

Grassed Area Outside Council Office – 45b, High Street

1.0 Background

The front grassed area outside the Parish Council office at 45b, High Street is owned and therefore maintained by the Parish Council. This is a raised grassed area with the deepest drop being 1m. The area is currently un-bordered – i.e. no fence, hedging or wall. Pictures and a diagram of the area will be displayed at the committee meeting.

2.0 Health and Safety Issue

The risk identified here is one to personal injury of users walking close to the edge of on the wall edge or to the edge of the grassed area. Commonly older children walk along the wall either aided or un-aided. The wall is regularly used to sit on and often litter (takeaway containers etc) are discarded on the lawn despite there being bins around. There have been a few instances of broken bottles in the area and it's possible broken glass could be discarded in the grassed area and cause injury. There is a low risk of injury to someone using the wall to sit on if they sit on a height piece and injury themselves dismounting the wall.

3.0 Options

- a) Do nothing and the risk of injury to members of the public remains high
- b) To install a perimeter fence along the edge (estimated length 42m) to prevent injury and also reduce incidents of littering / hazardous materials. Fencing options could include Bow Top (similar to that used at our play areas), wooden rail and post (as installed at areas including the churchyard / burial ground, swan meadow, Iver Heath Copse etc) or palisade fencing which we don't currently use as standard within the Parish.
- c) Look at other barrier options – wall, hedging.

4.0 Decision required

- a) Agreement to mitigate the risk posed by installing a perimeter barrier
- b) Recommend type of barrier required enabling the Deputy Clerk to obtain quotes for consideration by the committee.