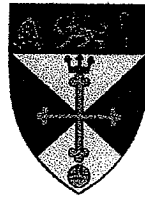


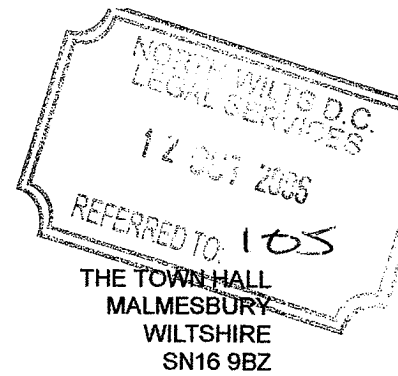
Malmesbury Town Council

(ENGLAND'S OLDEST BOROUGH - CHARTER GRANTED 880)



JEFF PENFOLD
TOWN CLERK AND
FINANCIAL OFFICER

Telephone: (01666) 822143
(01666) 823748
Facsimile: (01666) 826166
E-mail: malmesburytowncouncil@northwilts.gov.uk



Your reference:

My reference: JP/MJG/E

11th October 2006

Mr P Jeremiah
Legal Services Team Leader
North Wiltshire District Council
Monkton Park
Chippenham
Wiltshire
SN15 1ER

Dear Mr Jeremiah

Control of Dogs - White Lion Park Malmesbury

Further to your email regarding the above I now enclose documentation and letters supporting a complete dog ban, as follows:

- Results of a survey carried out during 2005 with a covering letter from the White Lion Residents Association.
- Two local press articles voicing the opinions of local residents.
- A notice displayed by Malmesbury Town Council during August 2005 asking for opinions of local residents in relation to a dog ban.
- Letters received by local residents in response to the August notice.

With regard to the costs associated with obtaining a ban, I understand that these will be in the region of £250 each for press adverts and £100 for notices to be displayed notifying residents of an impending ban. In an attempt to reduce costs, please could you advise whether it would be possible for Malmesbury Town Council to produce these £100 notices? Obviously we would need to take advice from yourself as to the contents.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely



Meriel Gould
Clerk to Leisure & Youth Committee



**4 WHITE LION PARK
MALMESBURY
WILTSHIRE
SN16 0QW**

10th October 2006

Dear Meriel,

**RESULTS OF SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE WHITE LION RECREATION
ASSOCIATION IN 2005**

Please find enclosed our survey results and a sample copy of the questionnaire, copies of which were distributed to all White Lion Park households as well as others in the locality. As you will see, a complete dog ban came out as the highest priority overall and interestingly appeared in the top ten on every reply received. We feel a complete dog ban is even more necessary now that the new fencing has been installed. Dog walkers can no longer use the excuse that they are simply walking through to the next field as the playing field is now fully enclosed. There is a path along the outside of the playing field which is currently used by the majority of dog walkers in the area; therefore there is simply no need for dogs to be in the playing field. As you know it only requires one incidence of contact with dog faeces for a young child to be infected by toxocara canis which can lead to blindness.

We strongly feel that a complete dog ban is now essential as this is an area in which children of all ages, particularly very young toddlers, will be playing.

