imposing conditions on the use of that area that apply to everyone. They are intended to help ensure that the law abiding majority can use and enjoy public spaces, safe from anti-social behaviour.
- 3.2 Local Councils are responsible for making PSPOs, and within Aylesbury Vale, decision making responsibility on this matter has been delegated to AVDC's Licensing Committee.
- 3.3 A PSPO can be made by the Council if they are satisfied on reasonable grounds that the activity or behaviour concerned, carried out, or likely to be carried out, in a public space:
- i) has had, or is likely to have, a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality;
 - ii) is, or is likely to be, persistent or continuing in nature;
 - iii) is, or is likely to, be unreasonable; and
 - iv) justifies the restriction imposed.
- 3.4 A PSPO must identify the public space to which it applies ('the restricted area' within which the impact has or is likely to occur) and can make requirements or prohibitions, or both, within that area. This means that the Council can, by virtue of the order, require people to do specific things in a particular area or not to do things. The Council can grant the prohibitions, or requirements, where it believes that they are reasonable and proportionate in order to prevent, or reduce, the detrimental impact. The order can be made so as to

apply to specific people within the area, or to everybody. It can apply at all times, or within specified times, and equally to all circumstances, or specific circumstances.

- 3.5 Failure to comply with a prohibition or requirement within the order is an offence and a defendant can face a fine of up to £1000 (£500 for offences involving the consumption of alcohol) in the Magistrate's Court. Breaches of the order can also be discharged by use of a fixed penalty notice, up to £100.
- 3.6 The Council generally considers enforcement action as the last resort, and a decision to take formal enforcement action will be determined by the individual circumstances of a particular case. Enforcement action can only be taken where there is evidence that an offence has taken place. Where enforcement action is deemed warranted, the Council reserves the right to discharge its duties in one of three ways: written warnings, fixed penalty notices and prosecution.
- 3.7 Written warning may be used when there is evidence that shows beyond reasonable doubt that a person has committed an offence and it is considered inappropriate to issue a fixed penalty notice. A written warning will contain the following information: date, time and location of the offence, the nature of the offence and relevant legislation.
- 3.8 Police officers, community support officers and authorised council officers may issue fixed penalty notices to anyone they have reason to believe has failed to comply with an order. A fixed penalty notice will be issued to a person who has committed an offence where it is considered that a warning is not appropriate. For example, somebody who has already been issued a written warning(s) or has been repeatedly advised that they have breached the Order or if the nature of the breach warrants it. The fixed penalty notice will contain the following information: date, time and location of the offence, the nature of the offence and the relevant legislation. The notice states that by opting to pay the fixed penalty the Council will not take legal action for the prescribed offence, provided that the payment is received within 14 days of issuing the notice.
- 3.9 In certain cases prosecution through the courts may be the most appropriate course of action or where other enforcement actions have had no effect. Prosecution will likely follow when:
 - A fixed penalty notice is issued to an offender is returned unpaid after the 14 day payment period.
 - Three fixed penalty notices have been issued to a person.
 - A fixed penalty notice is considered insufficient.
- 3.10 A PSPO cannot be in effect for more than 3 years, unless it is formally extended. Orders can be extended for further 3 year periods if the Council is satisfied on reasonable grounds that it is necessary to prevent occurrence, reoccurrence or an increase in the frequency or seriousness of the activities identified in the order.
- 3.11 PSPOs can be varied by increasing or decreasing the restricted area and by altering or removing a prohibition or requirement in the order, or adding a new one.
- 3.12 The Council may also decide to discharge a PSPO if it is no longer considered necessary.

- 3.13 When deciding whether to make, extend, vary or discharge a PSPO, the Council must consult with the Chief officer of Police, the Police and Crime Commissioner, appropriate community representatives and owners or occupiers of the land within the restricted area.

Aylesbury Town Centre

- 3.14 The PSPO in respect of Aylesbury Town Centre was made in November 2016 and prohibits several activities:

- 1) Consuming alcohol or being in possession of an open container of alcohol.
- 2) Public urination or defecation.
- 3) General behaviour reasonably perceived to be intimidating and/or aggressive.
- 4) Failure of owner or person in control to remove dog faeces.
- 5) Parking without permission or authority on the public realm of Kingsbury and Market Square.

The order and a map of the restricted area are shown as Appendix 1.

- 3.15 The Aylesbury Town Centre PSPO must be reviewed prior to its expiration in November 2019 and a decision made whether to extend it for a further period, vary its existing scope, discharge it or allow it to lapse.

- 3.16 As reported and agreed at the meeting on 28 May 2019 a consultation has been conducted on the basis that it be proposed that the order be extended for a further 3 years. A copy of the consultation questionnaire is shown as Appendix 2 with a list of consultees. The consultation was published on the Council's website and publicised through the Council's usual media channels.

- 3.17 The consultation ran for 6 weeks, 3 June to 14 July 2019. 58 responses were received from a broad range of interested parties: local residents, workers and visitors to the area, local residents' association, drug and alcohol agencies, the local church, AVDC Councillors and officers, Aylebury Town Council, the Housing Trust, Bucks Fire and Rescue and Thames Valley Police. 25% of respondents live in the town centre area, 30% work in the town centre area and 21% are visitors to the town centre area.

- 3.18 In relation to the current PSPO, the greatest perceived problems from respondents relate to street drinking, intimidating or aggressive behaviour and parking on the paved areas of Kingsbury and Market Square. Overall the vast majority of respondents supported all the existing controls being maintained:

- 89% of respondents support maintaining the restriction prohibiting the consumption of alcohol or being in the possession of an open container of alcohol in the town centre.
- 96% of respondents support the prohibition of public urination and defecation.
- 96% of respondents support the prohibition on intimidating or aggressive behaviour.
- 91% of respondents support the control of dog fouling.
- 68% of respondents support the parking restrictions on paved areas of Kingsbury and Market Square.

- 3.19 Thames Valley Police have responded that they support the controls on possession and consumption of alcohol, public urination and defecation and intimidating or aggressive behaviour. They do not support the controls requiring the removal of dog faeces and the prohibitions on parking on Kingsbury and Market Square. They have responded that they are not aware of the former being an issue, and the latter they believe should be dealt with through parking legislation. It should be borne in mind that while police support of a particular prohibition or requirement is desirable to assist with enforcement, it is not necessary as authorised officers of the Council may also enforce the requirements of a PSPO
- 3.20 A detailed analysis of the consultation responses is shown as Appendix 3.
- Alfred Rose Memorial Park, Bedgrove Park and Edinburgh Playing Fields**
- 3.21 The PSPOs in respect of the above parks were automatically converted from DPPOs in October 2017 and relate solely to prohibitions on the consumption of alcohol. Geographic maps in respect of these 3 parks are shown in as Appendix 4.
- 3.22 The Council's parks team have received a number of complaints, especially during the warmer months, concerning the use of motor bikes, including scrambler bikes and mini motos, and occasionally cars, accessing and driving around these parks. The Police and the Council's Community Safety team have also been involved in trying to resolve this issue. The bikes are often ridden in the evening, but reports have been received during the daytime which poses an increased risk to members of the public lawfully using the park area. These 3 parks are also available to hire and are used regularly throughout the summer by football clubs and cricket at the Alfred Rose Park. At Edinburgh Playing Fields motorbikes were seen on the field when it was being hired by a football club and the bikes were being ridden near to the players and spectators. The riding of the bikes on the park area leads to damage to the grass, which is worse when the weather has been wet and can also leave ruts.
- 3.23 In September 2017 a TVP Special Sergeant was responding to a report of a quad bike in Alfred Rose Park and was seriously injured when the driver hit him.
- 3.24 As reported and agreed at the meeting on 28 May 2019 a consultation has been conducted on the basis that it be proposed that the order be extended for a further 3 years. A copy of the consultation questionnaire is shown as Appendix 5 with a list of consultees. The consultation was published on the Council's website and publicised through the Council's usual media channels.
- 3.25 The consultation ran for 6 weeks, 3 June to 14 July 2019. 85 responses were received from a broad range of interested parties: local residents, workers and visitors to the area, local residents' associations, local schools, representatives of Bucks CC and AVDC and Thames Valley Police. The majority of respondents either live and or work near one or more of the parks. Bedgrove Park appears to be the most popular, visited by 46% of respondents, followed by Alfred Rose Memorial Park, visited by 39%, and Edinburgh Playing Fields visited by 16% of respondents.
- 3.26 In relation to the current PSPO prohibiting the possession or consumption of alcohol in the three parks, the majority of respondents, including Thames Valley Police, support these controls being maintained:

- Alfred Rose Memorial Park – 91% support
- Bedgrove Park – 86% support
- Edinburgh Playing Fields – 89% support

3.27 In relation to the proposed new restriction concerning mechanically propelled vehicles, the majority of respondents, including Thames Valley Police, support these new controls:

- Alfred Rose Memorial Park – 96% support
- Bedgrove Park – 93% support
- Edinburgh Playing Fields – 92% support

4 Options considered

- 4.1 The Aylesbury Town Centre PSPO could be allowed to expire in November 2019. The current PSPO can be varied by amending, adding or removing a current prohibition or requirements in which case further consultation will be required. The current PSPO can be extended for a further three year period.
- 4.2 In respect of the parks PSPO, the order can remain unchanged and will need to be reviewed again before October 2020, the current PSPO can be varied to include the additional restriction concerning mechanically propelled vehicles, the order can be discharged or further varied by amending, adding or removing a current prohibition or requirements in which case further consultation will be required.

5 Reasons for Recommendation

- 5.1 The Licensing Committee are recommended to consider the responses from the two consultations and all additional available evidence prior to making a decision.

6 Resource implications

- 6.1 There will be relatively small cost implications in advertising the Orders and replacing existing signage.

Contact Officer Simon Gallacher 01296 585083

Background Documents:

Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

Public Spaces Protection Orders, Guidance for Councils
Local Government Association Feb 2018

Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014: Anti-social behaviour powers Statutory guidance for frontline professionals
Home office guidance, updated December 2017

This page is intentionally left blank

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND DISORDER AND POLICING ACT 2014

SECTION 59

PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER

This Order is made by Aylesbury Vale District Council ('The Council') under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 Section 59 ('the Act').

1. This order relates to the land described in Paragraph 1 of the Schedule below and defined by the red border on the plan attached to this Order ('the restricted area'), being a public place in the Council's area to which the Act applies:
2. The Council is satisfied that the 2 conditions below have been met, in that:
 - a. Activities carried on in the restricted area as described below, have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or it is likely that these activities will be carried on in the public place and that they will have such an effect. The said activities being:
 - 1) The consumption of alcohol and anti-social behaviour associated with the consumption of alcohol, taking place in the public place.
 - 2) Public urination and defecation.
 - 3) Aggressive or intimidating behaviour.
 - 4) Dog fouling.
 - 5) The unauthorised parking of motor vehicles on the public realm of Kingsbury and Market Square.
 - b. That the effect, or likely effect of the activities described above is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature, is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and justifies the restrictions imposed by the Order.

BY THIS ORDER

3. The effect of the Order is to impose the following prohibitions at all times:
 - a. In the restricted area any person who continues to carry out the following activities from which they are prohibited commits an offence:
 - 1) Consuming alcohol or being in possession of an open container of alcohol.
 - 2) Public urination or defecation.
 - 3) General behaviour reasonably perceived to be intimidating and/or aggressive.
 - 4) Failure of owner or person in control to remove dog faeces.
 - 5) Parking without permission or authority on the public realm of Kingsbury and Market Square.

4. The order will remain in force for a period of 3 years from the date of this Order, unless extended by further Orders under the Council's statutory powers.
5. A person guilty of an offence under conditions 3.(a.1) above, under Section 63 of the Act is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale or fixed penalty notice of a maximum £100.
6. In this area any person who fails to comply with any of the conditions set out in 3.(a.2 -5) above, under Section 67 of the Act is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale or fixed penalty notice of £100 and £60 in respect to unauthorised parking.

