

DOG OWNERS/WALKERS

BE RESPONSIBLE

Bampton is lucky to have facilities for all ages at the Recreation Ground, the Playparks and the Cemetery but the enjoyment of these is being spoiled by thoughtless dog owners who let their dogs poo and dump chewed up sticks on the play areas, pitches and graves and then do not pick up after them.



This is not only disrespectful and very unpleasant for those who have to clear it up but can also cause serious problems, not only to other dogs but also to people. This is because there is evidence that dogs not only carry *e.coli* and *hepatitis* but also eggs of a parasite called *toxicara canis*. The last can be passed on to humans from the faeces of an infected animal having serious consequences including blindness. These eggs are invisible to the naked eye but are sticky so can be picked up easily which is why children playing on sports fields and parks - rolling on the ground etc. are more at risk.

So dog owners please do not walk or let your animal run free anywhere on the mown grass areas at the Recreation Ground, in the playparks or anywhere but on the paths in the cemetery – even if you do clean up after them.

Also:

- Keep them on a lead when at the cemetery and in the Recreation Ground (at least until you are in the wooded area).
- Prevent your dog from fouling all grassed areas used by the public but if it does, clean it up *immediately* with a poop scoop and bag and dispose of in a “dog bin”.
- Worm your dog properly both as a puppy and as an adult.
- If your dog drops chewed sticks anywhere make sure you pick them up and throw them back into a wooded area.

Following this simple guidance will help protect the health of dogs, yourself and your family as well as the general public.

If the soiling continues at the level we have now the Parish Council may have to ban dogs from the Playparks, the Cemetery and anywhere at the Recreation Ground which is not what anybody wants. If you see dog owners being irresponsible and not controlling or picking up after their dogs please do take photos and report them – don't let a few people spoil our facilities and your enjoyment of walking your animals. Thank you.