

The Clerk
Gt Waltham PC

Our Ref:
Date: 13 June 24

Dear Sir / Madam

FENCE & PLANTING ON THE HIGHWAY – MAIN ROAD, FORD END

I am writing to make you aware of a case that has been escalated to this team, namely the planting of a hedge and the erection of a fence on Main Road that will also involve the Parish Council.

I recently visited site with colleagues from our Records department in order to assess the site. Whilst on site the residents of Eagle Cottage approached us and we explained our reasons for being there and shared our findings, namely, that highway rights extended to the first 5-6 metres of verge on Main Road, with the rest of the green area being registered Village Green and the responsibility of yourselves, Gt Waltham Parish Council.

I explained that the planting and fencing needs to be removed from the extent of land with highway rights – the extent of the highway was previously denoted with a number of wooden posts that were present along the south west and north east side of the green.

I have enclosed a plan showing coloured yellow the extent of land with highway rights over it and a photo depicting my colleague pointing at the post which forms the boundary point of village green and land with highway rights over it (this has also been sent to the residents). This point runs in a straight line in front of the property. The planting and fence line that have been erected in front of the property is also on the highway and I have also requested that this is removed.

I did moot with the residents that it *may* be possible for the fencing and planting to be relocated onto village green land – and advised that they would need to discuss this with yourselves as the body responsible for the Village Green.

The planting and fence continues around the south east corner – and whilst this area is off land with highway rights over it I would advise that in my opinion the planting / fencing is likely to impact on driver visibility, especially as the planting matures, and as such I would suggest this is also removed or relocated substantially back.

I have advised to the residents that I am happy to work with them in regard to a timeline to remove in order to give them time to discuss any possibility of relocating the hedge and fence with yourselves.

If you have any questions or queries please contact me. Please note that I am on annual leave from 19-26 June.

Yours sincerely

Jennifer Gudka
Enforcement Team Leader

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