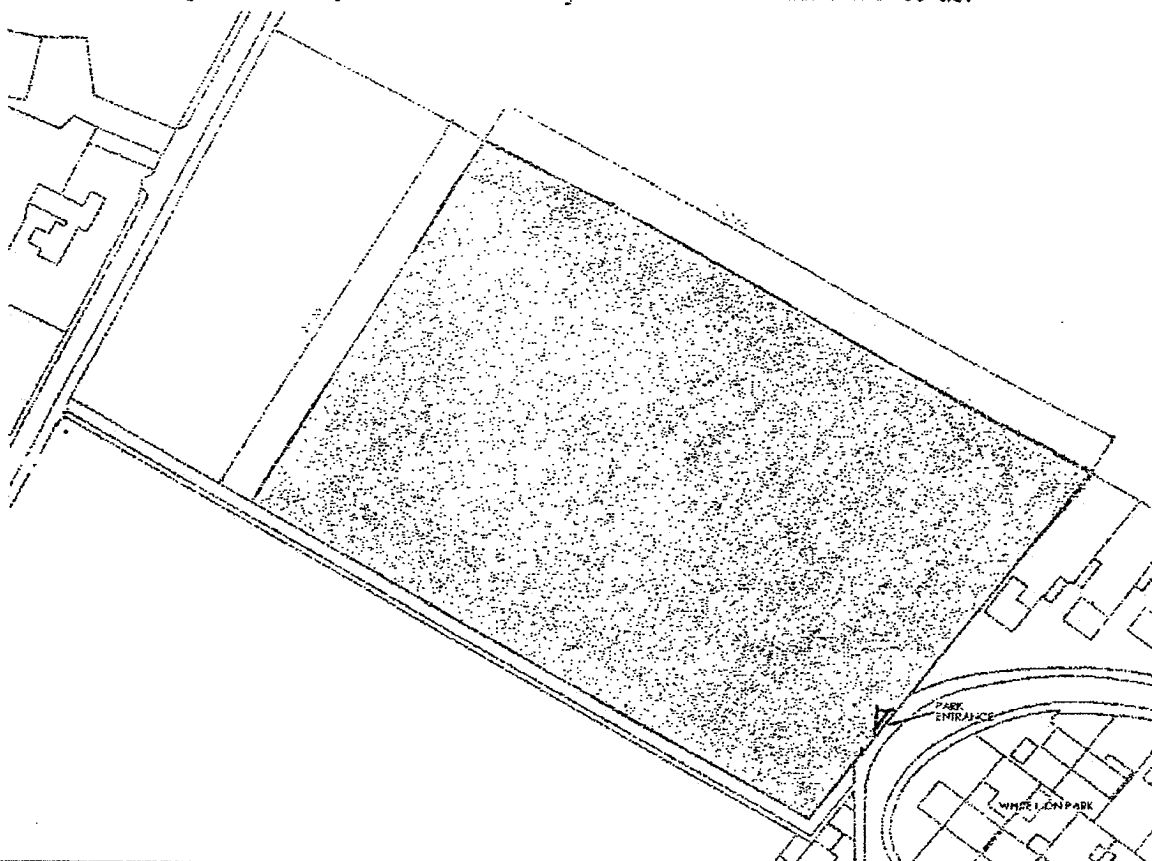
Yours faithfully,

Julian Garry
White Lion Recreation Association

Encs: Questionnaire, survey results.

WE WOULD LIKE YOUR IDEAS TO IMPROVE OUR PARK.

We have listed a number of suggestions. Please indicate your top ten favourite items. Please add your own suggestions or designs or use the drawing to suggest a play layout. Add extra sheets, pictures or photos if necessary. Please return this sheet to us.



PLEASE NUMBER YOUR FAVOURITES IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE (1 = FAVOURITE , 10 = LEAST FAVOURITE)	
YOUNG CHILDREN'S FENCED PLAY ZONE (e.g. 2 yrs to 6yrs)	1
OLDER CHILDREN'S PLAY ZONE (e.g. 7 TO 14 yrs)	3
WALKING PATH AROUND THE PERIMETER OF THE PARK	5
PARK LIGHTING	4
BETTER ACCESS / GATES	
COMPLETE DOG BAN	2
BASKET BALL COURT / HOOP	
1 OR 2 SMALLER FOOTBALL PITCHES (6 A SIDE SIZE)	10
YOUNG CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY GYM WITH SLIDE AND CLIMBING FRAME. (e.g. 2yrs to 6yrs)	
OLDER CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY GYM WITH SLIDE AND CLIMBING FRAME. (e.g. 7yrs to 14yrs)	
PARK SEATS	6
PICNIC TABLES WITH SEATS	
CRICKET AREA	
TENNIS COURT	
MOUNTAIN BIKE TRACK	
PLAY EQUIPMENT FOR THE DISABLED (Sensory Activities)	
CLIMBING WALL	
PAINTED SURFACE E (e.g. Hoop Scotch Markings)	
LARGE CANTILEVER TYRE SWING	
CAROUSEL	7
SMALL CRADLE SWINGS	
FUN BALANCING OBSTACLE COURSE	
BOULEZ / PETANQUE AREA	
SMALL CHILDREN'S SPRINGY ANIMALS	
OLDER CHILDREN'S CLIMBING WEB	
PLANTS AND TREES	8
ROOFED AREA FOR SHELTER FROM RAIN OR SUN SHADE	9
OTHER	
OTHER	
OTHER	
COMMENTS	

