

## Grassed Area Outside Council Office – 45b, High Street

### 1.0 Background

The Committee received a report from the Deputy Clerk at the meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2021 regarding a potential health and safety issue with the grassed area outside the Council Office. The original report is attached.

### 2.0 Outcome

Following discussion it was decided that no action was to be taken although it was suggested that a way of warning of the deep drop from the pavement side to alert children / parents & carers of the drop should be considered. The deepest drop is around 1.5m from the top of the wall to the pavement. Subsequently, three warning signs have been placed on the wall to alert of the deep drop.



### 3.0 Health and Safety Audit – December 2021

As part of our external Health and Safety audit in December 2021, this area was reviewed and considered to be of a high priority.

*The front of The Main building, there is a drop gradient drop on the front wall. Signage displayed on the street side of the fence wall which does not highlight the risk as the risk would be falling from the grass /brick edge to the pavement.*

#### **ACTION**

*It is highly recommended that the Council review the risk, and take immediate appropriate action to eliminate/reduce the falling risk. It is an absolute "unprotected edge".*

#### **4.0 Recommendation**

To re-visit the original report from September 2021 and consider if any further action is required based on the points made in 4.0 Decision required.

**Jeremy Day**  
**Deputy Clerk**  
January 2022

## **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.