

# Whitefield & Unsworth Township Forum: Issues raised 06/01/15

	<b>Raised by</b>	<b>Item Raised at Open Forum</b>	<b>Action by</b>	<b>Action</b>
1	Lydia Kirkham	<p>Giant Hogweed at Springwater Park. Has been fenced off by the edge of the water, but what is being done to eradicate?</p> <p>If the hogweed seeded due to the earth being dug up by United Utilities, should they be made to remedy rather than the Council?</p>	Parks	<p>The presence of Giant Hogweed and Japanese Knotweed at both Springwater and Close Parks predates the work carried out by United Utilities.</p> <p>We have had a programme of spraying in place for about six years. However, this can only be described as fire fighting. Each year new Giant Hogweed seeds and Japanese Knotweed cuttings are washed down stream and new plants establish themselves.</p> <p>In Springwater Park we have fenced off the area most heavily infested with Giant Hogweed to try and exclude members of the public and pets.</p> <p><b>Graham Schoon Countryside Officer</b></p> <p><i>*see page 6 for further information on invasive plants*</i></p>
2	Cllr John Mallon	<p>Cllrs need to know in advance what plans are in place regarding the invasions of Knotweed and Giant Hogweed.</p> <p>Perhaps need to look at local parks groups to undertake some projects?</p>	Parks	<p>Springwater Park and Close Park were two of the twenty-seven sites that were included in the 2014 invasive weed spraying programme. There is no specific budget allocated for the control of invasive species. I would hope to include both parks in the 2015 programme. However, this will depend on funding being available.</p> <p><b>Graham Schoon Countryside Officer</b></p>

3	Cllr John Mallon	<p>If anyone wants to get involved in the Friends of Whitefield &amp; Unsworth Parks group, please contact:</p> <p>Cllr John Mallon  <a href="mailto:J.Mallon@bury.gov.uk">J.Mallon@bury.gov.uk</a>  0161 796 8788</p> <p>Cllr Mary Whitby  <a href="mailto:M.Whitby@bury.gov.uk">M.Whitby@bury.gov.uk</a>  0161 773 6665</p> <p>Cllr Joan Grimshaw  <a href="mailto:J.Grimshaw@bury.gov.uk">J.Grimshaw@bury.gov.uk</a>  0161 766 3369</p>	For info	Noted.
4	Lydia Kirkham	<p>Through StreetLife, a local social media website, I have 4 people interested in organising a litter pick due to the recent complaints about dog mess and litter lately. I have spoken to Talat Afzal in Waste Management, but need assistance to get it off the ground.</p> <p>For info <a href="http://www.streetlife.com">www.streetlife.com</a></p>	Friends of Whitefield & Unsworth Parks group	<p>It was agreed this would be a great project for Friends of Whitefield &amp; Unsworth Parks. Lydia to liaise with committee members Cllr Mallon, Cllr Whitby, Cllr Grimshaw.</p> <p><b>Ruth Shedwick</b>  <b>Township Co-ordinator</b></p>
5	Theresa Heyworth	<p>A lot of Morrisons trolleys are being dumped in the local area now that they no longer require the £1 deposit. Seen in Dunkirk Park and Elms Close.</p>	Morrisons	<p>Reported issue to Morrisons (Salesforce Case ID: 02126858) via <a href="mailto:customerservice@morrisonsplc.co.uk">customerservice@morrisonsplc.co.uk</a></p> <p><b>Ruth Shedwick</b>  <b>Township Co-ordinator</b></p>
6	Theresa Heyworth	<p>Trams are packed and there is no longer a service to Piccadilly, is this permanent?</p>		<p>This is only temporary until works are finished in Spring.</p> <p><b>Cllr Paul Adams</b></p>