SURVEY RESULTS - TOP TWELVE ITEMS

1. DOG BAN
2. PLAY ZONE FOR TODDLERS
3. ROOFED SHELTER
4. PLAY ZONE FOR OLDER CHILDREN
5. PARK SEATS
6. ACTIVITY GYM/SLIDE/CLIMBING FRAME (2-6YRS)
7. ACTIVITY GYM/SLIDE/CLIMBING FRAME (7-14YRS)
8. CLIMBING WEB (7-14YRS)
9. PLANTS AND TREES
10. SMALL FOOTBALL PITCHES
11. PERIMETER PATH
12. PICNIC TABLES

13/10/05

Plan for White Lion Park

A VISIONARY new plan has been outlined for the future of White Lion Park playing field in Malmesbury.

The group behind the revamp, White Lion Recreation Association (WLRA) is now in the process of drawing up detailed plans for the park's transformation.

Early last month the group delivered a newsletter to each house in the area that included a questionnaire asking residents what changes they would like made to the park.

WLRA chairman Paul Kearney said the response showed that people wanted four main things.

- A fenced play zone for two to six-year-olds.
- An activity zone for seven to 14-year-olds.
- A total ban on dogs in the playing field.
- Landscaping, including trees, plants and seats.

As part of the new look, the park's current gated entrance will be removed, the two play areas created with a path round the younger children's zone and adjacent sports pitches built, although what sports other than football they will cater for is not yet certain.

Younger children's safety will also be addressed by erecting a fence between the play areas and the rest of the park.

Mr Kearney said: "We are obviously going to get a plan drawn up so we can go to the councils and say this is what we want and we can work towards it."

The association has already met with Cllr John Lawton, chairman of Malmesbury Town Council's leisure and youth committee to see how it can help.

Cllr Lawton said: "It makes sense that the plan is guided by the local residents for that recreation facility."

The leisure and youth committee will now prepare a budget to see what funding can be put towards the park's improvements before referring it to the full town council for ratification.

● On Saturday at 7.30pm WLRA is holding a charity auction and raffle at Malmesbury Victoria Football Club to raise funds for the park. Donations can still be made by contacting Elliott Curtis on 01666 824907.

Dog walkers and parents welcome moves to end unpleasant slip-ups



TAKING THE LEAD: All in favour of the ban is mum Nicola Reynolds, with children Sam and Mollie, left, friends Lauren, James and Mica Hicks and dog Ruby (18/5/03) INSET: Signs that frequently go unheeded

Playing fields dog ban



Malmesbury Town Council has been requested by the White Lion Recreation Association to consider banning all dogs from this recreation ground. If you have an opinion in favour or against, please express it in writing by August 31st 2005 to:

Clerk to Leisure and Youth Committee
Malmesbury Town Council
Town Hall
Cross Hayes
Malmesbury
Wiltshire
SN16 9BZ

RECEIVED JUL 2005



White Lion Recreation Association
21 White Lion Park
MALMESBURY
Wiltshire
SN16 0QW

9th July 2005

Dear Mr Rice

As newly elected Chair of the White Lion Recreation Association, one of the necessary elements for successful development of the facilities at White Lion Park is a complete DOG BAN.

We have signs which suggest that people should clear up after their dogs – this is clearly unsatisfactory in a children's play area. Many dogs can be observed using the area as a toilet, without the owners (or delegated walkers /children) clearing up after them.

Our committee is unanimous that a ban is essential and we would request that you move on this – including appropriate and sizeable signs.

Yours sincerely

Paul Kearney

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

ON A VISIT TO THE PLAYING FIELD AT WHITE LION PARK RECENTLY WITH MY GRAND-DAUGHTER, I WAS APPALLED WHEN A LADY ENTERED THE FIELD WITH HER DOG (OFF LEAD) AND LET IT DO IT'S TOILET IMMEDIATELY NEXT TO THE CHILDREN'S ROUNDABOUT! SHE MADE NO EFFORT TO DISPOSE OF IT, AND IN FACT IT WAS QUITE OBVIOUS TO ME THAT THIS WAS THE ONLY REASON SHE HAD BROUGHT HER DOG INTO THE FIELD IN THE FIRST PLACE.

I HAVE SEEN THIS HAPPEN ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION WITH OTHER DOG OWNERS AT THIS PARTICULAR SPOT AND I AT LEAST OTHERS FEEL THAT THIS PLAYING FIELD SHOULD BECOME A "DOG FREE" ZONE.

