

# PARKS EXCLUSIONS REPORT

## AGENDA ITEM No. 10

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**MEETING: RECREATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE: 8<sup>th</sup> JULY 2026**

**REPORT BY: CORPORATE AND POLICY OFFICER**

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### **1.0 Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 This report provides Members with information regarding recent incidents in West Park and the Town Park, which warranted action being taken under the Council's Exclusion Policy.
- 1.2 In accordance with the Council's Constitution and the 'Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014, in relation to the *'Recording of Decisions Made by Officers of the Council'* this report has been prepared to provide Members with information to support and endorse the exclusion already implemented.

### **2.0 Current Situation / Exclusion Details**

#### **Incident 1**

- 2.1 Two young people were observed using a catapult to target ducks in West Park on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026.
- 2.2 The local police are aware of these young people.

#### **Incident 2**

- 2.3 The same two young people as above were witnessed throwing water balloons in the Town Park on 26<sup>th</sup> June, one youth also threw water balloons at a vehicle. They also purchased eggs from Tesco on 27<sup>th</sup> June and smashed these in and around the public toilets in the Town Park, leaving the empty boxes and a considerable amount of mess in and around the toilets and on the public footpath.
- 2.4 A 12-month exclusion notice has been issued for these young people, covering the Town Park. One of the youths was previously excluded for twelve months for anti-social behaviour and has only recently been allowed to enter the park.
- 2.5 The local police are already involved in these incidents.
- 2.6 The exclusion letters were delivered to the home addresses (which are not known to the Council) by a PCSO.
- 2.7 A redacted record of the exclusion has been placed on the Council's website, in accordance with the Openness of Local Government Regulations.

### **3.0 Matters for Consideration**

- 3.1 At a meeting of the Recreation Committee on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021, subsequently ratified by Full Council on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021, Officers were given delegated authority to impose exclusion notices, with a subsequent report to the Council to endorse, or otherwise, the decision.
- 3.2 Members are requested to consider the information contained in the report and endorse the Town Park Exclusion Notices of twelve months.

### **4.0 Impact on Great Aycliffe Town Council**

- 4.1 The Town Council has a duty of care to its staff and to members of the public using its facilities.
- 4.2 To take limited action in these cases could have a negative impact on the reputation of the Council, impact upon the morale and mental well-being of the parks staff and lead to complaints from users of the Town Park.

### **5.0 Policy Implications**

- 5.1 This report assists in the delivery of the Council's Strategic Aim 1:  
*"To provide good quality governance and management of the Council".*

### **6.0 Staffing Implications**

- 6.1 The Town Council has a duty of care to its staff.

### **7.0 Financial Implications**

- 7.1 None.

### **8.0 Crime and Disorder Implications**

- 8.1 This decision emphasises that anti-social and other unacceptable behaviour within the Town Council's facilities will not be tolerated.

### **9.0 Equal Opportunities Implications**

- 9.1 Everyone using Town Council facilities should be able to do so safely without fear of being abused or injured. The Exclusion Policy is applied to any person, regardless of age or sex, causing a disturbance or upset to a member of staff or public in Town Council facilities.

### **10.0 Environment, Biodiversity and Climate Change Implications**

- 10.1 None.

### **11.0 Risk Assessment**

- 11.1 It is not considered that the matters contained in this report pose a risk to health and safety of staff or to the financial or public standing of the Council to the degree that a risk assessment is appended to this report.

## **12.0 General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)**

- 12.1 Is any personal or sensitive data required for this proposal which may have any implications for GDPR? **NO**
- 12.2 All personal data has been omitted or redacted for the purposes of this report and the posting of the exclusion on the Council website in accordance with the Openness of Local Government Regulations.
- 12.3 In relation to personal data linked to the incidents, only names are known at this time and the Police have hand delivered the appropriate notices and letters, which will be held in a secure manner and only for as long as is required.

## **13.0 Recommendations**

- 13.1 It is recommended that Members:-
- i) Receive and consider the information contained in the report.
  - ii) Endorse the Town Park Exclusion Notices of twelve months.

**Corporate and Policy Officer**