



Public questions requiring a published answer from the community engagement event held on Friday 11th April 2025.

From Gail Everett

Can the dog sign by Jubilee Café be moved to the clock. The access to the beach will be possible for elderly/disabled people in this current position as per the equalities act.

More dog waste bins around parks/beach/town

Dog waste bin by Jubilee Café

Thank you for your comments regarding the dog signage near Jubilee Café and the request for additional dog waste bins.

We are open to reviewing the current placement of signage to ensure it is clear, accessible, and helpful—particularly for elderly or disabled visitors, in line with the principles of the Equality Act. However, as the existing signs were installed by Somerset Council under their Public Space Protection Order (PSPO), we will first need to engage with them to understand whether there was a specific reason for their current positioning, and whether relocation is possible within the framework of the order.

Regarding dog waste bins, as part of the ongoing devolution of services and assets to Minehead Town Council, we will be considering a range of potential improvements and enhancements across the town. This may include reviewing the provision and placement of dog waste bins to better support public spaces and responsible dog ownership.

From Sandra Gough

Access for Disabled to the Beach / Ramp to the Beach / Compliance with Equality

We completely understand the importance of making natural spaces as accessible as possible to all members of the public. However, it's important to note that the Town Council does not own or manage the beach. Any significant improvements—such as ramps or accessible pathways—would require engagement and cooperation with the

relevant landowner(s), as well as consideration of environmental and logistical constraints.

With reference to the Equality Act, which indeed places a duty on service providers to ensure reasonable access. We would respectfully question whether a ramp to the beach alone would truly satisfy that obligation, particularly if it does not connect to an accessible route across the sand itself. Such changes would likely need to form part of a much broader and better-resourced project to be meaningful and compliant.

Maintenance of Beach Stops

We believe this may refer to the shelters along the seafront. These have recently come under the Town Council's responsibility through a process of devolution. As a result, we are now in a position to take a more proactive approach to their upkeep. This will begin with more frequent cleaning and basic maintenance, with a longer-term aim of improving overall condition and usability.

Dress Code for the Town / Ban on Fancy Dress

Butlins alongside other venues bring a wide variety of visitors to the town, including some in themed or fancy dress. While we understand some resident concerns around taste and appropriateness, without any clear breach of laws or public order, it's difficult for the Town Council to intervene directly.

That said, we recognise the impact this can have on the wider community and the town's image, and we are prepared to raise this with Butlins at a future meeting as part of our ongoing dialogue with local stakeholders. While we cannot enforce a dress code, we can certainly open a conversation about how best to maintain a respectful and welcoming environment for all.

Dog Waste Bin by Jubilee Café

We will be reviewing the provision of waste bins as part of the ongoing devolution of certain services. The request for a dog bin near Jubilee Café will be noted for consideration within that process.

Larger Rubbish Bins at the Station

The bins at the train station fall under the ownership and management of Somerset Council. We recommend directing this particular enquiry to them for further response and action. enquiries@somersetcouncil.gov.uk