

NEWBURN CRESCENT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION.

5th JUNE 2018.

South Swindon Parish Council,
Broadgreen Community Centre
Swindon.

We would like to bring to the attention of the South Swindon Parish Council the ongoing problem that the lack of management and maintenance to the River fleet and the allotments at the back of numbers 25,27 and 29 Newburn Crescent is causing.

The River Fleet which runs behind our houses and joins the River Ray at the bottom of number 47 Newburn Crescent was not a problem whilst it was being maintained on a regular basis by Swindon Borough Council but this was stopped many years ago due we are told through lack of funds.

Over many years Mr Williams at number 25, Mr Smith at number 27, and myself Mrs Giles and my family have worked hard to keep our properties from flooding but on several occasions this has not been possible and our gardens are under water and threatening to flood my home number (29), this has not been easy for an aging community in their 70's and 80's and all with complex medical problems, it is now time for the council to take some responsibility for the River Fleet.

At a Parish Council meeting on 17th October 2017, I suggested that when an allotment became vacant it is cleared and the new allotment holders are told that they should not put sheds on the bank of the River Fleet but this was never acted on and from the photos you can clearly see the problem has got worse.

I recently asked an allotment owner if he needed permission to erect a rather large shed and greenhouse and he said "No we can do what we what to do "

and it now appears that they can.

Early this year we had an appointed representative whose job he told us is to inspect parks and allotments, we have been told that a report had been written and although the Parish Council have my email address and telephone number also Mr Smiths email address and telephone number to date we have not had any reply.

We are not anti the allotments and in the past it has been a pleasure to hear the allotment holders chatting as they worked on very well kept and stocked allotments, currently all we hear are families who seem to just congregate to have meals and children playing after which the River Fleet is used to dump drinks cans, children's ball's and anything that I assume they don't want to take home.

When you look at photo 16 it clearly shows the size of the sheds a couple which look like they have asbestos roofs and so much general rubbish it is hard to see where there is much space to grow anything, I always thought that a small shed for tools and a compost container was all that was allowed on an allotment.

We look forward to your help.

Yours sincerely,