

## **COUNCIL – 27 FEBRUARY 2018**

### **QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

#### **QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR N CLARKE TO COUNCILLOR A V SMITH**

“As you are probably aware, the inappropriate use of motorcycles on the recreational ground off Cropston Drive continues to be a problem. In recent time this issue has even meant disruption to football matches. It also creates considerable work for our parks and gardens department in repair and maintenance of the football pitches.

I understand the Community safety and Community focus teams together with the Police have been working hard to help resolve the situation. However, the problem continues and the present situation is not acceptable.

Can the portfolio holder please give assurances that;

- 1) Section 59 signs will be erected at the Cropston Drive site without delay.
- 2)The Council makes available proper time and resources in order to make the Cropston Drive recreational ground less accessible to motorcycles.
- 3) Continues to work with the Police, Football Club, local members and other agencies where appropriate in order to help find a solution to this problem”.

#### **RESPONSE FROM COUNCILLOR A V SMITH**

“Controlling inappropriate access to this sportsground is problematic given the range of access points and paths and its vital role as local open space.

The problem with the inappropriate use of motorcycles is sadly an issue across the district in a number of areas. The current issue at Cropston Drive is very much a policing issue and we are working in partnership with them and the football club to resolve the matter. We will be erecting appropriate signage shortly which will enable swifter action to be taken by the police. We are also encouraging the public to continue to report all incidents to 101 (telephone or online) as this will help build a picture of the timing and regularity of the incidents which will help the police take action.

The council’s grounds maintenance team are also proactively maintaining the grounds to enable the football club’s matches to be played including repairing the fencing in a timely manner as and when any vandalism occurs. We will continue to work with the police and local stakeholders and prosecute offenders where appropriate. We are also working with partner agencies including Warning Zone to educate local young people on the problems caused by off road motorcycling”.