

Ettington Parish Council

Report to Council

Date: 11 November 2020

Item 16 Appendix 8	Response to Hedge Cutting Letter
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## 1 Introduction

As agreed a letter was sent to 2 householders asking they trim their hedges and the content is reproduced at Appendix a) to this document.

In response one of the householders emailed the clerk and the content of this email is reproduced at Appendix b) to this document.

**Action Required:** To consider what, if any, further action is required and how to respond to the householder.

Appendix a)

## Maintenance of Hedge

It had been the intention of the Parish Council that members of the Council would visit, personally, to discuss the hedge which overhangs the public footpath. However, due to Coronavirus restrictions, and our wish to ensure the safety of all concerned, we deemed it more sensible to contact you by letter.

The Parish Council are concerned that the overgrown hedge is impacting the ability of pedestrians, particularly those pushing buggies or in wheelchairs, to safely navigate their way along the footpath. The last few months have seen more people taking their daily exercise by walking around the village and, where there is a footpath, they should be able to use it rather than go on to the road.

The Council considered the options available to them which include reporting the matter to Warwickshire County Council Footpaths Department but agreed, that in the first instance it would request that the hedge be cut back to ensure pedestrians are not forced on to the road.

The Council hope that now the bird nesting season is no longer a bar to cutting hedges you will be able to address the situation.

Appendix b)

I am in receipt of your letter 21 Oct 2020, ref maintenance of hedge.

I am only too happy to trim the hedge, but have left it uncut for the following reason.

My neighbour at number (redacted) has for some time been parking his car in front of my house with the nearside of the car onto the pavement, blocking it. I have left the hedge uncut

in an attempt to make him park it elsewhere. Even if the hedge is cut back, if a vehicle is parked near the kerb, the path is not very wide and will still be difficult to get past. Any car parked on the road in (redacted) is going to cause a problem with delivery vehicle, refuse trucks etc.

He is, I assume, parking in this position because he cannot park in his own drive. The reason he cannot park it there is it's full of vehicles, which are static and not used on the road. This includes 2 large vans. I have attached 2 photos, one taken in 2015 and the other one in 2020. I am sure you would not like this next door to you .....

When I bought my house in (redacted) the Solicitor brought my attention to the covenant on (redacted) which states commercial vehicles are not to be parked on the premises.

My neighbour at no (redacted) has told me that he has previously contacted the parish council to report this fact and the matter of devaluing our houses due to the 'scrap yard' in the front garden at number (redacted) , and told me the council seemed to be (in his words) "not interested".

Please do what you have to do in order to get these large commercial vans off the property (and not onto the road) and to park his vehicle off (redacted) on his own driveway.

When this is done, I will be very happy to trim the hedge, as I did for many years before this problem arose, shortly after he arrived in number (redacted)