

Jubilee Fields – Fireworks.

Wildlife Impact Assessment.

Concerns have been raised regarding the use of the Jubilee Fields for the forthcoming Fireworks Event, traditionally held at the nearby Cricket Club.

In order to address these concerns, it is first necessary to acknowledge two different aspects of this issue.

Firstly, the event would have a similar impact on wildlife and the surrounding environment if it were to remain on the Cricket Field. Which leads to the second aspect, that of whether this event should in fact take place at all.

Some members of the Parish Council have expressed various and individual concerns about this event, but it is acknowledged to be the single biggest community event in the Parish each year. Somewhere in the region of almost half of the population of the Parish attend (assuming the 1400 projected attendance figure represents only/mostly local people). It is therefore incumbent on the Parish Council to consider the majority view and support this event whilst representing the views of all concerned. Significant and vital funds are raised for local organisations from this one event.

In meeting with the event organisers, a walk through of the fields was conducted by two Parish Councillors and a variety of concerns were raised and addressed. Specifically: the bonfire location and build, type and style of display (noise and light impact), fallout of projectiles and the clear-up of same, crowd safety and access.

Concerns regarding the variety of wildlife using this area at this time and the potential for panic amongst the various mammals and birds present should be assuaged by all animals making away from the area long before the display commences due to the set-up activity and gathering of the crowd.

Providing a community event of this type also lessens the risk of smaller unregulated displays around the Parish, which would have a far greater impact on animal flight instincts.

There are no known earths, setts or warrens in the immediate vicinity, so it can be assumed that most mammals will be able to shelter well away from the site in good time.

As to any environmental diminution, fire is a natural agent of renewal and improved bio-diversity in a variety of environments so there should be no lasting effects from this. The fire will be mounted on the day with dry materials, which will reduce the smoke volume and remove any threat of trapping wildlife within and the risk of anti-social pre-ignition.

Having given consideration to all of the opinions expressed, the value to the community and the improved facility of using the Jubilee Fields over the Cricket Club), the Parish Council support this event but will continue to monitor it's future, giving full consideration to the impact on the environment and the changing opinions of parishioners. We will continue to canvass opinion and work with all interested parties in the future management of the Jubilee Fields, which were purchased for the enjoyment of all parishioners. If it appears apparent that this is not a suitable venue, on review, the consideration will be given to relocating future events.