THE SCHEDULE

1. The Restricted area shown edged in red on the map attached hereto.

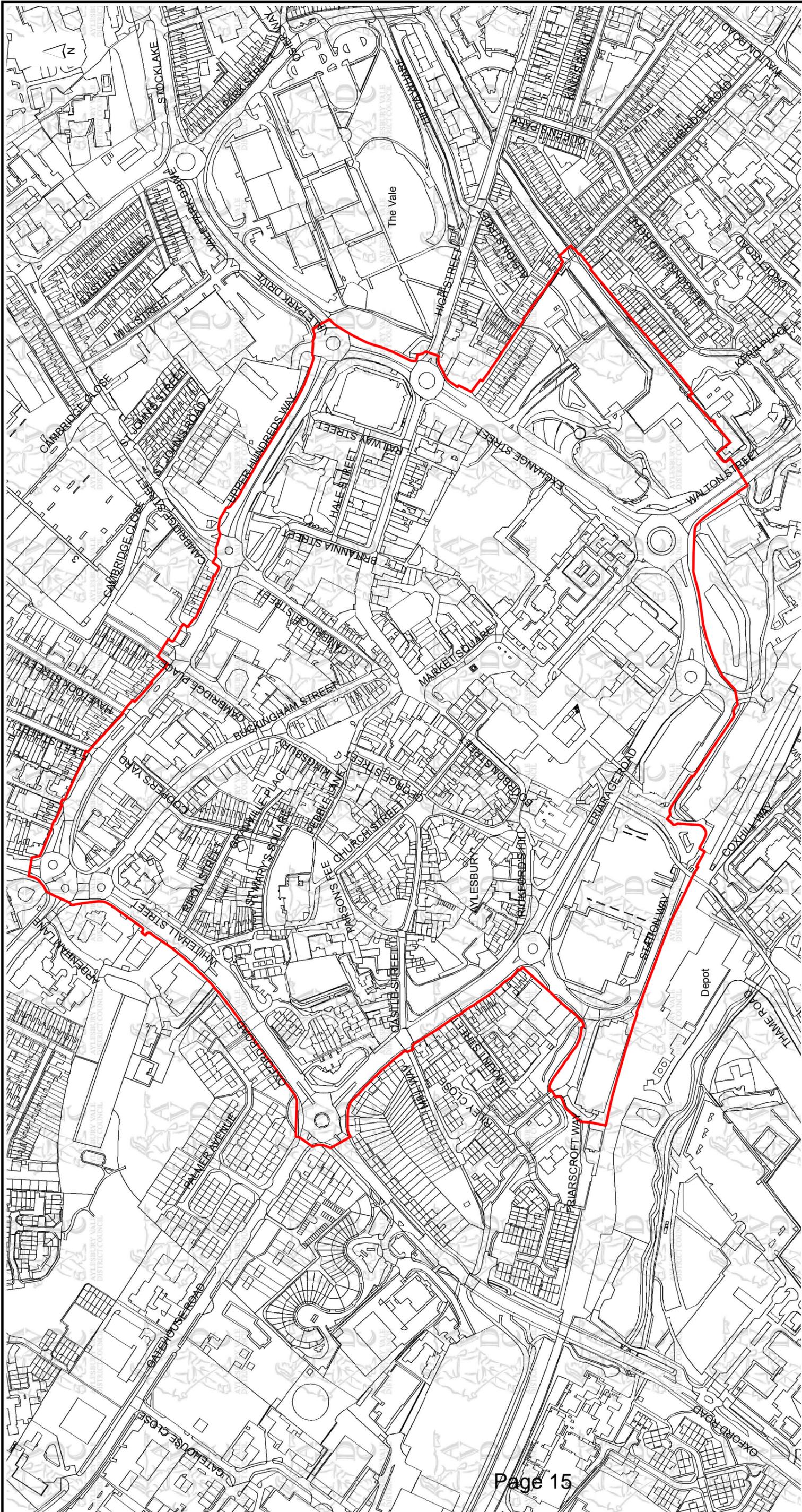
APPEAL

Any challenge to this order must be made in the High Court by an interested person within six weeks of it being made. An interested person is someone who lives in, regularly works in, or visits the restricted area. This means that only those who are directly affected by the restrictions have the power to challenge. The right to challenge also exists where an order is varied by the Council.

Interested persons can challenge the validity of the order on two grounds: that the Council did not have the power to make the order, or to include particular prohibitions or requirements; or that one of the requirements of the legislation, for instance consultation, has not been complied with.

When an application is made the High Court can decide to suspend the operation of the order pending the Court's decision, in part or in totality. The High Court has the ability to uphold the order, quash it, or vary it.

11 November 2016



PROJECT : PSPO ATC DRAFT 1

TITLE:- Proposed PSPO Area
 Aylesbury
 Bucks
 2015

OS Ref : SP8113

(C) CROWN COPYRIGHT. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED
 AVDC LICENCE - No. 100019797 2015

Derived from the 1:2500 O.S. MasterMap.
 N.B. - Further detail has been added to this Ordnance Survey Map from sources held by A.V.D.C.
 No guarantee can be given as to the accuracy of this additional information.



Building Control
 The Gateway
 Gatehouse Road
 Aylesbury
 HP19 8FF
 Tel: 01296 565460
 Email: bcontrol@aylesburyvaldc.gov.uk

n/a

Scale : 1/4000
 Date : 21/04/2015
 Drawn by : IRC

DRG No: PSPO 1

This page is intentionally left blank

Aylesbury Town Centre PSPO proposed consultees

- Chief Officer of Police
- PCC
- Ward Councillors
- Cabinet Members for Community Safety, Civic Amenities, Environment and Leisure and Waste and Licensing
- BCC Highways and Parking Service
- Aylesbury Town Council
- Town Centre Manager and the Town Centre Partnership
- Aylesbury Anti Social Behaviour Officer
- Aylesbury Community Safety Partnership
- Licensed premises – Aylesbury Pubwatch
- Aylesbury Old Town Residents Association
- AVDC Corporate Services
- Licensing Committee
- Drug and Alcohol Support Services
- South Central Ambulance Service
- AVDC social media and press channels

Aylesbury Town Centre PSPO - Draft Consultation Questions -

Introduction

What is your name? (Responses can be provided anonymously)

Name

What is your email address? (Only provide if you wish to receive feedback on the outcome of the consultation)

Email

What is your organisation? (if applicable)

Organisation

About you

Please select all that apply:

I live in the Aylesbury Town Centre area

I live outside Aylesbury Town Centre area

I work in the Aylesbury Town Centre area

I am a visitor to the Aylesbury Town Centre area

Other (please specify): _____

Please see attached map of Aylesbury Town Centre, which shows the restricted area under the current Public Space Protection Order.

Thinking about Aylesbury Town Centre how much of a problem do you think each of the following are? (please tick)

	A very big problem	A fairly big problem	Not a very big problem	Not a problem	No opinion
Street drinking					
Public urination or defecation.					
Intimidating or aggressive behaviour.					
Dog Fouling					
Vehicles parking on paved area of Kingsbury/Market Square					

1) Street Drinking

We are proposing to maintain the restriction prohibiting the consuming of alcohol or being in possession of an open container of alcohol in Aylesbury Town Centre. The restriction does not apply to people drinking at licensed premises.

Do you support this proposed restriction?

Yes No No opinion

Please give a reason(s) for your answer if you can:

2) Public Urination and Defecation Restriction

We are proposing to maintain the prohibition on public urination and defecation in Aylesbury Town Centre.

Do you support this proposed restriction?

Yes No No opinion

Please give a reason(s) for your answer if you can:

3) Intimidating and or aggressive behaviour

We are proposing to maintain the prohibition on intimidating and/or aggressive behaviour in Aylesbury Town Centre.

Do you support this proposed restriction?

Yes No No opinion

Please give a reason(s) for your answer if you can:

4) Failure to remove dog faeces

We are proposing to maintain the requirement on dog owners, or persons in control of a dog, to remove the dog's faeces from Aylesbury Town Centre.

Do you support this proposed requirement?

Yes No No opinion

Please give a reason(s) for your answer if you can:

5) Parking on Kingsbury and Market Square

We are proposing to maintain the prohibition on vehicles parking without permission or authority on Kingsbury and Market Square.

Do you support this proposed restriction?

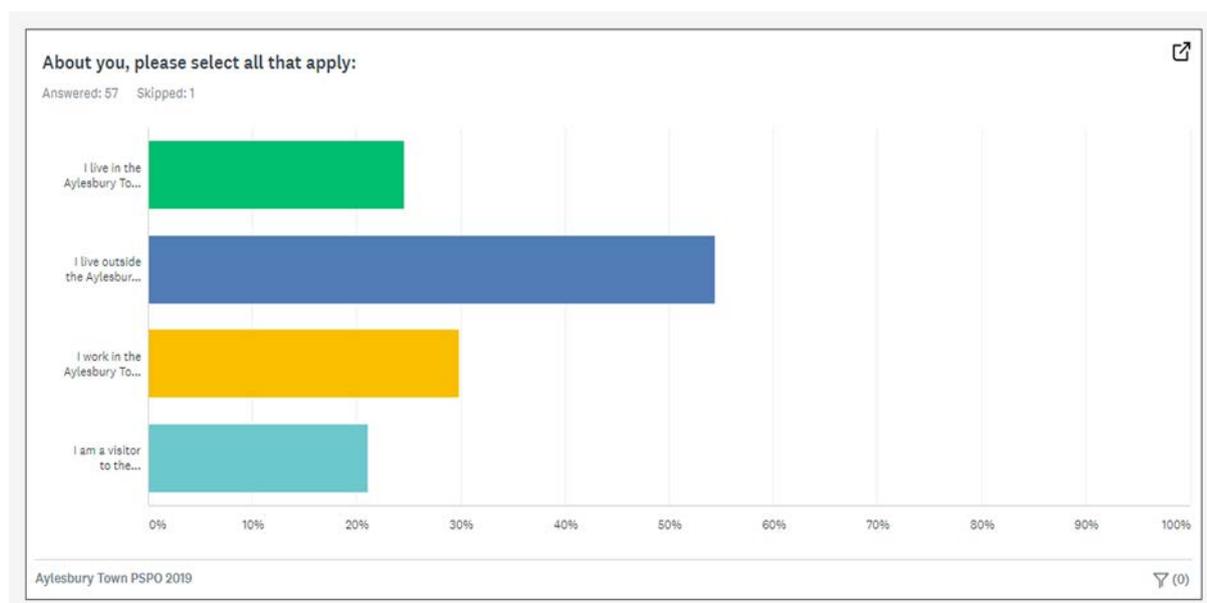
Yes No No opinion

Please give a reason(s) for your answer if you can:

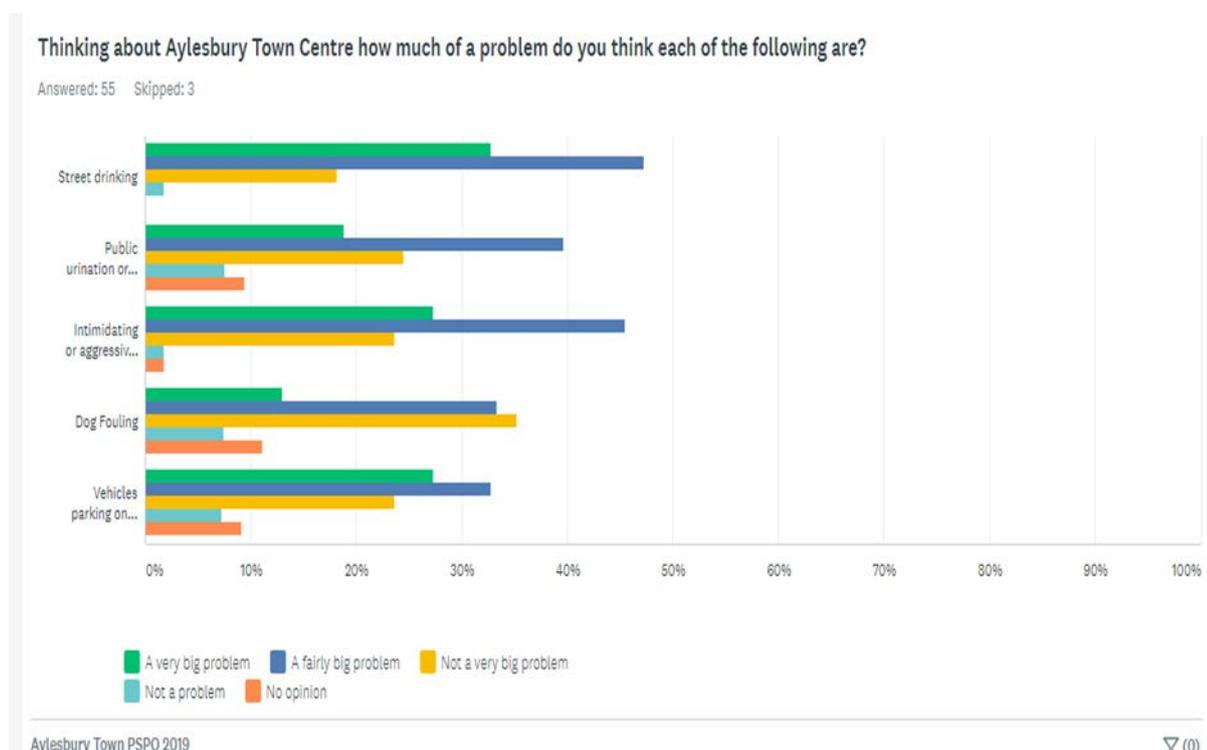
6) Do you have any other comments or observations you would like make concerning antisocial behaviour in Aylesbury Town Centre?

Aylesbury Town Centre PSPO consultation – overview and analysis

The Aylesbury Town Centre PSPO consultation received 58 responses. Responses came from a broad range of interested parties: local residents, workers and visitors to the area, local residents' association, drug and alcohol agencies, the local church, AVDC Councillors and officers, Aylesbury Town Council, the Housing Trust, Bucks Fire and Rescue and Thames Valley Police. 25% of respondents lived in the town centre area, 30% worked in the town centre area and 21% were visitors to the town centre area.