MAY I ADD THAT I MYSELF AM A DOG OWNER BUT WOULD CERTAINLY NOT DREAM OF SETTING IT FREE IN A CHILDREN'S PUBLIC PLAY AREA.

RECEIVED - 9 AUG 2001

YOURS TRULY,

A LOCAL RESIDENT.

4 White Lion Park
MALMESBURY
Wiltshire
SN16 0QW

26th August 2005

For the attention of:
Mr P Rice
Town Clerk
Malmesbury Town Council
Cross Hayes
Malmesbury
Wilts
SN16 9BZ

Dear Mr Rice

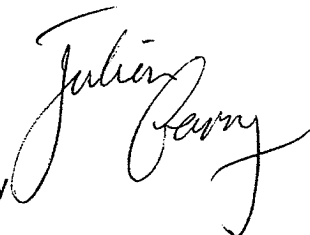
RE: PROPOSED DOG BAN, WHITE LION RECREATION FIELD

We write to support the proposed dog ban in the playing field. As the area is a playing field and there are serious efforts being made to further improve the area (toddler play area etc) we are surprised that there should be any hesitation in implementing an immediate dog ban.

We should say that we own a dog but do not walk it in the playing field. The field towards the lane is more appropriate for dog walking and the landowner is happy for dogs to be exercised here.

We hope that a full dog ban is put in place as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

 - 
Mr J and Mrs M Garry

Mr & Mrs SJ Brown
40 White Lion Park
Malmesbury
Wiltshire
SN16 0QP
26/08/05

For the attention of:
Mr. P. Rice
Town Clerk
Malmesbury Town Council
Cross Hayes
Malmesbury
SN16 9BZ

RECEIVED 29 AUG 2005

White Lion Park – Recreation Field – Dog Ban

Dear Sir,

We would like to submit our full support for a dog ban in the recreational field in White Lion Park.

With young children of our own the issue of dogs in the play area is something we have been monitoring closely with the other residents of White Lion Park. With surrounding fields complete with footpaths (which have the full permission of the landowner for owners to exercise their dogs in) we see **no reason** for the animals to be in the park at all.

Apart from the potential for unprovoked attacks on children from untrained or temperamental animals there are the diseases the excrement carries. I have included below an extract from a news report which highlights the seriousness of the matter.

The Shropshire Star wrote recently:

"In 1999 an eight-year-old girl died from the bacteria E coli 0157 when coming into contact with dog excrement on a beach. There is also a disease called Toxocariasis which can blind children. This is also caused by dog excrement" -
Tosh Piatczanyn, Secretary Wrekin Juniors FC

Yours sincerely

Sam and Sarah Brown



6 White Lion Park
Malmesbury
Wiltshire
SN16 0QW
01666 825558
27th August 2005

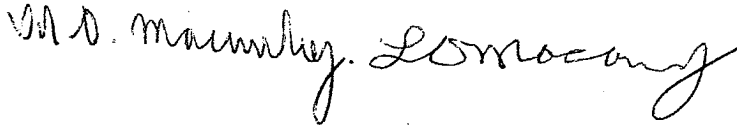
RECEIVED
27 SEP 2005
For the attention of:
Mr Phil Rice
Town Clerk
Malmesbury Town Council
Cross Hayes
Malmesbury
SN 16 9BZ

Dear Phil,

White Lion Park- Recreation Field- Dog Ban

We wish to indicate that we are in full support of a dog ban in this field.
All playing areas where young children are present should be free from any form of pollution.
Since dogs are a known risk to young children through their waste products I am surprised that a ban is an issue even to dog owners.
One of our neighbours has six dogs but would not consider for one second exercising them in the playing field. There are plenty of alternative walks available.

Yours sincerely



Heather & Lauchlan Macaulay

D.L. & P. A. Harvey

50 White Lion Park

Malmesbury

Wiltshire

SN16 0QP

e-mail: patanddave@harveyshome.co.uk

David: Personal:- Car phone / Mobile: 07050 043960

Pat: Mobile: 07813 699913

Home Tel: 01666 823460

29th August 2005

For the attention of:

Mr. P. Rice

Town Clerk

Malmesbury Town Council

Cross Hayes

Malmesbury

SN16 9BZ

RECEIVED
AUG 2005

Dear Phil,

White Lion Park – Recreation Field – Dog Ban

With regard to the notice, we wish to indicate our full support for a dog ban in this field.

