

Appendix E

The Owner

Department of Place

Sport & Culture
Assistant Director, Phil Barker

Parks & Green Spaces
Technical & Development Service
Unit 7 Mitre Court
Bradford
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Dear Sir/Madam

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Date: 4.9.2020

Public Open Space (POS) at Ellar Gardens

Further to our letter dated 23.7.2020 we thank you for your cooperation in this matter and wish to reassure you that we have been writing to all residents whose properties have a boundary onto the above location and it is not directed at any individual and apologise for any distress this misunderstanding may have caused.

The POS has now had items of debris removed and a survey of the necessary works to be carried out to improve the overall aesthetics of the area has taken place.

We would like to point out that in the original planning approval and when the Ellar Gardens Developer handed over the maintenance to Bradford Council it was agreed that the perimeter of the POS should be left as a wild edge for both habitat bio-diversity and rear boundary security. This wild buffer helped improve rear boundary security as the POS was not overlooked (but backed onto) reducing natural surveillance. 'Secured by Design' advice advocates deterrent planting in such circumstances and the brambles, longer meadow grass etc. helps deter access. Whilst some of the original Hawthorne bushes have been removed, there are a few which remain and are evidence of the original provision. The rough edge also protects the boundary trees (planted at the time) from mower damage.

It is therefore our intention to leave a wild buffer to continue habitat bio-diversity however it will be flail cut to a lower level and enhanced with some wildflower seeding. The severe ivy growth on trees will be removed as it is detrimental to their wellbeing. A number of trees will be crown lifted to a height of 2m at the appropriate time of year, between Autumn and Spring. This will allow light and encourage health to the lower ground areas. Non native trees i.e. conifers will be removed.

It is our hope that these works will improve the overall look of the POS for all to enjoy moving forward.

Yours sincerely

Gill Bennison
Project Development Officer