

WALSOKEN PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

Mrs A Williams

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To Parishioner and visitors

Re: Parking concerns in Walsoken

It has been brought to the Parish Council's attention that instances of poor, anti-social and, on some occasions, dangerous parking are on the increase. As you will undoubtedly know, speeding traffic is an ongoing concern for the village and inconsiderate parking can only exacerbate the situation.

As in all matters, the vast majority of people comply with parking legislation and common-sense requirements. However, we have been made aware recently of parking on pavements/footpaths, at junctions, on bends and in other worrying ways - all of which are contrary to the Highway Code and add to the dangers for drivers. It is of particular concern that pedestrians, especially those with prams/buggies, and wheelchairs users are often forced into the road.

A considerable amount of money has been spent on installing 'trods' footpaths along Burrett Road, to link with the existing pavements. Unfortunately, the verges to these trods (and, in some places, the trods themselves) are being eroded by careless drivers. As most people will appreciate, in addition to any dangerous or anti-social impact, this is a senseless, needless waste of public funds - your funds!

The Highway Code states quite clearly that...

- 242** A vehicle must NOT be left in a dangerous position or where it causes unnecessary obstruction
- 243** Parking is NOT permitted
 - opposite or within 10m of a junction, except in an authorised parking space, or
 - on a bend
- 244** Parking is NOT permitted partially or wholly on the pavement, unless there are signs to the contrary
- 249** All vehicles MUST display parking lights when parked on a road with a speed limit greater than 30mph

Fixed Penalty Notices for £50 (or £100 in more serious circumstances) can be issued under the offence of 'unnecessary obstruction' in all the above examples.

To help keep our village safe and accessible, we ask that all residents, their families, friends and other visitors, abide by these basic requirements. Unfortunately, should the obstructive, inconsiderate and/or dangerous parking continue, we will have no option but to report those vehicles involved to the relevant authorities for further action.

If you have any questions about the above, or concerns for inappropriate parking in the Parish, please forward them to our Clerk, Annette Williams, using the contact details at the head of this letter.

Thank you