

## Pickmere Community Action Group – Residents’ Meeting held 13<sup>th</sup> August 2025

### Residents suggestions for solutions to parking/lake issues

The consensus:

- Legal matters such as the amendment of the S106 agreement, ownership of the land and the CROW issues should be addressed and resolved as a matter of urgency
- a permanent solution needs to be found quickly – this cannot continue for another year
- Several people offered to help with funding where necessary.

Individual comments:

- Put signs up saying Private Land – No Swimming
- We could fence off the lake all the way along the ‘beach’, perhaps putting in a gate for the use of residents who want to swim.
- We could fence off the section behind Jacobs Way and put a security gate in for residents.
- We could plant spiky shrubs and put rocks on the slope down from the main IROS.
- We could create a regeneration project such as Andrew Wright has done by digging ditches, putting fences in the ditches, and planting either side of the fences. This would be a major project, but finance for this kind of thing is available as grants from a number of sources, and assistance with planning can be obtained easily from various agencies.
- It is vital that we plan some serious regeneration to the entire area where we currently have hardly any birds or waterfowl and where wildlife habitats and corridors have been destroyed by the ‘visitors’. We don’t need this just because it looks nice but because we have allowed a serious shift in the balance of nature which has a devastating knock-on effect on the environment.
- We could make the areas where the visitors collect inhospitable or inaccessible by digging ditches, creating regeneration projects and by creating a barrier of shrubs at the top of the slope.
- We could re-site the Public Right of Way to the left hand side of the IROS so that that would be the only access to the lower level.
- We could create swimming and paddle-boarding clubs to restrict numbers and make them pay (as they would at the Farm Club next door). The money raised would probably go in insurance that would be necessary and some security would be necessary to enforce.
- Not convinced that yellow lines are a solution – they will just push the parking further to where there are no lines
- Swimmers arriving early & late and paddleboarders are in fact anti-social behaviour that is having a negative effect on residents’ mental health
- Remove the undergrowth on the right side by up to 4 or 5 feet which would reduce the area that can be used as a toilet.
- Don’t block access to the lake, open toilets up permanently.

- Yellow lines will adversely affect people's ability to have guests and will cause problems for tradesmen. The 'visitors' will park on them anyway, they don't care about the cost.
- Need to engage directly with police and other agencies. Health & safety issues. Work collaboratively.
- Dig trenches- it's private land, need to take action. Put signs up to say private land. Control where people walk.
- Ask Cheshire East for help. Yellow lines will stop the traffic.
- Yellow lines will affect the ability of people to sell their houses.
- Need to reduce the size of the area they can access. Plant something to make it impossible for people to sit.
- Fence off
- Make a diary of poor illegal parking/abuse etc to help with S106 amendment
- Landscape the area
- Ask Police to spot check for drugs when cars leaving the village
- Employ an environmental Consultant; work together with Wincham
- All chip in £10 toward a fence
- Find out what the penalty would be to put a turnstile at either end of the PROW
- Investigate legal restrictions on use of lake and land surrounding area (CROW Act)
- Close the PROW as an emergency pending major decisions
- Residents have evidence of drug taking and people driving under the influence and have been intimidated by these people. The police should be spot checking cars leaving the village at night
- Fence the whole area off
- Get our PC to talk to other councils who have fenced
- Residents feel vulnerable when out and about in the village
- Re-landscape with prickly bushes, trees and rocks – make it less attractive to visitors coming to camp out for the day
- Create a slush fund to pay residents' parking tickets when they have to use double yellows outside their houses
- Emergency closure of PROW – can be extended
- Put down large grade gravel where people like to sit