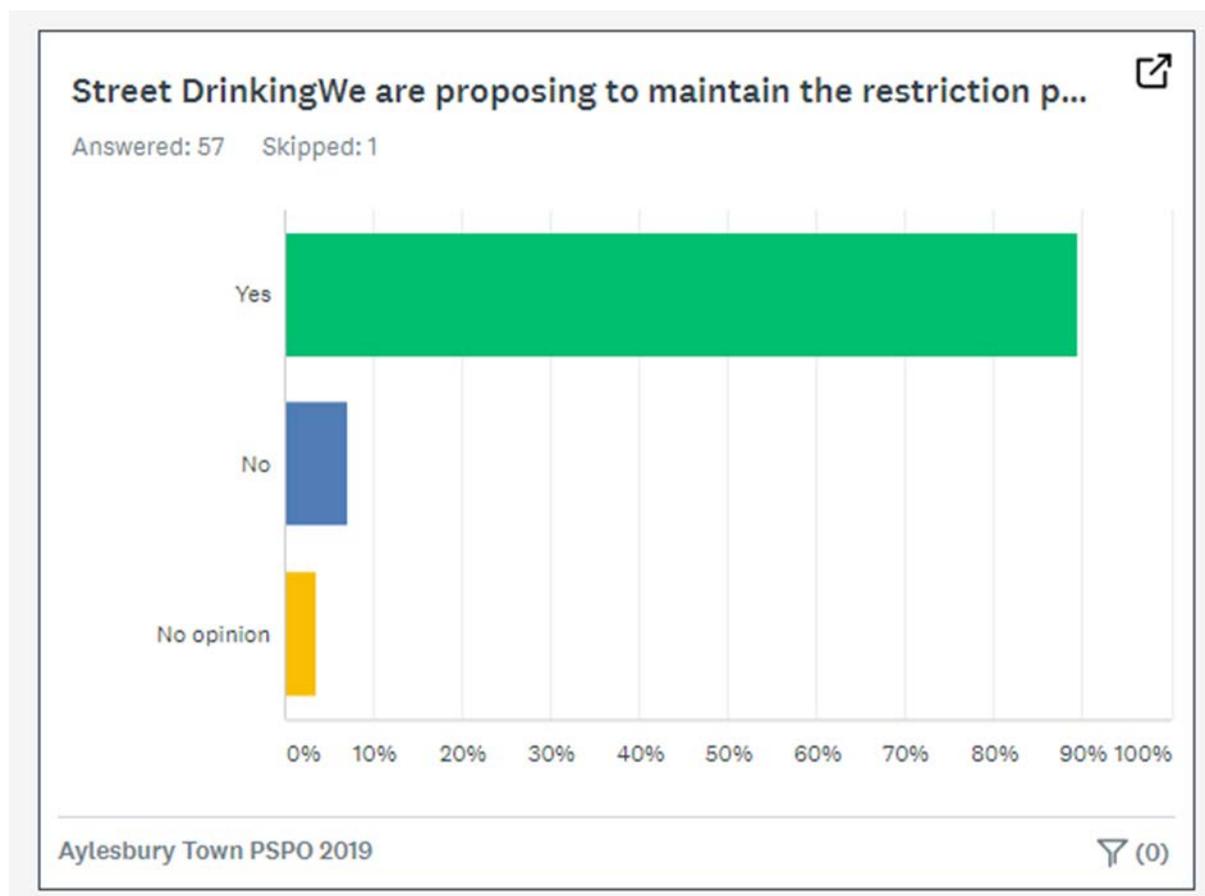
In relation to the current prohibitions, the greatest perceived problems from respondents relate to street drinking, intimidating or aggressive behaviour and parking on the paved areas of Kingsbury/Market square.



80% of respondents see street drinking as a very big or fairly big problem
 58% of respondents see public urination and defecation as a very big or fairly big problem.
 73% of respondents see intimidating or aggressive behaviour as a very big or fairly big problem.
 46% of respondents see dog fouling as a very big or fairly big problem.
 60% of respondents see parking on paved area of Kingsbury/Market Square as a very big or fairly big problem.

Street drinking in Aylesbury

80% of respondents see street drinking as a very big or fairly big problem and 89% of respondents support maintaining the restriction prohibiting the consumption of alcohol or being in the possession of an open container of alcohol in the town centre.



29 respondents submitted additional comments to support their view which are shown in the additional comments section at the end, see “Question 5 comments”.

The majority of the comments are supportive of the restrictions on possession and consumption of alcohol in the town centre, many citing its association with drunken, intimidating and other forms of anti-social behaviour. In many cases it would appear that the presence of street drinkers discourages people from visiting the town centre. Some respondents have mentioned the risk of displacement. One respondent has asked that further parts of Cambridge Street, Cambridge Close and Vale park be considered. In respect of extending the scope of the area, at present there is no evidence available to the Licensing Team to demonstrate street drinking has displaced to areas outside the town centre. It should be noted that Vale Park, along with many of the other open spaces and parks in the District have existing PSPOs specifically relating to prohibitions on possession and consumption of alcohol.

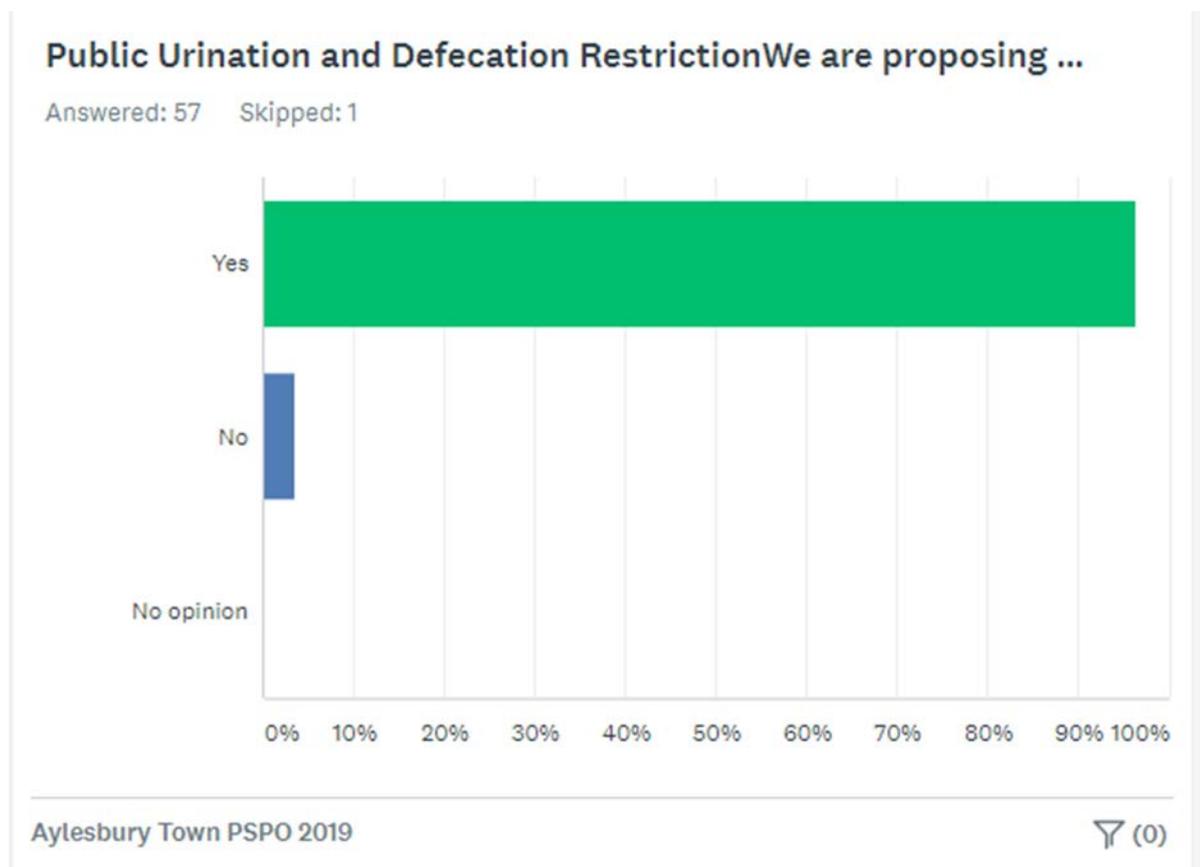
There is a comment in relation to the availability of FPNs (Fixed Penalty Notices). The licensing team are working closely with the Council's community safety team and the local police to address

the issue of street drinking and ensure the PSPOs are effectively enforced. The Council has adopted a strategy to enforce the PSPO when it was first implemented in 2016. The plan is published on the Council website and can involve written warnings, issuing FPNs and prosecution. Fixed Penalty Notice books have been produced by AVDC and disseminated to the police to issue should it be necessary. The licensing team have also installed additional replacement signage in the Kingsbury area, in response to a recent rise in the incidence of street drinking and associated anti social behaviour.

One respondent has asked that a prohibition on drug related activity also be considered, although no further supporting evidence has been produced to support this action.

Public urination and defecation

58% of respondents see public urination and defecation as a very big or fairly big problem, with 96% of respondents supporting the restriction.



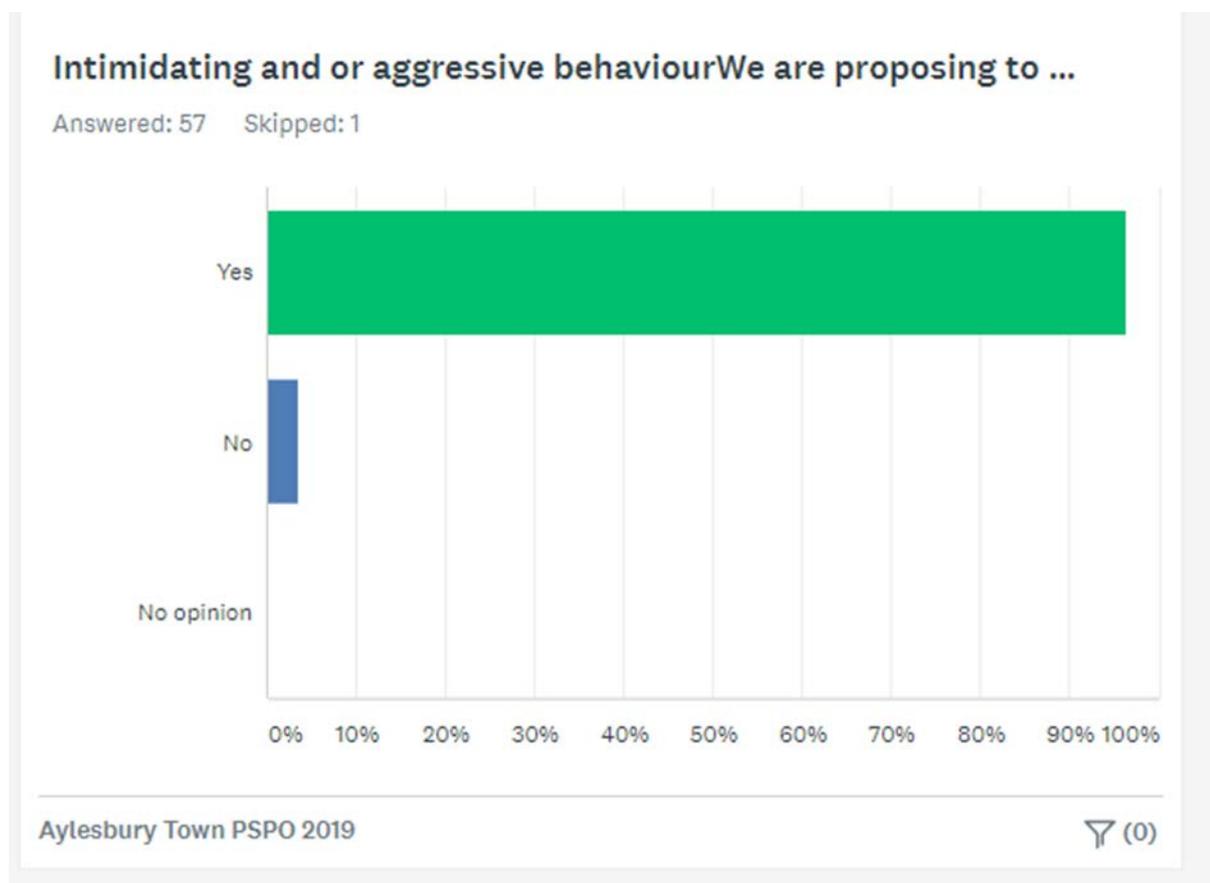
17 respondents submitted additional comments to support their view which are shown in the additional comments section at the end, see “Question 6 comments”.

Respondents additional comments generally amplified support for the restriction. Questions were raised about the legality of public urination and defecation. The current legal position is ambiguous on this matter and arguably the use of a PSPO removes that ambiguity.

One respondent again asked whether this restriction could be extended further along Cambridge Street, Cambridge Close and Vale Park. At present there is no evidence available to the Licensing Team to demonstrate that public urination and public defecation is a problem in these suggested areas.

Intimidating or aggressive behaviour

73% of respondents see intimidating or aggressive behaviour as a very big or fairly big problem, with 96% of respondents supporting the restriction.



22 respondents submitted additional comments to support their view which are shown in the additional comments section at the end, "Question 7 comments".

