

CONSULTATION ON PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDERS –
PARKS AND CEMETERIES

1. INTRODUCTION: -

1.1 Over the last few years, certain parks and cemeteries have been subject to matters of concern and complaint, and the Council is therefore doing very specific, intelligence led approaches to deal with these matters. Part of this includes looking at introducing Public Spaces Protection Orders in 5 key open spaces, being:

- Bentley Nature Reserve
- Pear Wood Nature Reserve
- Pinner Memorial Park
- Harrow Weald Cemetery
- Wealdstone Cemetery

At the outset we would like to reassure residents and visitors to these areas that:

- We will listen to your views and consider better alternatives where they are identified and provide a full reply where key issues are raised.
- The purpose of the PSPOs being proposed is to make these areas enjoyable and safe for all, but also protect the wildlife and the nature of these areas
- If the PSPOs are introduced, then enforcement will always take an educative / engagement approach first, to try and work with people

1.2 The consultation process

The consultation process will run for 6-week period from **23 November 2020** to **4 January 2021** and comprises this document and relevant draft Public Spaces Protection Orders

- Visiting our consultation page at www.harrow.gov.uk/publicspacesprotectionordersparksandcemeteries
- Emailing environmental.health@harrow.gov.uk

1.3 A summary of the Consultation responses will be made public and published on the Council's website

- 1.4 Following the consultation period, all the information gathered from responses will be analysed. A final report will be produced that will highlight responders' opinions and any changes the council have made as a result of the consultation and a recommendation will be made for consideration by the relevant Corporate Director and Portfolio Holder (Councillor). A summary of the report and final decision will be made available to all those who participated in the consultation process and requested feedback, and the summary will also be made available on the council's website.

2. WHAT IS A PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER?

- 2.1 Public Spaces Protection Orders give the Council and partners legal powers to deal with a particular problem in a defined area. These problems are those that negatively affect the quality of life for the local community and the community that uses the area involved. The Order imposes conditions on the defined area and sets out requirements that are felt needed to ensure that the vast majority of people attending these areas can do so without experiencing problems including anti-social behavior
- 2.2 The Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) is introduced under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and can be used to address a number of issues that cause nuisance, annoyance or harassment.

3. WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED?

- 3.1 There are a total of 5 PSPOs being proposed, covering the following areas:
- Bentley Nature Reserve
 - Pear Wood Nature Reserve
 - Pinner Memorial Park
 - Harrow Weald Cemetery
 - Wealdstone Cemetery
- 3.2 In terms of Bentley, Pear Wood and Pinner Memorial, the conditions being looked at are specifically aimed at issues that are constantly brought to the Councils attentions, being:
- Wildlife being attacked, chased or harassed by dogs not kept on leads, including leading to injuries and death to swans in these areas
 - Feeding of birds in Pinner Memorial that result in the nearby premises (including West House) being subject to large gatherings of pigeons and resulting guano (poo) eroding the structures and causing nuisance
 - Feeding of other wildlife in the nature reserves that result in injury or illness to them from inappropriate or unsuitable feed being used
 - BBQs and fires being set up by people in all venues that lead to risk of fire, increased littering and damage to the land
- 3.3 In terms of the cemeteries, the conditions also relate to issues that are brought to the Councils attentions, being:
- Dogs not being on leads, running all around the burial plots and causing nuisance and annoyance to those who are there to pay their respects

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- Damage to fences and boundaries to form alternative means of access for convenience into the areas, leading to public money having to be spent to repair them, as well as concerns raised from people forming their own paths that can affect the burial areas

4. WHAT NEXT?

- 4.1 This consultation gives the opportunity for anyone who is affected by the proposals to have a say and influence the proposals.
- 4.2 In addition to this online consultation, posters are being placed at the appropriate places to advertise the consultation and encourage participation
- 4.3 We will also be sending the consultation to relevant groups such as those people who operate from the sites, who can represent the aspects being addressed as well as partners such as the Police

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION AND IT IS IMPORTANT ALL HAVE THEIR SAY