This area is a Children's Play area and it is quite inappropriate to allow animals to enter this field from the point of view of both health and safety.

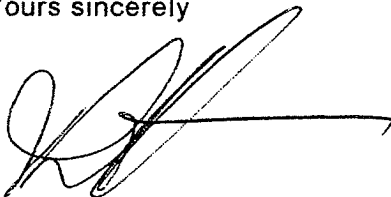
We are amazed that this is even an issue which has to solicit objections or support; surely, as soon as account is taken of the fact of the diseases which can be carried to the young from dog urine or excrement alone, that is reason enough for a dog ban in such a sensitive area.

It is important to note that we are dog owners and have always taken our dog along the footpath outside the field. So, despite being dog owners, we support the dog ban.

I would also point out to anyone who is interested that the WLRA have made a magnificent job of clearing this footpath and have obtained the farmer's verbal agreement that dogs can be exercised along this path and in the field at the end of the play area (both outside the play area).

To sum up, then, please take this letter as our **FULL SUPPORT OF A DOG BAN** in this field.

Yours sincerely



Pat and David Harvey

Mr Kev and Tracey Pell.
10 WHITE LION PARK
MALMESBURY
WILTSHIRE
SN16 0QW.
01666 825449.
30TH AUGUST 2005.

FOR THE ATTENTION OF
MR P RICE
TOWN CLERK
MALMESBURY TOWN COUNCIL.

Dear Phil,

WHITE LION PARK RECREATION FIELD DOG BAN.

With regard to the notice, We wish to indicate our full support for a dog ban in this field..

This area is a children's play area and it is quite inappropriate to allow animals to enter this field from the point of view of both health and safety..

IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT WE ARE DOG OWNERS AND HAVE ALWAYS TAKEN OUR DOG ALONG THE FOOTPATH OUTSIDE THE FIELD.SO DESPITE BEING DOG OWNERS,WE FULLY SUPPORT THE DOG BAN.....

Hope you have had many letters like this ,as a ban is need within this field..

To sum up,then, Please take this letter as our FULL SUPPORT OF A DOG BAN in this field...

Yours Sincerely...

T. Pell 

Mr And Mrs Pell...

K. S. WARDLOW
51 WHITE LION PARK
MILTON KEYNES
WILTS

28/8/05

RECEIVED 28 AUG 2005

DEAR SIR

THERE IS GROWING CONCERN THAT PEOPLE ARE CONTINUING TO EXERCISE THEIR DOGS ON THE WHITE LION RECREATION FIELD WHERE SMALL CHILDREN ARE CONSTANTLY AT PLAY. AS SUCH WE RESIDENTS ARE URGING THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD IMPLEMENT A 'DOG BAN' IN THIS AREA. AS IT IS WELL KNOWN THAT DOG FEACES ARE DETRIMENTAL TO CHILDRENS HEALTH AND MUST AS FAR AS POSSIBLE BE PROTECTED FROM ANY CONTAMINATION OF THIS KIND.

ASSURING YOU OF MY SINCERITY,

I REMAIN YOURS FAITHFULLY -

K. S. Wardlow

No 11 WHITE LION PARK

MALMESBURY

RECEIVED

WILTS* SN 16 0 QW.

27/8/05

Dear Sir, WHITE LION PARK PLAYING FIELD

With regard to the notice in respect of the ban of dogs from the playing field we would like to make it clear that we fully support such a ban.

A large number of people use the field for walking their dogs and although some do clean up after the animals a lot do not. It is totally inappropriate that dogs are allowed to use a field intended for use by children as a toilet area. Those that do not clean up after their dogs are the very people who use the area where the grass is short i.e. where the children play. The sooner a ban is imposed the better.

The Town Clerk.

Yours sincerely

Albert & Margaret
Partner.

48, White Lion Park
Malmesbury
Wiltshire
SN16 0QP

Dear Mr Rice

RECEIVED

27th

August 2005

I am writing to you in regard to the proposed dog ban in White Lion Park recreation field. I fully support this proposal. Having two young boys who regularly use this play facility I am constantly aware of the risk of disease should they come into contact with dog urine or excrement. Unrestrained dogs can also be quite alarming for young children as they run around the park.