7	Christine	<p>Concerns regarding Bank Street (unadopted road running parallel to Bury New Road).</p> <p>Does Porada restaurant own the land?</p> <p>Has Porada bought the land?</p> <p>Is there a planning application to extend the car park?</p> <p>An expanding car park will not look nice in a Conservation Area.</p>	Estates Planning	<p>The unadopted road is not registered at Land Registry, only the tunnel part is registered under the unadopted road, assumed with the GMPTE (TfGM).</p> <p>We hold a sublease on the land to the side of Porada's restaurant at the corner of Church Lane and Bury New Road. There are two titles that cover the restaurant and the corner plot that the council has sub lease on, one freehold (LA324971) and one Leasehold (MAN188861).</p> <p>Does Porada Restaurant own the land? The ownership of the land the restaurant occupies does not extend to Bank Street itself.</p> <p>Has Porada bought the land? So far as the Land Registry records show there are no ownership details for Bank Street and nothing has been lodged with the land registry in regard of its purchase/registration.</p> <p>We are unable to progress further at this stage as we do not have a budget available. Members of the public may contact Land Registry on 0844 892 1111 or online and they would be able to provide them with copies of the register for any described area of land or buildings. Cost is £3 per register copy. They can also get title plans, which give the extent of peoples ownership, which again will cost £3 each.</p> <p><b>Michael Beswick</b> <b>Land Records Systems Officer</b></p> <p>At present we do not have any planning applications to extend the car park.</p> <p><b>Sharon Yeates</b> <b>Technical Support Officer, Development Control</b></p>
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8	Peter North	Water is flowing over many paths and not being maintained in Sunnybank Woods (behind the play area).	Parks	<p>We have investigated Sunnybank Woods and note there is 10ft of path flooded. We will look to do some temporary remedial work to alleviate some of the water build up but more extensive work will have to be looked at for prioritising against other work pressures due to cuts to budgets.</p> <p><b>Mike Bent</b> <b>Parks &amp; Countryside Manager</b></p>
9	Resident	Parking outside the Co-op on Parr Lane is becoming problematic. People ignoring double yellows by the post office. Lots of 4x4 parked picking up children between 3-3.30pm. This area seriously needs monitoring and enforcing.	Parking	<p>I will forward this to NSL for additional enforcement. However there are 2 caveats:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School times are listed for most of the schools in the Borough so returning to the schools in the short term is very difficult &amp; the problem returns in no time at all when NSL move on to other schools</li> <li>• Historically the taxi issue is more of an evening problem when we have limited resources AND the drivers are usually in the office &amp; move the taxi during the CEOs (Civil Enforcement Officer) observation period.</li> </ul> <p>These issues are always on our radar and are good examples that we cannot resolve problems long term if motorists persist in parking in contravention of restrictions when fully aware of the highway code restriction.</p> <p><b>John Foudy</b> <b>Car Parking Manager</b></p>
10	Resident	Parking on double yellow lines outside taxi rank (Tandra) opposite Morrisons causing build up of traffic and obstructions when parked half on pavement. This needs monitoring.	Parking	<p>These issues are always on our radar and are good examples that we cannot resolve problems long term if motorists persist in parking in contravention of restrictions when fully aware of the highway code restriction.</p> <p><b>John Foudy</b> <b>Car Parking Manager</b></p>

**Ruth Shedwick, Township Co-ordinator**  
**9 January 2015**

## **FURTHER INFORMATION ON INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES**

Non-native plant species such as Himalayan Balsam, Japanese Knotweed and Giant Hogweed are present throughout the Borough on both Council and private land. There are also non-native animals present on some parks sites including mink and signal crayfish.

### **Himalayan Balsam**

Himalayan Balsam grows from seed each year. It can have a negative effect on native species but rarely causes economic damage and does not present a danger to human health. Control is either by uprooting plants just before they set seed or by using a herbicide. Either process needs to be repeated over several years until all the seeds have germinated and no further seeds are produced.

### **Japanese Knotweed**

Japanese Knotweed is spread by cuttings. It does not produce seeds in this country. If left untreated it can damage structures and cause problems securing a mortgage on a property that has Japanese Knotweed growing on or near it. Japanese Knotweed also prevents access to rivers by anglers and canoeists. The most cost effective control of Japanese Knotweed is with herbicide. The herbicide is applied in late Spring and early Autumn. Complete control usually takes a number of years as small amounts of re-growth need to be treated with follow up applications of herbicide for up to five years.

### **Giant Hogweed**

Giant Hogweed is spread by seeds. Once germinated the seeds grow for one or two years before flowering and producing seeds. After flowering the plant then dies. Typically, the seeds are transported by streams and rivers where they germinate on the banks.

The plant can cause serious injury to humans and pets. If sap from the plant comes into contact with skin, blisters can form when the area is exposed to sunlight. This can cause permanent scarring and the sensitisation of the skin to direct sunlight can last for several years. Giant Hogweed also prevents access to rivers by anglers and canoeists.

Control is by applying herbicide during the growing season together with the removal of any flower heads before flowering. Complete control is very difficult unless the source of seeds is irradiated. In the case of the River Irwell, Giant Hogweed is well established from North of Burrs as far down stream as Liverpool. This provides a large seed bank to colonise new stretches of riverbank. A sustainable control regime would rely on starting at the upstream extent of the infestation and working methodically down stream treating all the plants over a period of years. This would require the cooperation of all the landowners.

[provided by Graham Schoon, Countryside Officer: Bury Council Parks & Countryside]