



From: Paul Bryant [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Travellers on Donnington recreation ground.

Date: 24 July 2022 a

To: Steve Masters [REDACTED] Gillian Durrant clerk@shawcu [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Ma [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Anthony Harris
[REDACTED], Glyn Thomas [REDACTED] Lynne Doherty Lynne.Doherty@westberks.gov.uk

Steve. I am most upset by Ross Mackinnon's comments, presumably about you, see web reference below. Lynn, I hope you will discipline Ross Mackinnon for his, as far as I am aware, unsupported criticism of Steve. You (and Lynn) have been of great help during this incident. Paul.

On 23/07/2022 22:29, Steve Masters wrote:

Good evening everyone,

I'm sure many of you may have been to the recreation ground today.

I went and once again had conversations with a number of the travellers.

Again they suggested they would be departing tomorrow.

I also spoke to one of the police patrols who are monitoring the site and they echoed that they had been told the plan was to leave tomorrow.

I walked around the site and can report that the pavilion and the mower garage appear unmolested.

Litter levels were less than I feared and a number black bags full of rubbish were seen at the bins and by the caravans. In fact levels of selfish littering were far higher at northcroft last week when people were swimming in the river.

Children continue to play in the playpark and castle, indeed two adults told kids to play sensibly while I was there.

I spoke to a couple of dog walkers who said they had had no aggressive interactions and that the family groups seem to be reasonable and friendly.

I dearly hope that we see them move on tomorrow so we can get back to normal and also to dispel the negative stereotyping that seems to be the prevailing narrative in some quarters.

I was thinking about future security measures and a high restricted barrier maybe something to look at.

Finally, I have been a little perturbed by the suggestion online by my political rivals that I am in some way complicit and encouraging this illegal encampment.

While I may not use the inflammatory language of Cllrs MacKinnon and Doherty I am trying to ensure a speedy resolution without enflaming already strained tensions between residents and the traveller community in West Berkshire. This approach seems to be one the police wish to follow.

Anyway, I bid you good night and will be at the recreation ground again tomorrow.

Best wishes,

Steve Masters

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Paul Bryant

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