Please accept this letter as full support of a dog ban in the White Lion Park recreation field.

Yours sincerely,

ett

MISS. S.J. BENNETT

RECEIVED 09 MAR 2002

Mr. Trevor Hicks.
49, White Lion Park,
Malmesbury,
Wiltshire,
SN16OQP.

Telephone day at 01264 850763

Evenings at 01666 824738

7th, March. 2002

Chairman of the Recreation Committee,
North Wilts District Council, Bewley House,
Marshfield Road, Chippenham, Wilts, SN15 1JN

Reference White Lion Park, Recreation Field

Dear Sirs,

You may already have some correspondence on this matter, and I would also wish to voice my say.

I have three sons and one daughter, two of my boys play football and other games on a regular bases for local teams, this generally means that every opportunity they have there wanting to use the playing field for recreation.

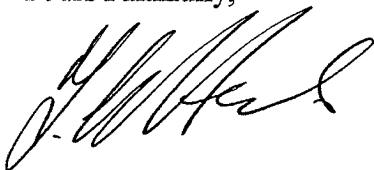
It's a great facility that we have on our doorstep but I feel this is slowly being taken away by thoughtless others. The main reason is this, no dog prohibited notices, how can you expect the youth to use the facilities when countless irresponsible dog owners are using it to exercise there dogs, so please lets have the signs back as soon as possible.

With the recreational facilities presumably disappearing from the open air swimming pool site, due to further development. It is in all of our interest to make sure that the White Lion Park, Recreation Field is well maintained by regularly cutting of the grass and general up keep of the apparatus.

Personally I would like to see a hard standing area in side the field so that games can continue in winter months, rather than having to play in the streets which is a danger to all are children. This I know is an added expenditure for North Wilts but it really would make a lot of difference to the youth of White Lion Park and the surrounding area.

Await with interest your reply.

Yours Faithfully,



Trevor. Hicks.

Mr K J Wardlow
51 White Lion Park
Malmesbury
Wiltshire
SN16 0QP

Home tel: 01666 823882
Work tel: 01666 823214

4 March 2002

Town Clerk
Mr Edward Ferguson
Town Hall
Malmesbury
Wiltshire
SN16

RECEIVED 8 8 MAR 2002

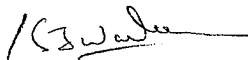
Dear Sirs,

As a resident and rate payer, (now in excess of £1,000 per annum) there is a matter which is overdue for address by your department. It is that at the end of our street there is a children's playing field that has been purposely set up for their recreation, i.e. a play area, swings and a football pitch. But of late there has been much neglect by the authorities in as much that the grass is not cut and a vital sign stating that 'Dogs are prohibited from this area' is missing.

The local children will not play there because of the constant fouling of the area by dogs which in turn means that football games etc are played in the streets, and in particular an area which is at the other end of our street which provides a walkway between lower and upper White Lion Park and although there is a council notice which clearly states 'No ball games' this is disregarded by the local youths who continue to play ball games there.

A constant battering of the football has destroyed wire fencing that is council property which needs replacing. Not to mention the constant noise that these children make, it is clearly a nuisance to us local residents who in the light of all this feel that something must be done urgently to address this sensitive situation.

Yours faithfully,



KJ Wardlow.

No 11 WHITE LION PARK

MALDEN SURREY

8 MAR 2002 08:15 SW 16 00W

Dear Sir,

RECEIVED

7/3/2002

White Lion Playing Field

The notice prohibiting dogs has disappeared from the site and as a result more and more dog owners are using the field to exercise their dogs. A few do clean up after their animals but not all. It is difficult to approach these people when there are no notices displayed. On several occasions recently I have used the facility with my grandson only to find that he or I had stepped in dogs mess and as a result had to curtail our games.

With spring approaching more parents children and grand children will use the facility and have to face this problem.

Some parents will no doubt refuse to let

their children and grand children use
the facility because of the problem and
this will be a great shame

Can you please ensure that steps are
taken to replace the notices and if
possible make it clear to the public
through a Council press release that
dogs are banned from White Lion Play
field and that the culprits will be
prosecuted.

I hope that prompt action can be
taken otherwise it will be too late
for the field to be clean for use
through the spring and summer.

Yours sincerely
A E. Parker.

The Chairman
Recreation Committee
Malmsbury Town Council