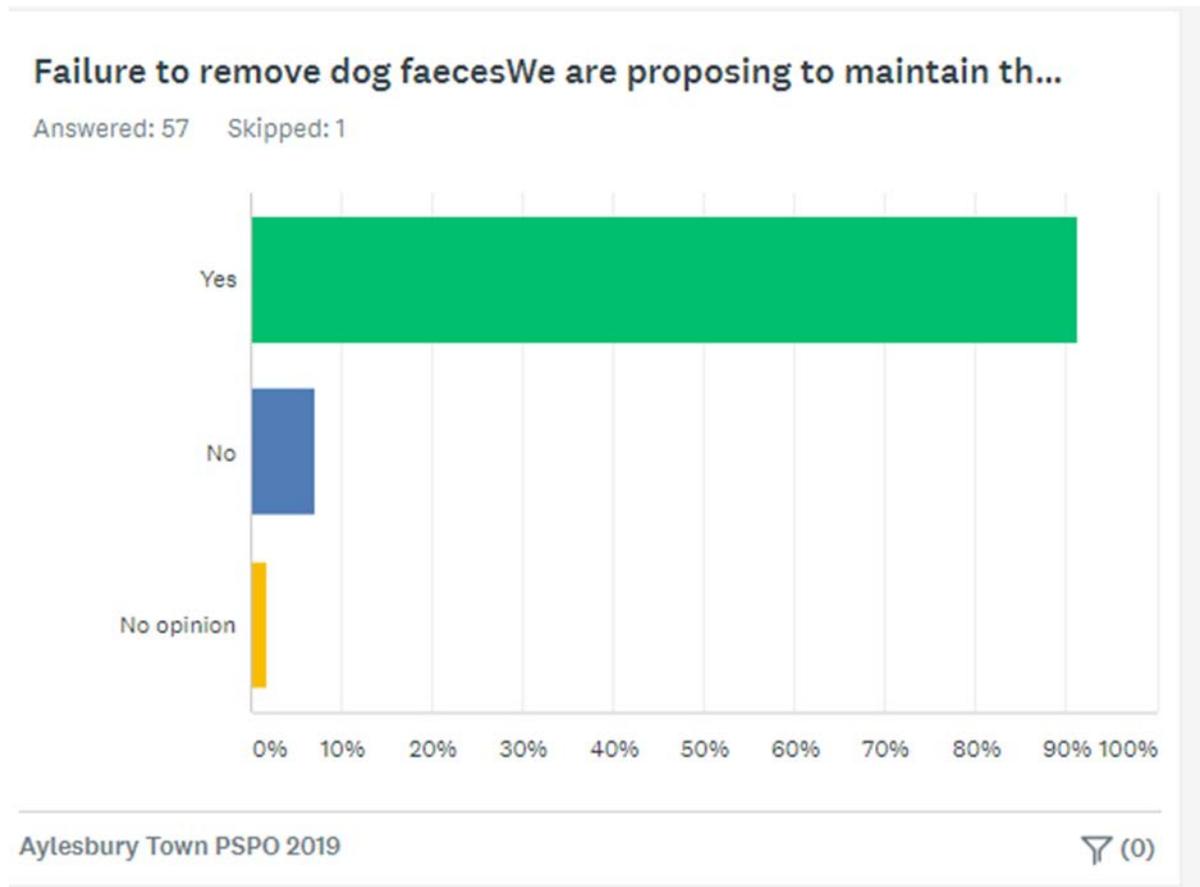
Respondents additional comments generally amplified support for the restriction and emphasised a desire to feel safe when visiting the town centre. Some respondents have questioned whether this behaviour is not illegal under other legal provisions. There are various closely linked offences under the Public Order Act 1986 such as: affray; fear or provocation of violence; harassment, alarm or distress, intentional or otherwise. These offences generally require the use, or threat, of violence, use of threatening or abusive words or behaviour or disorderly behaviour with resulting fear for safety, or causing harassment, alarm or distress. As such these offences involve adverse behaviour which would be considered more than anti-social or nuisance type behaviour.

One respondent specifically referenced the ability to move on people who beg. This issue has been considered previously by the Licensing Committee. PSPOs should not be used to essentially replicate existing laws; begging is an offence under Section 3 of the Vagrancy Act 1824.

One respondent again asked whether this restriction could be extended further along Cambridge Street, Cambridge Close and Vale Park. At present there is no evidence available to the Licensing Team to demonstrate that this behaviour is a problem in these suggested areas.

Failure to remove dog faeces

46% of respondents see failure to remove dog faeces as a very big or fairly big problem, 42% responding that it was a not a very big problem or a problem.

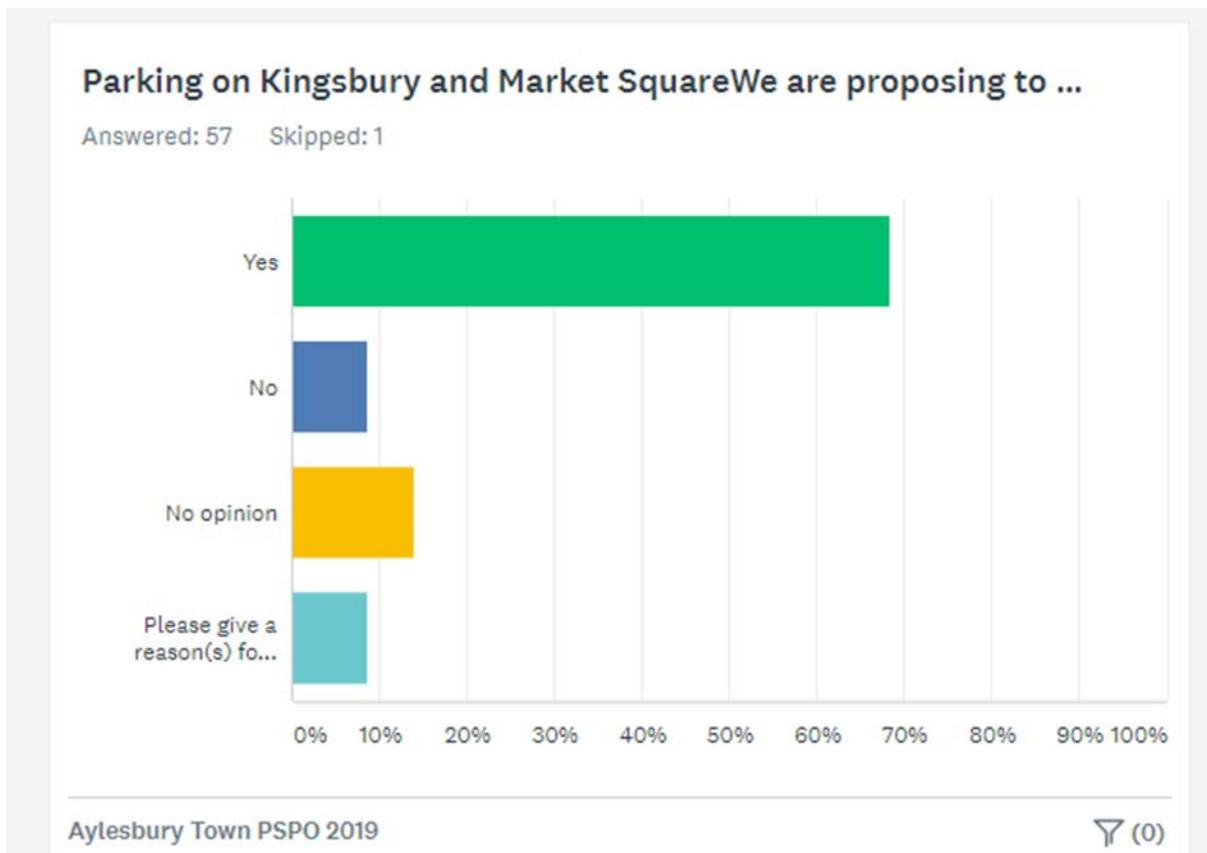


91% of respondents though support the restriction and 19 respondents submitted additional comments to support their view which are shown in the additional comments section at the end, "Question 8 comments".

Additional comments from respondents generally amplified support for this requirement. Some comments were made about Dog Control Orders: these no longer exist following the implementation of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. The appropriate power available to local authorities to control this behaviour is now PSPOs.

Parking on Kingsbury and Market Square paved areas

60% of respondents see parking on Kingsbury and Market Square paved areas as a very big or fairly big problem, with 68% of respondents supporting the prohibition.



8 respondents submitted additional comments to support their view which are shown in the additional comments section at the end, "Question 9 comments".

Additional comments from respondents generally amplified concerns about parking in the town centre area. A question was raised about the desire of police to enforce this restriction. To clarify, both the police and authorised officers of the Council are able to enforce prohibitions and requirements under the PSPOs. Recently Bucks CC parking services have agreed to take enforcement action in respect of vehicles parking in these areas and as reported in the comments this has helped see a reduction in this problem.

General comments concerning antisocial behaviour in Aylesbury Town Centre

23 general comments were submitted by respondents relating to a range of matters. Some respondents have concerns that there is inadequate enforcement and penalties are not robust enough. As mentioned earlier in the report, AVDC work closely with the police to tackle antisocial behaviour in the town. More recently Council officers, the police and local businesses have met and agreed additional actions to tackle antisocial behaviour in the town centre.

There was one specific complaint relating to rubbish accumulating on Bracken Way, this has been referred to the Council's waste department. There was another specific concern relating to cyclists using the pavement. The law states that cyclists must not cycle on the pavement and therefore it would not be appropriate to consider amending the PSPO to include prohibitions relating to cycling on the pavement.

Several comments reference begging, homelessness and rough sleepers in the town centre. Homelessness and rough sleeping is a complex issue and there are various reasons why a person may find themselves sleeping on street. The Council together with partner agencies are involved in various ongoing strategies to tackle the issue of rough sleeping and homelessness. Significant resources have been deployed to address these issues and all identified homeless persons are offered assistance. The town centre has seen a sizeable reduction in the numbers of genuinely homeless persons.

Some respondents have referenced other areas to be included within the PSPO area, namely: canal side and footbridge, waterside area by Waitrose and the college and the High Street. These areas are all covered by the existing Aylesbury PSPO and it maybe that that the PSPO area could benefit form additional signage to publicise this fact.

Two comments reference concerns around drugs and a desire to see control measures included with the PSPO. To date no direct evidence has been presented to the licensing team to suggest that this is an issue. As mentioned in the report, the PSPO powers cannot be used to replicate existing laws. There are already extensive laws in place to control the possession and supply of illegal drugs, with significant penalties for offenders. Some local authorities have introduced PSPO prohibitions relating to the possession of drug paraphernalia or “Psychoactive substances”, which in itself is not an offence but may be associated with antisocial behaviour in a particular area.

A comment has been made in relation to the potential for displacement of antisocial behaviour to other areas. Displacement is a recognised potential side effect of introducing PSPOs. To date there has been no evidence presented to the licensing team that this has happened with the existing PSPOs.

Additional Comments

Question 5 comments (prohibition on street drinking)

Aylesbury is a beautiful town, being ruined by a public that doesn't respect it, but they don't feel they own it. The community needs to take the streets and squares back, own them, and have a desire to improve them. It will have follow on effects with regards ASB and littering. If the people of Aylesbury love the town again, it will naturally become better.

Unfortunately when a possible argument starts the drinks get either thrown or knocked out of someone's hand

I associate this behaviour with social deviance and physical threat.

There is very small number of reasons to allow drinking in public spaces within the PSPO area, residential dwellings are limited & enforcement is likely to centre around the commercial areas. I would question if the zone should be extended to include parts for Cambridge Street/Close & Vale Park.

We need to be looking at reducing all alcohol consumption in UK

I've being in alfred rose memorial park and this motorbikes came in and even came a car, it was ridiculous and there were so many children running around there, so dangerous

The town has been better for it

There are enough pubs , or people could drink at home

When you are walking through this area even during the day it does 'feel' intimidating and typically I would avoid

I visited Aylesbury town centre each evening in the first half of June. - Kingsbury was a mess - drunken people shouting and swearing, litter everywhere etc.

I do support this. However, as a regular visitor to the town centre on Saturday evenings, I'm disappointed to regularly see large groups of mostly men sitting around white obviously drunk. They've been there all day. I've never seen these restrictions enforced and they should be - otherwise why go to the bother and expense of creating them. I work in the court system and know only too well how this kind of low-level of antisocial behaviour can lead to serious crime. It's also deeply unpleasant for families with children to see this sort of behaviour.

People are put off using business with this going on . I love the xxx and still went despite this , however some colleagues wouldn't go to xxx due to certain types of people loitering on way

I would feel safer knowing that it is not possible for people to be drinking on the streets.

In particular, Kingsbury and the Market square are intimidating places for residents and families to go at most times of the day

It is very intimidating for young children and does not set a good example.

Having a ban is clean and easy to understand and provides an excellent way of controlling potential anti-social behaviour

It is intimating trying to walk through Kingsbury and Buckingham Street areas with drunks everywhere. Even at 9.30 in weekdays I have seen them. It's uncomfortable to walk through, especially with a young child.

If people want to drink alcohol, they should do it in a licenced establishment or at home.

I avoid taking my children near Kingsbury due to the street drinkers, the foul language and aggressive behaviour

Particularly anti social behaviour that contributes to violence. However this needs to be enforceable through FPNs, which we have never had

It gives the police an additional tool to deter/prevent ASB

This has been going on for a long time by certain groups of people [mainly male] in the Kingsbury Square area.

The consumption of alcohol is permitted elsewhere. The town centre should not be treated differently.

Seeing people consuming alcohol in public places is extremely frightening.

I think that if allowed it would be a factor in increasing other anti social behaviour.

To reduce the incidence of alcohol-related anti-social behaviour, I am in support of this requirement. I also support this requirement to be expanded to 'drug-related activity' as drug use and other such drug activity is increasingly becoming a causal factor of anti-social behaviour in the town centre.

