

Dogs on leads and dogs under control.

Despite signs being erected (and removed by thoughtless individuals shortly after), dogs must be kept on leads in the new Phippen Park, off Moor Lane.

North Somerset Council are applying for a Dog Control Order for this area which will be enforceable. There is a minority of thoughtless individuals who feel that they are above the law and allow their dogs to run around and defecate all over this emerging recreation area. Signs that were erected were mindlessly removed within a day or two of going up. This is undermining the hard work of volunteers who are doing their best to create a beautiful, natural area for ALL to enjoy. This land was purchased by the Parish Council for the benefit of everyone to enjoy open spaces within the Parish. Maybe these mindless individuals would have preferred it if the land was purchase by developers to build social housing upon.

On public footpaths throughout the parish, unless within recreation areas where dogs are banned, dogs must be kept under close control at all times and should not be allowed to run around unless they can be called to heel immediately.

Dogs accompanying walkers on public rights of way must be kept in sight and under close control and should not be allowed to stray off the path. Attacking, or worrying of livestock is a serious offence and landowners can take action.

Farmers are rightly concerned that some dogs will worry or even attack farm stock. For example, sheep may well move away to avoid dogs which may encourage the dogs to chase them. For more details see the countryside code. A loose out of control dog could cause a pregnant ewe to miscarry or cause a new-born lamb to be separated from and rejected by its mother. As a responsible dog owner, please do everything you can to make sure no one has to protect their livestock by destroying your dog

It is frightening, especially for small children and the elderly, if dogs, apparently out of control, come bounding towards them. You may think you dog is friendly, but please consider other people and show mutual respect for each other by putting your dog on its lead as people approach.