

Dear Mr Mayor,

I am writing to you to raise an issue around dog fouling on paths and grass verges in and around Malmesbury. I live on the edge of Parklands very close to the main road going to Sherston.

I have two dogs of my own who I walk along the main road in front of the Parklands bungalows. Over the last month or so in particular there has been a severe increase in the amount of dog waste not being picked up by irresponsible dog owners. It is sad to see because there are plenty of dog waste bins locally provided.

I don't know why it has changed because majority of dog owners here do pick up after their dogs. It appears to be a large breeds waste that is left on the paths. I can see many people have trod in the waste. It litters the pathways. I also am aware of disabled persons and elderly who go to the bus stop and have to negotiate the waste. It is quite a slip hazard.

I have not been able to catch the person or persons who are not picking up their own dogs waste because I would certainly raise it with them. I don't know if there is a dog warden who can monitor this or if there are other things like notices etc to raise the issue locally.

Personally I carry my dog waste bags with pride even when they are full because I am a responsible dog owner and I am proud to show that! But it saddens my heart and it feels horrid to walk my dogs and see such disregard for others caused by other dog owners. If they are discovered they should be named and shamed at the very least. I have had dog waste outside my own home just left where the dog has done it on the path. It is very unpleasant. I even feel guilty when walking my dogs because I feel I maybe being judged by others just because I have a dog and am waking by another dog owners dogs waste!

Please this increase of dog fouling is not a small issue. It is a growing problem it seems because other dog owners start to become apathetic thinking it is not worth bothering because others do not bother.

Thank You
Parklands Resident