I do not believe this will act as a deterrent or prevent people drinking and engaging in antisocial behaviour. It will push these people into other areas of the town with less CCTV cover and less police footfall. I believe the problem will move to residential areas creating a risk to the public and to the, sometimes, vulnerable adults engaging in this behaviour.

Reduce anti social behaviour, however people will move to a different area.

There is simply no reason to street drink when bars and cafes are open. People carrying drink lower the tone of the Town. Drinkers can sit for hours in one place making time difficult for shoppers to enjoy the same space.

Question 6 comments (prohibition on public urination and defecation)

Seriously? Who could click no? That being said, you need to provide safe, clean public toilets.

It's a dirty habit when public toilets are available especially defecation, lots of men think it's fine to urinate whenever the need takes them

This behaviour is not only inherently disgusting, but when apparent (including the stains often left on my neighbour's property, here in the 'picturesque' Old Town), it can only deter visitors and incomers.

I would question if the zone should be extended to include parts for Cambridge Street/Close & Vale Park. I'm not sure if the area covering the train station car park is suitable.

It is disgusting

This is anti social behaviour

This is surely self evident

Because it's disgusting and illegal anyway.

Some colleagues and I watched a guy dump in the street from a distance last year , we have to remove these behaviours out of our town and show not acceptable

As long as there are accessible and available toilets then it is a good thing to prohibit.

So disrespectful and neglectful.

Can this be leagal anywhere?

We are surely better than animals!

Plenty of public toilets in the town centre, so no need for these things to take place.

Whilst I do not see this as a major issue, it is obviously totally undesirable, so the powers should exist

Health and decency needs to be upheld.

There is nothing worse than the odour and sight of both in the street or against buildings.

Question 7 comments (Intimidating and aggressive behaviour)

Again, can't really see who could disagree with this. Unfortunately most people are scared of standing up and intervening. The behaviour is a symptom of far wider issues, but that doesn't mean it should be tollerated.

A person should be able to walk through, shop or generally go about their business without being intimidated or abused.

It should be illegal anyway.

There is very little reason to lift the order within the existing PSPO area, enforcement is likely to centre around the commercial areas in evenings, primarily around the weekend. I would question if the zone should be extended to include parts for Cambridge Street/Close & Vale Park.

Because people get scared and can affect others and make them afraid of going out

People should feel they can walk round their town hassle free

People should feel safe

As previously answered

Everybody visiting the town centre should have the right to feel safe, safe, safe !!!

It would be nice to see an occasional police foot patrol through the town centre to enforce this instead of just reactive policing.

If you allow it you will drive out the good people and be left with the bad.

Any kind of intimidating or aggressive or hateful behaviour towards others, whether verbal or physical should not be tolerated. I support the decision to maintain this restriction.

Not acceptable at any time of day or night.

People who beg should be moved on and other aggressive or intimidating behaviour should be

nipped in the bud through proactive and assertive policing.

I have seen far too many incidents of aggression in the town centre. It's scary. I avoid town at night because of this

Such behaviour is a deterrent for visitors and damages the town centre economy. The main advantage of this power is that it shows potential visitors that we have zero tolerance.

This has been the case on several occasions which occur in the Kingsbury Square Area of the town.

If left unchecked it will only increase.

As it should be in all parts of the town.

Public confidence

Aggressive behaviour scares innocent bystanders and lowers the tone of the Town.

Question 8 comments (failure to remove dog faeces)

Oh come on.. No brainer. CCTV should be monitored, and dog owners who fail to clean up, fined. Use the money to provide more bins for dog mess.

As a dog owner it is common sense to always carry a little plastic bag and clean up after your dog has done his business. Germs from the faeces can be picked up on your shoes and passed on to many unsuspecting persons.

I want my town to be civilised and seen as such.

Dog faeces is a scourge on public areas, I would like to see a compulsory registration, so that excrement left can be traced back for issuing fines.

Health hazard

Why would you not?

Don't know how. when I catch someone who doesn't clean up after his dog I pay attention to it

Enforce higher fines. A warning doesn't work

I have 2 dogs but always have dog bags and pick up. I would say however we could do with more bins and more emptying at times.

It is anti-social behaviour to not pick up after your dog.

Against the law, disgusting practice.

There should be a significant fine for anyone caught not picking up after their dog

I thought this was a national law anyway?

I am not aware of this being a particular issue

Health risk to children - should apply everywhere!

Health.

Already covered by Dog Control Orders?

This is a huge and very unpleasant issue in the town centre.

Dog fouling is just as bad as human fouling except they appear on pavements and become trodden in. Croft Passageway HP21 7DR is very narrow and bicycles plus wheelchairs and feet have to try dodging this foul nuisance on a weekly basis even though there is a dog bin clearly standing in Croft Passageway.

Question 9 comments (parking on Kingsbury and Market Square)

Adequate parking must also be provided especially disabled bays as it is quite a walk from the garages to shops there

Watching the traffic wardens ignore illegally parked vehicles is frustrating... But they need backing up by local police officers if they encounter aggression. Maybe a couple of hours a week they are accompanied by a PCSO/PC to give them the confidence to challenge anyone parked illegally?

The amount of illegal parking makes it dangerous for a pedestrian, and I'm frequently on foot in the town centre.

I support this because it makes sense to keep it as much of a pedestrian area as possible.

Pedestrianised area.

This should be designed out, or dealt with through parking legislation. The Police would not want to be involved in the enforcement of this part of the PSPO.

This is a daily problem mainly at night and at weekends, they park all over the place on pavements, in the centre of the square and just leave their vehicles.

The PSPO in these areas were ineffective. The power to impose immediate fines has now been passed to Bucks CC who use their on street parking team to manage it - generally this has been very effective, with very limited evidence of this now being a problem.

Question 10 – other comments concerning antisocial behaviour in Aylesbury Town Centre

The police dont seem to think that the PSPO gives them effective powers and restricts them compared to the old powers. Please can this be investigated as on street drinking and anti social behaviour seems on the rise.

In general, (and as someone who moved out from London) Aylesbury town centre doesn't have a significant ASB problem. But it is creeping up, and getting worse. The drinkers are a bit grotty, but generally keep to themselves until they're well into their cups... Rough sleepers at the pedestrian underpass by the main post office needs sorting out, and the gang of beggars that ship in for the weekends to work the cinema area need kicking out. Other than that, it's generally just kids being gobby... good luck making much of a dent into that!

Like all other crimes, it seems sentences given by the courts and fines are not adequate to deter this kind of behaviour

Its policing (literal or metaphorical) in daylight hours has long been wholly inadequate in my view.

at bracken way there is so many garbage around because is not cleaned every day from the school kids come to the shop near by, it looks very dirty. the Kids are good putting the trash at the bin but is not collected everyday so is always overloaded

The amount of homeless that are not homeless is also a problem in Aylesbury

Pavements are increasingly dangerous from cyclists.

I have noticed an increase of the amount of people begging or sleeping rough in and around the town centre. AVDC/BCC need to address this problem as it puts myself and others off from visiting the town centre

Please ban motor cycles on the fields and green areas behind NENE close. Too much noise from them . They congregate by the brook, drinking and smoking weed. Most are underage and their language is foul

Please, if you're going to go to the trouble of creating these zones, have the police actually arrest the offenders, as this behaviour is regularly observed but I've never even seen someone spoken to about it.

We need to remove all asb from our town to encourage people to enjoy it and not be scared of it. Exchange is a lovely new area don't let this end up like Kingsbury square has become and never used to be.

It would be helpful if this could extend down to the canal-side. Particularly by the foot bridge nearest to the Canal Basin. It seems to attract behaviour that is anti-social in various forms (from loitering late into the night, to drinking and littering).

Does not encourage families or older people to come 8nto the town centre, night or day.

I have only recently started visiting Aylesbury town centre so difficult for me to know why the prohibition order had to be introduced in the first place but happy it is there if it helps the relevant authorities to be assertive in dealing with unacceptable behaviour.

I won't visit the town centre in the afternoons with my son anymore as there are too many addicts hanging around. It is extremely unpleasant.

I don't know if begging falls into anti-social behaviour, but I've noticed it becoming more and more prevalent in the town centre. At the very least, it is a public nuisance, and makes the town less welcoming that it should be - in my opinion.

As a female with young children I'm scared to withdraw cash from machines outside in town, I avoid Kingsbury due to the people hanging around. Mac Donald's on the High street is also a place to avoid as many congregate outside and are threatening

Just that it appears to be mainly Eastern Europeans and Asian men.

I would like this order to cover the waterside area also, outside the college and Waitrose.

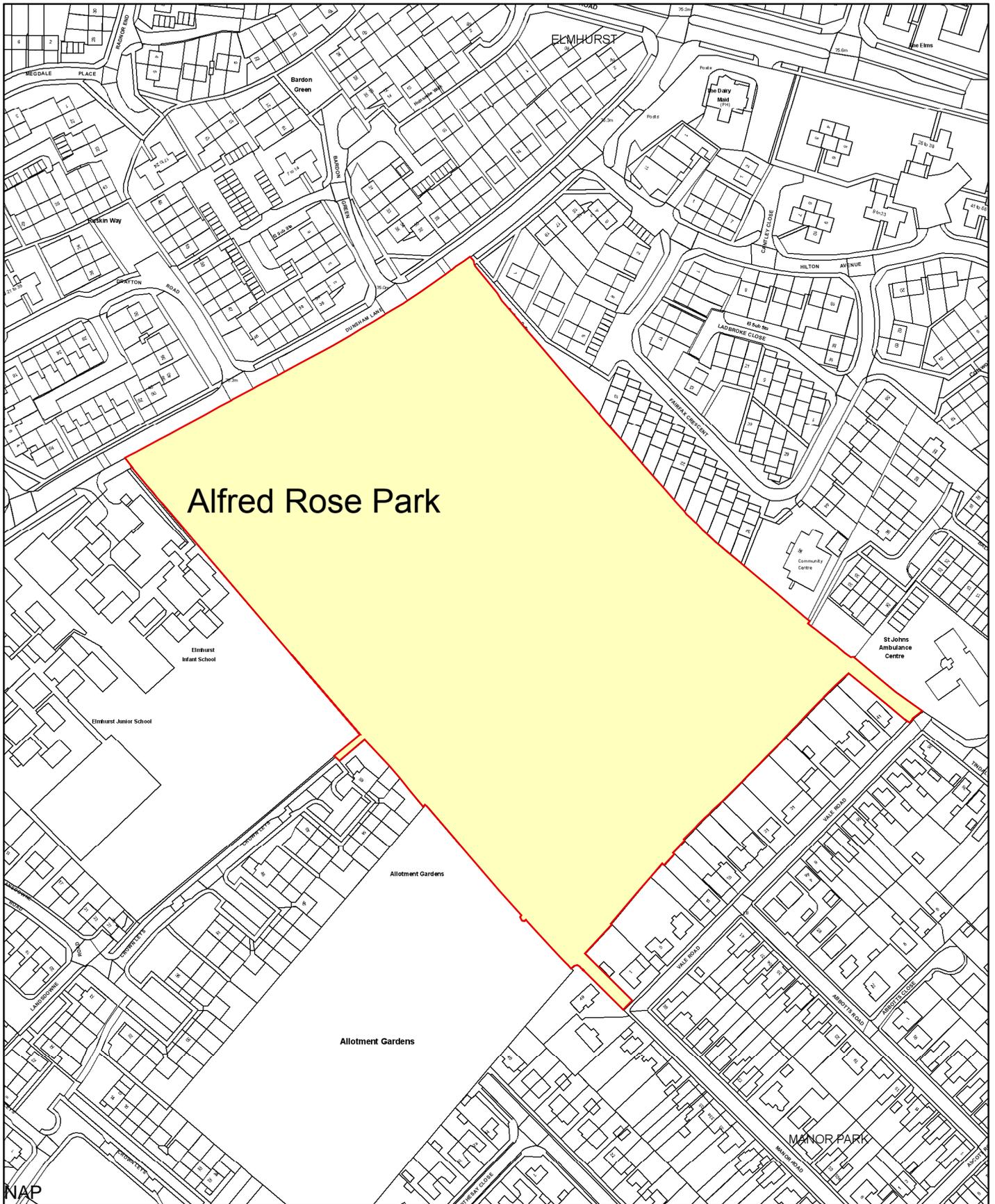
Kingsbury Square should be completely redesigned with very upmarket businesses, in order to keep the aggressive people out

As the ASB Officer for the housing trust, we collate data in relation to anti-social behaviour within the town centre where the Trust is a holder of housing in this area. We also work to safeguard residents who have become impacted by town centre activities. Drug activity and aggressive begging are two main areas of concern.

I do not believe criminalising street drinking will act as a deterrent or prevent people drinking and engaging in antisocial behaviour. It will push these people into other areas of the town with less CCTV cover and less police footfall. I believe the problem will move to residential areas and parks

creating a risk to the public and to the, sometimes, vulnerable adults engaging in this behaviour.

I would like to see more done about drug users and dealers being taken from the streets once and for all. If our Town can become anti-drinking and anti-social behaviour and anti-defecation then anti- drugs should also be at the top of your list.



