
Subject:	ENCLOSED DOG PARK PETITION
Meeting and Date:	Overview & Scrutiny Committee, Monday 14th November 2022
Report of:	Roger Wragg Head of Commercial Services
Classification:	UNRESTRICTED

Purpose of the report:	To provide a response to the petition, feasibility & costs.
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Recommendation:	Note the report
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1. **Summary**

Response to the petition and feasibility of this request.

2. **Background and Introduction**

The Council received the following petition from Mrs. Sue Beer:

There are no enclosed area's where dogs are able to safely run free, play and socialise provided by Dover District Council. All surrounding Councils provide these, Folkestone having five. Recently my dog who has good recall and only let off lead to play with other dogs in a fairly secure area picked up a scent and before I could stop her, she disappeared. She was rescued in the traffic on Whitfield hill, we were so lucky and so grateful to the lady who stopped the traffic to save her, the outcome could have been very different she is now permanently on lead. Since Covid many more people have dogs and safe areas for them are desperately needed. I am hoping that if enough people agree we can change this situation.

2.1 To create a fenced off area of approximately 80m long by 20m wide

3. **Response to the petition**

3.1 Dover District Council does already provide safe sites for dogs to exercise, socialise, run free, play but most of them require a dog to be kept on a lead as these are within public open spaces being used by various other user groups.

3.2 The lack of an enclosed dog park doesn't prevent the above activities from taking place. It does however place the responsibility for the dogs' actions with owner and for them to comply with the rules as set out on each and every site, this includes the land beyond these locations.

3.3 Cowdrey square, Deal has an area now available as an enclosed dog park.

4. **Feasibility of introducing these areas**

4.1 The creation of these enclosed areas will require fencing, gates, signage, changes to the PSPO's along with possible relocation of bins and Tikspak.

5. **Proposed sites**

5.1 Site one: North Deal recreation ground, an area of grass to the side of the multi-use games.

5.2 Site two: Cow leas meadow, Sandwich, (STC land) an area within the open space.

5.3 Site three: Connaught Park, Dover, the use of the plateau area up from the play area.

5.4 Site four: Station Field, Aylesham,

6. Cost and budget impacts

6.1 The estimated costs for each site, (includes materials and labour):

Site one: £7500 ex vat

Site two: £17,000 ex vat

Site three: £19,400 ex vat

Site four: £18,400 ex vat

Total costs: £62,350 ex vat

Prices are based on those gathered in August 2022.

6.2 As there is no allocated budget this would create an immediate pressure and therefore would not be recommended to take place until a budget has been secured for these works. This proposal will be added to the special projects budget request for the 23/24 budget.

7. Conclusion

7.1 We support the principle of this petition, but unfortunately this proposal will remain in the nice to do rather than must do category for our works within our open spaces.

8. Appendices

None

9. Background Papers

None

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