

Council Solicitor
Town Hall
Bury
BL9 0SW

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

CHIEF EXECUTIVES
FOR FILE
27 MAR 2017
ACK
COPY TO
SECTION

27/03/2017

Dear Sir/Madam

This is a letter of objection regarding the Council's intention to dispose of land at Ashcombe Drive, Radcliffe.

This patch of grass is used regularly by the younger neighbourhood children (who are too young to go to the ball zone on Westminster Avenue) as a play area. It helps keep them safe by stopping them playing on the road, where car users are still inconsiderate even though a 20mph limit is in force.

Dog walkers also use the land and use the bin provided by the council for any mess, keeping the area clean. If the land is sold. Would the bin be removed and where would the dog mess go then?

This is both a visual amenity and used for informal recreation.

I am led to believe that when the housing estate was built in 1980 there was a stipulation that this land was to be kept open for the residents use and not to be built on.

There is a culvert running under the land and it is often wet even in dry times. How suitable would it be for building?

I understand that the Council has to make financial savings, how much does this land actually cost to maintain? It gets mowed every fortnight in summer and the dog bin gets emptied on a regular basis. Grounds Maintenance would still have to be in the area to mow the grass verges on Westminster Ave, Coronation Rd and Kilburn Road. Also, there are the Council owned flats that still need their lawns mowing. The team are already in the area. Savings would equate to 30 minutes once a fortnight.

If the mowing was done less often e.g. every 4-6 weeks, this would encourage wildlife and wildflowers. Cuckoo spit is abundant here until the mowers arrive.

There is a large ash tree at one end of the site, it would be a shame to lose this healthy specimen as the starlings congregate here each evening before heading off to roost.

Please consider my objections, this is an important open space in so many ways. If sold and built upon this would be a great and permanent loss to local residents and the Council portfolio

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]