Alfred Rose Park Aylesbury

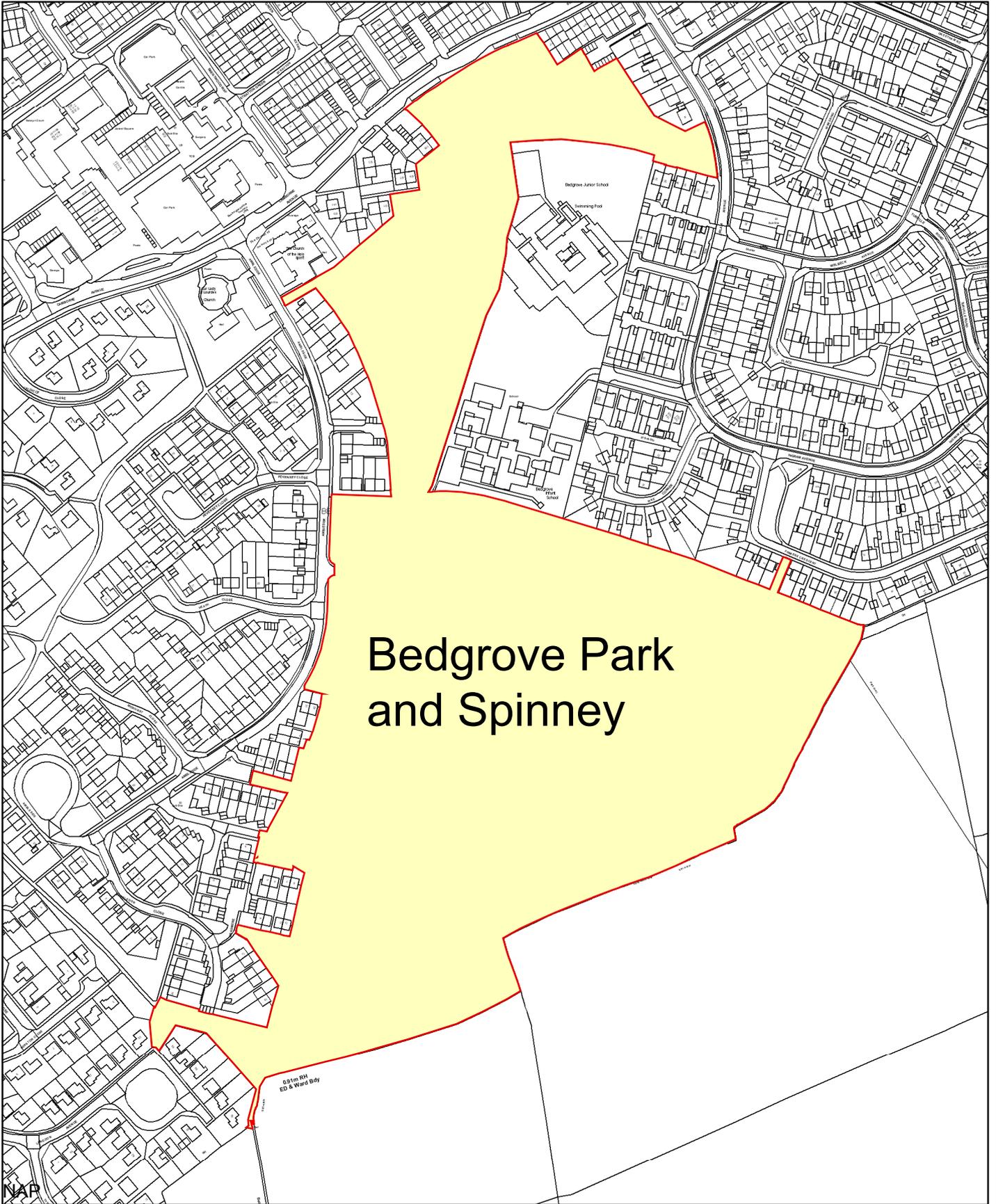
Legend

 Alcohol Free Zones



AYLESBURY VALE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

1:2,500



Bedgrove Park and Spinney

Aylesbury



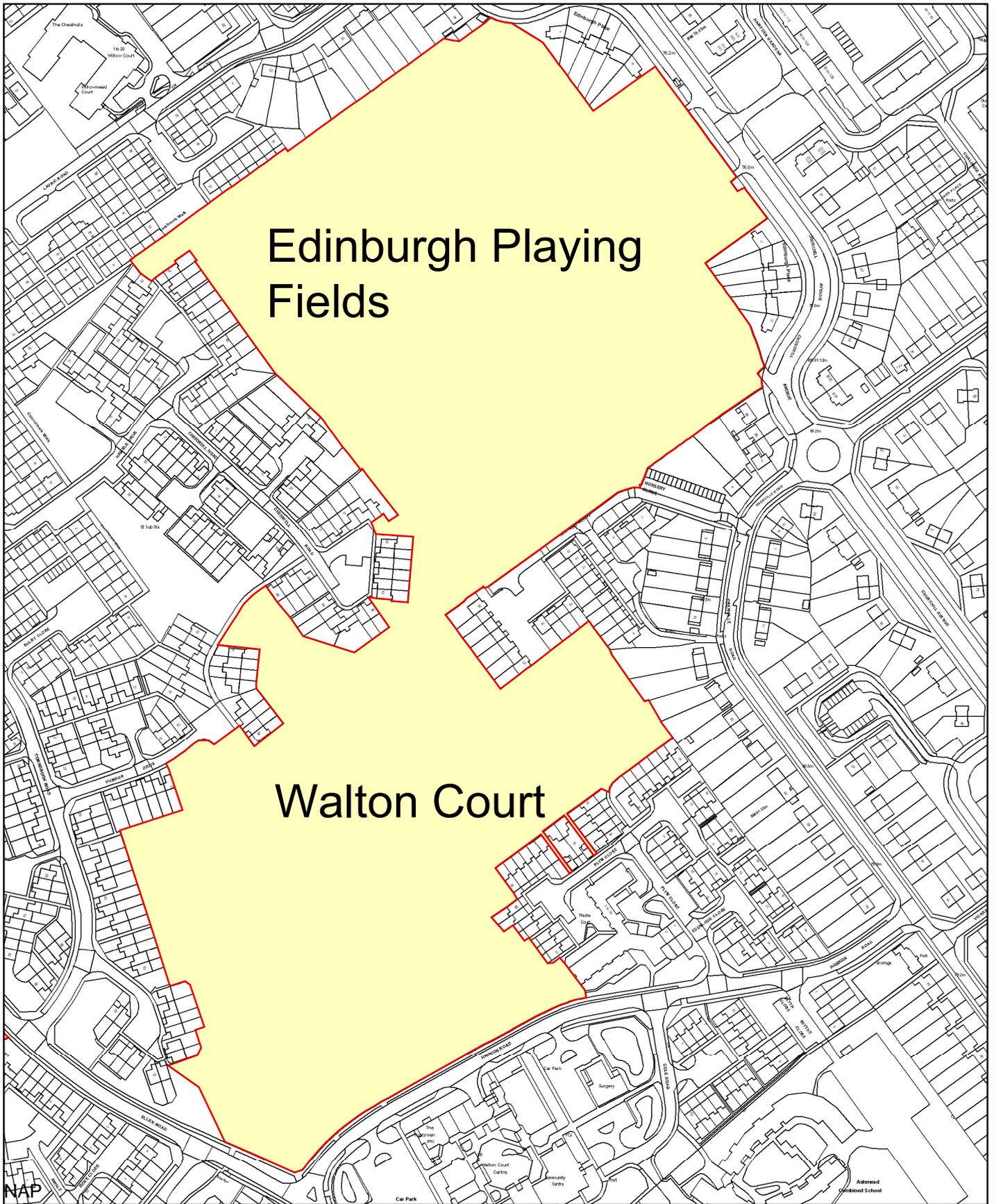
Legend

 Alcohol Free Zones



AYLESBURY VALE DISTRICT COUNCIL

1:4,000



Edinburgh and Walton Court Playing Fields Aylesbury

Page 37

Legend

 Alcohol Free Zones



AYLESBURY VALE DISTRICT COUNCIL

1:3,000

This page is intentionally left blank

Parks PSPO proposed consultees

- Chief Officer of Police
- PCC
- Ward Councillors
- Cabinet Members for Community Safety, Civic Amenities, Environment and Leisure and Waste and Licensing
- Aylesbury Anti Social Behaviour Officer
- Aylesbury Community Safety Partnership
- Aylesbury Vale Parks Department
- Licensing Committee
- BCC Youth Service
- South Central Ambulance Service
- AVDC social media and press channels

Alfred Rose Memorial Park, Bedgrove Park and Edinburgh Playing Fields PSPOs–

Draft Consultation Questions -

Introduction

What is your name? (Responses can be provided anonymously)

Name

What is your email address? (Only provide if you wish to receive feedback on the outcome of the consultation)

Email

What is your organisation? (if applicable)

Organisation

About you

Please select all that apply:

	Alfred Rose Memorial Park	Bedgrove Park	Edinburgh Playing Fields
I live near:			
I work near:			
I visit:			

Other (please specify): _____

1) Street Drinking

We are proposing to maintain the restriction prohibiting the consuming of alcohol or being in possession of an open container of alcohol in the 3 parks.

For each park please indicate whether you support this proposed restriction?

	Support	Don't support	No opinion
Alfred Rose Memorial Park			
Bedgrove Park			
Edinburgh Playing Fields			

Please give a reason(s) for your answer if you can:

2) Prohibition on mechanical propelled vehicles (mini motos, motor bikes, quad bikes, etc).

We are proposing to introduce a new prohibition on the use of mechanically propelled vehicles in a way that has caused or may be capable of causing nuisance and/or annoyance anywhere within the 3 parks.

For each park please indicate whether you support this proposed restriction?

	Support	Don't support	No opinion
Alfred Rose Memorial Park			
Bedgrove Park			
Edinburgh Playing Fields			

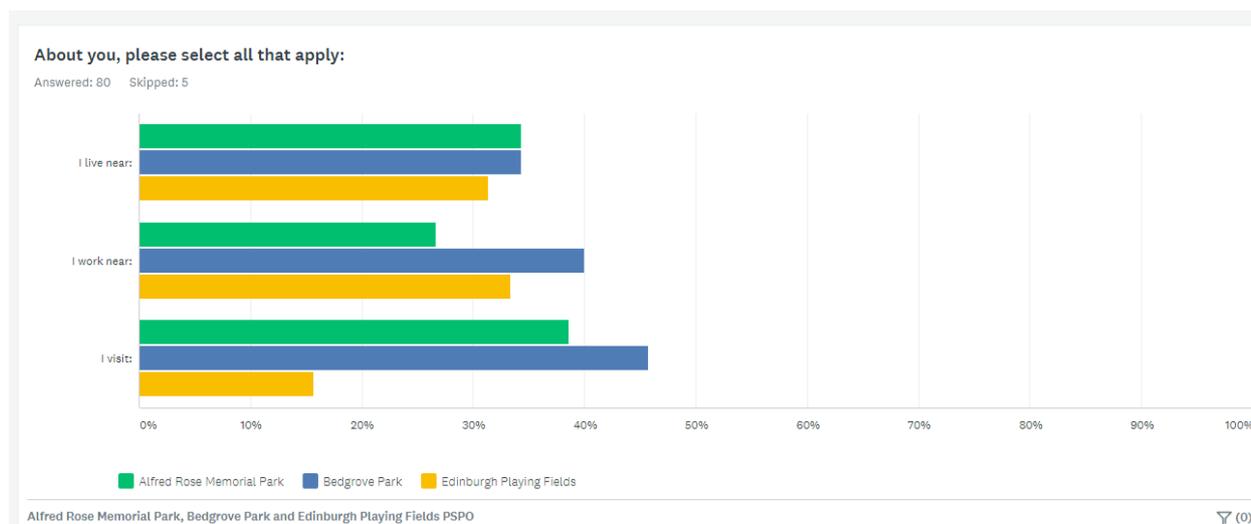
Please give a reason(s) for your answer if you can:

3) Do you have any other comments or observations you would like to make concerning antisocial behaviour in Aylesbury Vale parks?

