

Appendix F – Consultation Responses

Recreation ground situated at Longmead Hemyock

ID	Q1: Do you agree that dogs should be kept on leads within the recreation ground situated at Longmead Hemyock (Variation A)?
16 Hemyock Residents	<p>Answer: No</p> <p>Reasons: Dogs need somewhere to run with friends and have proper exercise. The largest majority of people are responsible people who always pick up the poo which can be verified by the doggy bins always being full. Dogs kept on leads will not stop the people from leaving the dog poo if they do not feel they have to clean up. We have people in the village who train their dogs for agility, how can they do that if they are kept on a lead? Dog training from an early age is vital, to have a dog you can trust to hear your call and command is very much part of owning a dog. Just fence the football pitch!</p>
A Hemyock Resident	<p>Answer : No</p> <p>Reasons: The vast majority of dog owners are responsible and clean up after their animals (and sometimes litter pick). Irresponsible dog owners will still not pick up their dogs' faeces. Punishing the majority for the faults of the minority is not fair. There are powers already in place to fine people who allow their dogs to foul in public spaces. This should be enforced; a few fines would be a huge deterrent. CCTV has been suggested and could also be used to monitor dog-walkers who do not pick up after their dogs. This is the only area within the village where dogs where dogs may run freely and dogs socialise better when they are allowed off a lead. Many older people are unable to walk their dogs on local footpaths, due to their infirmity. They rely on Longmead and the now enhanced concrete path that forms a circuit of the recreation and environmental areas. The majority of people who use the area on a daily basis are dog-walkers and the periphery of the area is almost exclusively used by dog-walkers. The thousands recently spent on the new path and bridge will therefore not be good value. In the middle of a climate crisis, we should not be encouraging people to get into their cars and drive to an area to walk their dogs elsewhere. Facilities should be made available in the village. Longmead should be for the benefit of all the residents of the village. Areas like this play an important role in social wellbeing (especially of older residents).</p>
The Kennel Club	<p>Answer: No</p> <p>We will oppose PSPOs which introduce blanket restrictions on dog walkers accessing public open spaces without specific and reasonable justification. Dog owners are required to provide their dogs with appropriate daily exercise, including “regular opportunities to walk and run”, which in most cases will be off lead while still under control. Their ability to meet this requirement is greatly affected by the amount of publicly accessible parks and other public places in their area where dogs can exercise without restrictions. This section of the Animal Welfare Act was included in the statutory guidance produced for</p>

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	local authorities by the Home Office on the use of PSPOs. Accordingly, the underlying principle we seek to see applied is that dog controls should be the least restrictive to achieve a given defined and measurable outcome. The Government provided clear instructions to local authorities that they must provide restriction-free sites for dog walkers to exercise their dogs. This message was contained in the guidance document for DCOs, and has been retained in both the Defra/Welsh Government and Home Office PSPO guidance documents, with the Defra guidance for PSPOs stating 'local authorities should ensure there are suitable alternatives for dogs to be exercised without restrictions'.
Police & Crime Commissioner Alison Hernandez	Answer: Yes Reasons: I am aware that in the areas specified in the PSPO, dog-related anti-social behaviour is disrupting the enjoyment of local people, including in recreational parks and play areas. Whilst the majority of dog owners use public spaces in a reasonable way, the actions of a few individuals can be detrimental to the safety and enjoyment of public spaces for the wider community. Uncontrolled dogs can intimidate and interfere with the activities of other park users, and dog faeces that is not picked up poses an acute public health risk. Of particular concern, is the risk posed to children and young people using spaces such as play areas, sports fields and cycle tracks, which are vital for their health and wellbeing. I am assured that there are adequate alternative public spaces where dogs can be exercised freely away from designated recreation areas.
Devon & Cornwall Police	Answer: Yes Reasons: Children present, cyclists' risk of injury if out of control. Location close to fields where dog walkers can have freedom off lead.
Hemyock Parish Council	Answer: Yes Reasons: It will prevent dogs from being able to run onto football fields.
District Councillor	Answer: Yes

Open space land situated at Millhayes Hemyock

ID	Q2: Do you agree that dogs should be kept on leads within the open space land situated at Millhayes Hemyock (Variation B)?
Devon & Cornwall Police	Answer: Yes Reasons: As per the reasons stated for the response for the Recreation ground situated at Longmead Hemyock question
Police & Crime Commissioner Alison Hernandez	Answer Yes Reasons: As per the reasons stated for the response for the Recreation ground situated at Longmead Hemyock question
Hemyock Parish Council	Answer Yes; Reasons: To prevent dogs from freely roaming on grass area immediately adjacent to children's play area.
District Councillor	Answer: Yes

ID	Q2: Do you agree that dogs should be kept on leads within the open space land situated at Millhayes Hemyock (Variation B)?
The Kennel Club	Answer: No Reasons: : As per the reasons stated for the response for the Recreation ground situated at Longmead Hemyock question

Play area at Kentisbeare

ID	Q3: Do you agree that dogs should be excluded from the play area at Kentisbeare (Variation C)?
Kentisbeare Parish Council	Answer: Yes Reasons: I can confirm that Kentisbeare Parish Council is the owner and occupier of the land shown, as provided as part of this consultation. The Parish Council unanimously agreed that dogs should be excluded from the play area in Kentisbeare for health and safety reasons. The play area is an enclosed play area and it is not appropriate for dogs to be permitted in this area.
The Kennel Club	Answer: Yes Reasons: The Kennel Club does not typically oppose Orders to exclude dogs from playgrounds or enclosed recreational grounds, such as skate parks or tennis courts, as long as alternative provisions are made for dog walkers in the vicinity.
Hemyock Parish Council	Answer: Yes Reasons: Dogs should not be allowed in children's play areas.
District Councillor	Answer: Yes
Devon & Cornwall Police	Young children using park area. Risk of injury. Risk to health from dog mess.
Police & Crime Commissioner Alison Hernandez	As per the reasons stated for the response for the Recreation ground situated at Longmead Hemyock question

Play area at Siskin Chase Cullompton

ID	Q4: Do you agree that the Dogs should be excluded from the play area at Siskin Chase Cullompton (Variation D)?
The Kennel Club	The Kennel Club does not typically oppose Orders to exclude dogs from playgrounds or enclosed recreational grounds, such as skate parks or tennis courts, as long as alternative provisions are made for dog walkers in the vicinity.
Hemyock Parish Council	Answer: Yes Reasons: Dogs should not be allowed in children's play areas.
District Councillor	Answer: Yes
Police & Crime Commissioner Alison Hernandez	Answer: Yes Reasons: As per the reasons stated for the response for the Recreation ground situated at Longmead Hemyock question
Devon & Cornwall Police	Young children using park area. Risk of injury. Risk to health from dog mess.