This page is intentionally left blank

Alfred Rose Memorial Park, Bedgrove Park and Edinburgh Playing Fields PSPO consultation – overview and analysis

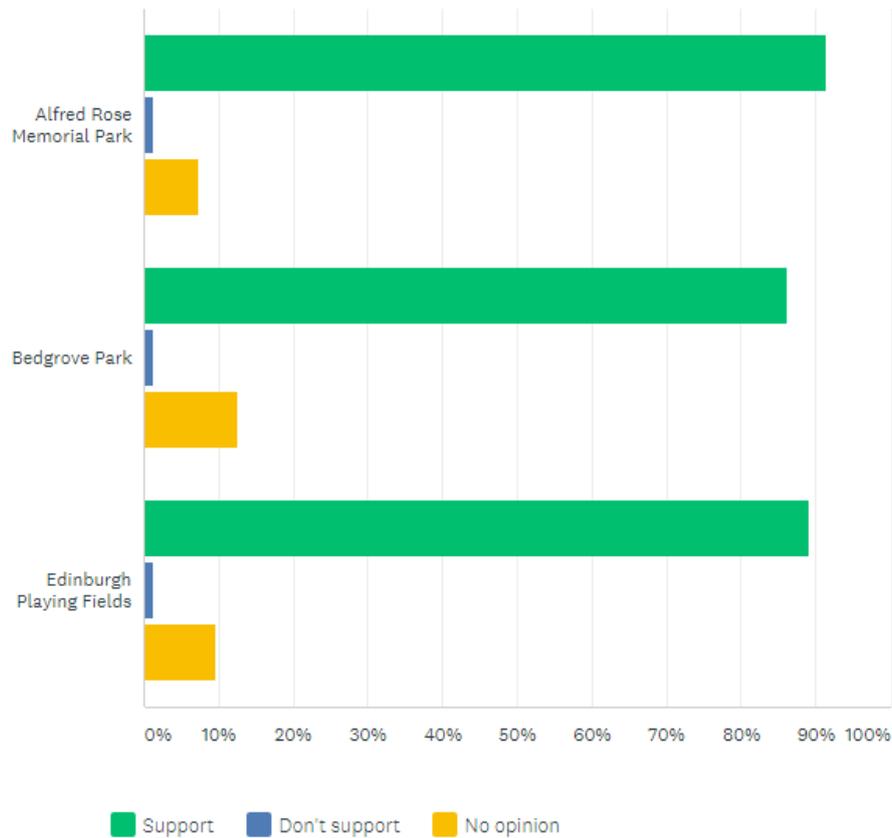
The consultation in respect of the proposed amendments to the current PSPOs for the three parks received 85 responses. Responses came from a broad range of interested parties including: local residents, workers and visitors to the area, local residents' associations, local schools, representatives of Bucks CC and AVDC and Thames Valley Police. The majority of respondents either live and or work near one or more of the parks. Bedgrove Park appears to be the most popular, visited by 46% of respondents, followed by Alfred Rose Memorial Park, visited by 39%, and Edinburgh Playing Fields visited by 16% of respondents.



	ALFRED ROSE MEMORIAL PARK	BEDGROVE PARK	EDINBURGH PLAYING FIELDS	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
I live near:	34.33% 23	34.33% 23	31.34% 21	67	1.97
I work near:	26.67% 4	40.00% 6	33.33% 5	15	2.07
I visit:	38.57% 27	45.71% 32	15.71% 11	70	1.77

Alcohol possession and consumption

There was clear support for maintaining the existing restrictions prohibiting the consumption and possession of alcohol in the three parks as shown below:



	SUPPORT	DON'T SUPPORT	NO OPINION	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Alfred Rose Memorial Park	91.46% 75	1.22% 1	7.32% 6	82	1.16
Bedgrove Park	86.25% 69	1.25% 1	12.50% 10	80	1.26
Edinburgh Playing Fields	89.16% 74	1.20% 1	9.64% 8	83	1.20

41 respondents submitted additional comments to support their view which are shown in the addition comments section at the end, "Question 4 comments".

The majority of the comments are supportive of the restrictions on possession and consumption of alcohol in the parks, many citing its association with drunken, intimidating and other forms of anti-social behaviour such as littering and fighting. Some respondents have mentioned safety concerns arising from potential interactions with intoxicated persons and broken glass.

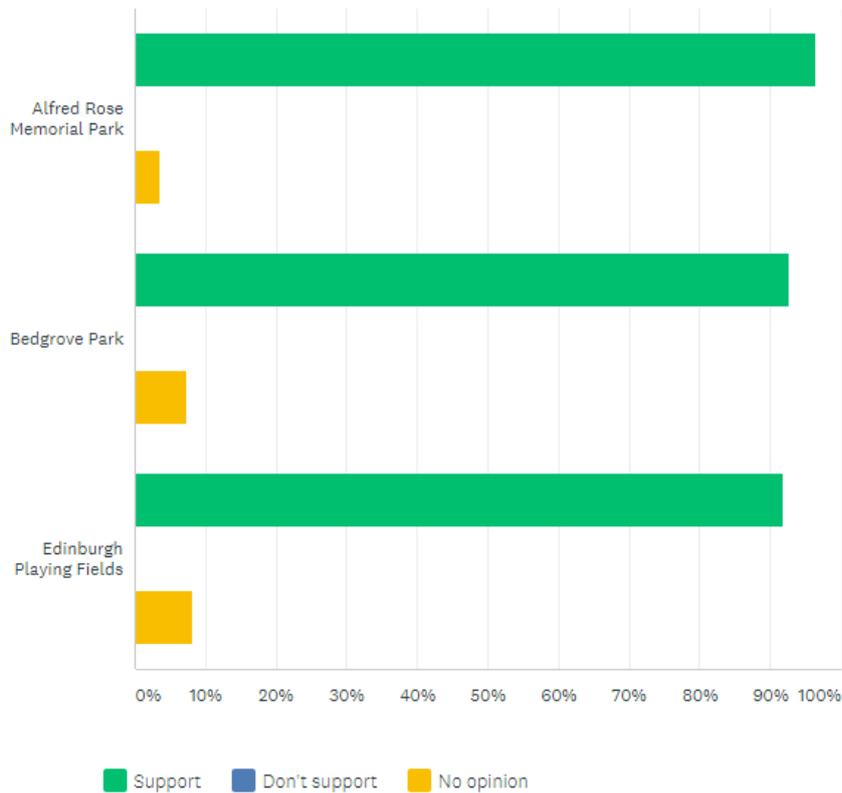
Several respondents have raised concerns relating to illegal drug use. To date no direct evidence has been presented to the licensing team to suggest that this is an issue. PSPO powers cannot be used to replicate existing laws and there are already extensive laws in place to control the possession and supply of illegal drugs, with significant penalties for offenders. Some local authorities have introduced PSPO prohibitions relating to the possession of drug paraphernalia or "Psychoactive substances", which in itself is not an offence but may be associated with antisocial behaviour in a particular area.

Some respondents have raised concerns about the possible impact on park users who may wish to consume alcohol but are not considered to be contributing to antisocial behaviour. Enforcement of the PSPO is a discretionary power and an offence is only committed if a person fails to comply with

a request to surrender, or cease consuming alcohol, by an authorised officer. In practice it is unlikely that the PSPO powers would be used if there is no perceived antisocial behaviour.

Mechanically propelled vehicles

There was clear support for introducing a ban on the use of mechanically propelled vehicles in a way that causes annoyance or nuisance as shown below:



	SUPPORT	DON'T SUPPORT	NO OPINION	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Alfred Rose Memorial Park	96.34% 79	0.00% 0	3.66% 3	82	1.07
Bedgrove Park	92.59% 75	0.00% 0	7.41% 6	81	1.15
Edinburgh Playing Fields	91.76% 78	0.00% 0	8.24% 7	85	1.16

[Comments \(49\)](#)

49 respondents submitted additional comments to support their view which are shown in the additional comments section at the end, "Question 5 comments".

The additional comments generally expand upon the reasons why respondents support this measure, namely: the dangers to other parks users, particularly children and dog walkers; intimidation and abuse from riders; damaged grass; safety risk to riders. A number of respondents

also cite evidence of personal negative experience in support of their responses.

One respondent has suggested that an appropriate area be provided where motorised vehicles can be ridden safely, without causing a nuisance. Theoretically this could help address the issue but there would be numerous matters to consider including responsibility, accountability, location, management, safety, insurance and cost.

Another respondent has asked whether Alfred Rose Memorial Park could be locked at night. This is a matter to be considered by the parks department.

It has been asked whether Quarrendon Fields could be included; this area was not identified as a problem area when this current consultation was devised. If there is evidence to support this proposal then a further consultation could be conducted.

The issue of enforcement has been raised. Generic fixed penalty notices have been provided to the police to assist with enforcement. These notices can be used to enforce any breach of a PSPO. It is anticipated that should these new restrictions be introduced, an early period of robust enforcement would help alleviate the problem. Before any enforcement action can be taken, breaches need to be witnessed by authorised officers. It is important that any new measures introduced are publicised and transgressions are reported so resources can be deployed to tackle the issue.

One respondent has asked that the restriction also apply to radio controlled cars. The proposed prohibition is worded in such a way that these vehicles could be included, should they be found to cause a nuisance.

General comments concerning antisocial behaviour in Aylesbury Vale's parks.

42 general comments were submitted by respondents relating to a range of matters. See additional comments section at the end, "Question 6 comments".

Many of the comments reiterate points made in response to the earlier questions. There are several references to the possession, use and supply of illegal drugs in the parks and surrounding areas. Respondents refer to general antisocial behaviour such as late night disturbance and verbal abuse and intimidation from other park users. Concerns are raised about the lack of enforcement resources.

Some new concerns were raised: abuse of children's play equipment (ARMP); public urination in Edinburgh playing fields; uncontrolled dogs; children hitting golf balls; children climbing on roof of Bedgrove community centre.

Some solutions have been proffered by respondents to some of the issues raised: locking parks at night to help reduce antisocial behaviour; require dogs to be kept on leads; extend the prohibition on mechanically propelled vehicles to all parks; enhance the lighting in AMRP; more cycle lanes.

Any deliberate damage to play equipment should be reported as a crime. Prohibition on public urination could be included in the park's PSPO, although further consultation will be needed; to date no evidence has been presented to suggest that this is an issue of concern.

There is no blanket law requiring dogs to be kept on leads, however PSPOs can be used to make this a requirement. To date no evidence has been presented to suggest this is an issue of concern in the Vale's parks. Under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, it is an offence to allow a dog to be "dangerously out of control", which applies to any breed or type of dog and applies not only if someone is injured but also if they fear they may be injured.

Hitting golf balls in a public area should be reported to the police if this being done with the intention of causing harm. Children climbing on the roof of the community centre is obviously also

a cause for concern and the matter has been reported to the community centre management.

Additional Comments

Question 4 comments (prohibition on possession and consumption of alcohol)

This prohibition unfortunately captures any family picnics and the like enjoyed by law abiding citizens who might like a small amount of an alcoholic drink as part of an event. However, on balance I support maintaining this given the risk that some of the town's street drinkers could congregate in the parks and cause disturbance and concern to families with children using the park.

If you provide areas for this type of recreation you would not have a problem. All too often councils and organisations discriminate against motorcycle and similar. Not everyone wants to ride bicycles or horses etc.. So provide facilities and you won't have a problem

Unfortunately many that bring alcohol do not drink responsibly. They also tend to litter.

I think children should be allowed to play at parks that are designed for them without intoxicated people sleeping, urinating or being violent

It can be intimidating for passers by when people are openly drinking lots of alcohol .

I support restrictions on the consumption and possession of open container alcohol in the Alfred Rose Memorial park. I have a specific opinion on this particular park because I visit it the most, compared to the other two parks that are stated. I am specifically worried about the broken glass that may be left behind from an alcohol container. With children playing, shattered glass pieces will pose a significant risk to the health and well-being of any individuals that use the facilities of the park. Deep cuts/lacerations are extremely dangerous as I have been a victim to such injuries.

Parks are for families to enjoy not people to drink alcohol

The parks should be available for safe use by all; if some are incapacitated, they could affect others' access to these facilities.

Parks should be safe places to relax in.

Alcohol is still consumed on the Eddy and also drug use and supply. Most days motorbikes. They don't even care if there is football or kids playing, they deliberately ride near them.

I walk my dogs regularly at Alfred Rose Park. Drunk teenagers and young people smoking weed openly in the park is happening almost every time. I visit, especially on a nice summer evening.

*People should be allowed to drink a beer in a park. But they should not get drunk there and annoy others. You are not going to achieve anything by prohibition. Let the people who want to drink one beer drink one beer. Punish the people who can't handle their alcohol and do sh*t.*

With young children and an elderly disabled mother in a wheel chair the dangers of motorcycles driven in this open space are huge!

These are family/child environments. Often visited by mums with children. These areas need to be safe places.

It's unpleasant to have drunks in public areas. Their behaviour can be unpredictable.

Sets a bad example

They are dangerous and a threat to people, especially walking their dogs. My dog was nearly run over in there this year when one of them came racing across the park.

ASB

I've seen persons who appears to be under the influence exhibit heightened aggressive behaviour around infants playing.

There is a real problem with people drinking and taking drugs in Alfred Rose and Dunsham park

Because it leads to the teenagers behaving like jobs and trashing things

It just leads to fights anyway. Although I've never seen this actually being policed.

I support not being drunk in the park also minors not drinking in the parks - however as an adult not being able to enjoy a glass of wine with friends on a picnic I disagree with, although I appreciate this is hard to manage

Litter is usually left, also drunks get left in park by police. Please could that also be addressed, they should be taken to a cell to sober up.

The scooters are being rode around the park at high speed presenting a danger to the rider and other park users (walkers , dogs etc). The scooters tend to appear in the evening making excessive noise and causing a general nuisance. Sometimes they use the back field towards Weston Turville Golf Club and this does not cause me as much concern although still noisy.

They are a bloody nuisance

This encourages anti-social behaviour. On Walton court they now gather outside a number of houses, drinking, a smell of drugs in the air, watching the coming & going of residents in the area, this has started up again on Sulby Close.

Young people gather in the park with cans of lager, drink too much and become rowdy and sometimes aggressive. They generally leave their empty cans and other litter behind and cause vandalism and damage to property. Local residents are then left to clear up the mess.

Alcohol is often the catalyst for anti social behaviour and especially so in younger teenagers

To reduce anti social behaviour and feeling that these are not family friendly spaces drunk people make you feel anxious with a young family

Not good example for young children. Is intimidating for others and leave bottles or cans lying around.

Alcohol should only be consumed in a licenced establishment or at home.

Help to control ASB (especially in 1 and 3

Drinking in these areas would contribute to an increase in ASB

Help reduce potential anti-social behavior issues

It's a public place where young children and families should feel safe. I would add a restriction of no smoking of marijuana on the street or in public spaces because I see and smell it every day.

Alcohol contributes to antisocial behaviour especially by underage young adults.

More formal restrictions are needed to curb the bad behaviour of few. Reasonable behaviour is generally the case throughout.

Anti social behaviour ruins everybody else's enjoyment of the park area.

The Parks are for all the public to use and the drinking of alcohol can lead to antisocial behavior

Consuming alcohol in these parks is not nice for visitors especially children to see and often leads to anti social behaviour.

Question 5 comments (prohibition on mechanically propelled vehicles)

I see no reason why they should be allowed.

Strongly support this. we had a plague of such events late last year in ARP. One night whilst I was out walking in the dark (surveying for owls, believe it or not) I witnessed such an event. The rider rode around the cricket square for some time in tight scrambling type circles, as if trying to damage the pitch. and then roared off at great speed up the paths and out onto the roads. bad enough to be doing this in the path, but the events last year showed that such behaviour was then linked with excessive speed on our narrow streets.

If you provide areas for this type of recreation you would not have a problem. All to often councils and organisation discriminate against motorcycle and similar. Not everyone wants to ride bicycles or horses etc.. So provide facilities and you won't have a problem

I have seen people on motorised vehicles on several occasions. I consider them extremely dangerous They have little or no consideration for other park users and they damage the grass.

They are a public nuisance but even more importantly they are dangerous to park users.

The parks are for people, children, responsible dog walkers who should be allowed to enjoy the facilities and nature of the parks without being harassed by vehicles of any sort. As this mostly happens in the evening, Why isn't ARMP closed and locked at night as it previously was. This proposal has been forwarded previously without any feasible answers, There had also been a suggested way to carry this out without too much additional cost!

They're loud and release harsh chemicals into the air. I've found that most motorcycle riders in Aylesbury are aged between 16-25 and this is the highest crash risk group. I wouldn't feel comfortable letting my child run around near a motorist in a park just incase they skid off the path

They are noisy and anti-social (disturbing the peace and tranquilly of a park space)and potentially dangerous especially regarding children, animals and pets.

7/1/2019 5:16 PM Add tags – View respondent's answers

great in principle, but don't see any way to legally enforce it, given the lack of sufficient policing, and the ease with which the people on those vehicles can get away down back alleys/paths that police can't easily chase down.

I support restrictions on mechanically propelled vehicles in the Alfred Rose Memorial park. I have a specific opinion on this particular park because I visit it the most, compared to the other two parks that are stated. Mechanically propelled vehicles cause disturbance to neighbouring residents, moreover, it affects the landscape of the park.

I have witnessed scooters being without thought for peoples safety driven on the football pitches on Bedgrove Park

Motored vehicles are for transport use, on roads, and not recreational use in parks.

Because they can endanger the safety of the users of the park (children, adults & dogs) & they are intimidating.

As above

Very worried that they will knock someone over one day and cause serious injury or even worse death. They go so fast and also make lots of noise.

These types of vehicles aren't allowed on public footpaths, so why should the culprits think it is ok to drive them around parks and play area's.

People who are riding these vehicles are inconsiderate to other members of the public using the park. Especially dangerous for young children and dog walkers.

Small children playing. There should NOT be any motorised vehicles anywhere near them. Particularly as the users are often young and can't always control them.

However.....please consider giving these young people places where they can safely enjoy being on their bikes etc!

*Same like before. You would be punishing everyone for bullsh*it of few.*

Also include Quarrendon fields in this proposal

Dangerous for all especially young children and disabled

These areas need to be safe for children and their families.

They are dangerous to other park visitors. Also they ruin the grass when the riders use them on wet grass and churn it up.

Nearly got run into the other day

No care given to the small children playing or people walking dogs. Just ride round at high speeds ruining the park for others and almost causing a number of accidents

Maybe stops the drug dealing at the tree line on the Edinburgh Playing Fields.

Person's seen especially teenagers and young adults frequently capped past and around children playing recklessly and curse out persons who may scold them about it

I have seen people regally riding bikes in the park

These are road going veichle they are dangerous and they scare my kids it's just leading to asbo

Noisy and dangerous and they tear up the grass

They are a damn nuisance and exceptionally loud, they interfere with normal people being able to use these valuable green spaces and cause untold damage to the environments. Can you also ban petrol remote controlled vehicles as they are a real nuisance too.

I support this because quite often the young kids who typically ride them have no awareness of others and several times i or my dog (on a lead!) have nearly been run over, let alone the young kids in the play park Also for the kids protection who are riding the bike as often they wear no protection and if they were to come off the bike, they could injure others and themselves.

see previous answer

Noisy and a nuisance

This needs to be widened to the adjoining fields to Edinburgh playing fields, to the fields opposite Walton Court shops & at the front of Churchmere Walk. This sort of behaviour is rife, particularly in the evenings & at weekends; even full size motorbikes, being ridden by adults & other motorised scooters etc by a range of ages, riding 'off-road' while under the legal driving age.

The people using these often have no sense of the danger they are causing to other park users. they cause a noise nuisance being ridden close to houses.

Such vehicles should never be allowed to be operated on these open spaces, often ridden by underage/unlicensed and uninsured persons

These things are a nuisance in so many ways a family park is not the place for them. Dangerous, noisy and rip up the grass.

Nuisance for nearby residents and dangerous for other park users.

Not only are these a noise nuisance, but they are very clearly a danger to the riders and members of the public.

Public safety and noise nuisance

Particularly dangerous activity that we haven't ever really got to grips with. This would be another tool to use, assuming there would be FPNs to go with them.

Help reduce potential anti-social behavior issues and increase the safety of park/open space users

Common sense

These bikes and those who ride them can be great fun but can also be frightening noisy and threatening to some people

They are ridden by young, inexperienced people who show a lack of empathy for other park users. They ride close to other park users, often on purpose, and it won't be long until an innocent park user is seriously injured.

I fully support this action to control such anti social behaviour. This kind of activity is dangerous and destroys our enjoyment of these green spaces.

I have seen first hand the nuisance caused by these motorbikes etc. often having no tax/insurance and driven without regard for anyone's safety let alone their own,

Question 6 comments (other comments concerning antisocial behaviour in Aylesbury Vale's parks)

One major and 2 lesser measures in relation to ARP would be well supported by our residents, being of great concern to them and reported through our meetings: 1) Drug use: much welcome work has been done to make it harder (e.g. cutting away undergrowth to make it harder to hide) but I would like to see the possession and discarding of drug paraphernalia added to this PSPO. There are still users in the park, so they are not entirely deterred by measures so far, and we are very keen for the police to have as much in the toolbox as possible. 2) one root contributor to the problems in the evenings and at night is the decision to leave the park unlocked. We understand that this was an economy measure and was challenged in terms of vfm / effectiveness, but this is frequently cited by our residents as a priority. It just makes it open season in the park after dark for any anti-social activity. 3) similarly, we are pressing also for lighting to be enhanced along the main pathways in ARP to give more assurance to walkers after dark. I am aware that this is on the

agenda of potential park improvements. But in summary, in this context I submit that the main priority for Manor Park residents lies in relation to tackling the issue of drugs paraphernalia.

My worry is that the authorities are already overstretched and will not have the manpower to enforce the rules.

ARMP:- Drug activity still takes place, mainly in the carpark. Antisocial behaviour by noise caused by large groups late at night. No respect for the children's play areas caused by abuse of the amenities and rubbish left everywhere,

While driving I find many people aren't capable of going in a straight line and they often swerve into the opposite lane. The most dangerous area for this is the gyratory since its 3 narrow lanes but I'm seeing it happen constantly. Buses always just switch their right indicator on and start moving away without even looking at the motorists who are already overtaking the bus. Cyclists need more of their own lanes, they hold up way too much traffic cycling in the middle of the road especially on high speed roads with blind bends.

I know of local residents who have been verbally abused when challenging any of the behaviour listed above. I am a member of the Manor Park Residents Association. We will be happy to try and assist the Council and local police where we can to help with the issues listed

short of 24/7 monitored CCTV and a much more open police presence, don't see how any of this can be easily achieved - plus all that costs money which the public sector haven't got.

N/A

Because police have had there numbers cut they don't have the resources to monitor anti social behaviour Because of anti social behaviour families are reluctant to visit parks

At Alfred Rose Park drug dealing openly happens all the time. Young people sit in groups smoking weed etc, there is deterrent to stop them. I have seen both of these scenarios often when I'm walking my dogs. Very rarely see any police or pcso's in the park.

By not giving these youngsters designated areas to safely have fun I regularly have motorbikes zooming across the green in front of my house leaving to the fields! A noise nuisance and dangerous as many children n dog walkers use this area. This isn't a park but I'd love it policed somehow!!!!

Alfred rose park is full of litter every single day. That's much bigger problem than a small motorcycle

Keep parks safe for all by doing this. But as a counter point, these "toys" can be fun to use and expensive to buy. So maybe promote access for bridle ways or fields in and around Aylesbury (with farmers/owners permission of course), so that people can use there toys in a safe fashion, rather than screaming about in public use parks, in a threatening fashion

How is this ban going to be sustained, who will be policing it? I'm guessing with the police cuts it's not going to be them

The parks should be pleasant safe areas for well-behaved people and animals to enjoy.

People drinking alcohol in public is anti social, and can trigger irrational behaviour. It can be intimidating, and makes me want to avoid the areas

Needles left in Alfred rose park People defecating in Alfred rose park Number of people sat on the benches using drugs

Drug dealing and public urination on the tree line of the Edinburgh Playing field along side Cherwell Road is commonplace.

Frequent usage of marijuana is used by large number of very young teenagers and young adults to the top area under trees at the Alfred Rose park

Alfred Rose is such a nice park but it is spoilt by people openly selling drugs. We need more police visible in the public areas

Just not enough enforcement on Bedgrove parks get away with most things if you want

Dogs should be on leads especially when children are there.

Dealing and consumption of drugs. The gates to Alfred Rose Park not being locked at night. This leads to antisocial behaviour at night.

Multiple drug deals are done every day on or around the playing fields I have reported several but nothing ever seems to be done.

As pointed out in one of the previous answers, please tell the police to keep drunks in cells to sober up rather than putting them in parks.

In the summer months get more youths at Bedgrove Park in the evening drinking, using instant BBQ's and smoking illegal substances. Tend to find litter all over the place the next morning but there is a real lack of litter bins.

Children hitting golf balls us another nuisance and dangerous

Large groups hang out outside properties on Sulby Close, drinking, loud speaking/arguing/setting dogs off in the neighbourhood. The smell of drugs has been noticed in the air. Teenagers hanging out with adults, leaning on bins outside the front of properties, also some seen riding motorbikes across the green in front of Churchmere Walk.

Professional dog walkers with more dogs than they can safely control or pick up the mess. They arrive in van-loads at Bedgrove Park.

I wonder if we have the resources to implement this But these spaces should be safe and accessible.

The measures outlined will keep the parks open to all the community and help prevent them from becoming "no go areas"

Dogs should be kept in leads in these public areas

None

Litter, litter in Alfred Rose park is often atrocious making a dog walk like an assault course trying to avoid litter being picked up by dogs! Need more litter collection and awareness not to leave park in such a mess.

The laws need to include something about drugs, possession, use and dealing.

Recently, I've noticed low-level drug dealing taking place in several Aylesbury parks. This is a recent trend, as I don't recall seeing this before in Aylesbury - and I've lived here for more than 10 years. What's the solution to this issue? More police patrols. And an easy way (perhaps a hotline) for residents and visitors to easily and quickly report suspicious behaviour.

The car park at Edinburgh Playing Fields is a particular problem with ASB and noise and, unlike the other park car parks it has dwellings nearby

I welcome the proposed additional mechanically propelled vehicle prohibition at Alfred Rose Park, Bedgrove Park & Spinney and Edinburgh Playing Fields & Walton Court Playing Fields. Ideally I would like a blanket prohibition of mechanically propelled vehicles across all of our parks and open spaces but if this is not possible (please explain why), please can you also include the following Aylesbury Parks/Open Spaces in the mechanically propelled vehicle prohibition consultation where similar incidents have previously occurred:

- Walton Court Play Area & Open Space*
- Fairford Leys Park & Playing Fields*
- Riverside Walk (including Haydon Hill) & Meadowcroft Playing Fields*
- Whitehill Park*

I smell and see casual drug use every day with my 10 year old son on the way to and from school. It is usually adults walking their dogs around Berryfields and Buckingham Park especially the path along the Thame. If people want to do it in their own home I don't mind. But on the street it sends the message that it's ok.

Dog control is an issue when going to parks with young children.

Also Hampden Garden shops are becoming very intimidating with large groups of youths hanging around shop doorways. Also cars are driven and parked half off and on the road, with both front wheels on the pavement because the space wasn't big enough to park the car properly or they just park it in the middle of the road thinking this is ok

At Bedgrove youngsters climb on the Community Centre roof which is dangerous to them and upsetting for the users of the Centre.

I myself have felt intimidated by groups of youths hanging around the parks. using the equipment meant for younger children and using foul language.

This page is intentionally left blank