

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of Rajbir Singh  
**Sent:** 02 June 2021 19:36  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Friends of goldicroft park.

[REDACTED]  
PA to The Leader



#### Sandwell Council... working for you

Sandwell Council  
Oldbury  
West Midlands  
B69 3DE  
W: [www.sandwell.gov.uk](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk)

T: 0121 [REDACTED]  
F: 0121 [REDACTED]  
E: [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk



#### The Five Ways to Wellbeing

1. Be Active
2. Take Notice
3. Keep Learning
4. Give Back
5. Connect

---

**From:** Luke Giles  
**Sent:** 02 June 2021 06:25  
**To:** David Stevens <David\_Stevens@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]; Rajbir Singh <Rajbir\_Singh@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Re: Friends of goldicroft park.

Hi David

Can I invite you and the leader Rajbir to Wednesbury to have a look at the open space that we are trying to save and we need support from yourselves to do so

Cllr Luke Giles  
Councillor Wednesbury North  
Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny  
Tel. [REDACTED]

---

**From:** Luke Giles

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 1, 2021 8:36:00 PM

**To:** David Stevens <David\_Stevens@sandwell.gov.uk>

**Cc:** Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_@uk>; Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Friends of goldicroft park.

Hi David.

Further to our conversations that we have had today, this is a petition that the community group has put together over the short period of the weekend. I look forward to having further conversations around this shortly.

The residents in the community have let their feelings known that they are opposing any development of any level on this open green space. There are a number of complications around this land so I can't see this being even feasible to develop. We will lose a much used and needed open green space where the wildlife can be preserved. We have bats on the land and also number of other wildlife.

I have also copied in a couple of the residents that have run this amazing campaign in such a short period of time.

Cllr Luke Giles  
Councillor Wednesbury North  
Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny  
Tel. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Elaine Costigan  
**Sent:** 01 June 2021 12:09  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fwd: Good morning..

Updates so far .

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Elaine Costigan <Elaxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>  
**Date:** 1 June 2021 at 09:06:56 BST  
**To:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Re: Good morning..

Brilliant as per..

Sent from my iPhone

On 1 Jun 2021, at 09:01, [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk> wrote:

Good Morning Cllr Costigan

The land was acquired by Wednesbury Corporation on 28 Feb 1916. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Without access to the deed I'm  
unable to confirm if there are any restrictive covenants. Part of the original  
acquisition was appropriated for Housing purposes to build the surrounding houses  
or to sell off building plots [REDACTED] during  
1954 from what I can see from the information to hand.

I'm on leave for the week, but will order the deed and come back to you as soon as I  
can next week.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] – Property Information & Records

Sandwell Council...working for you

T: [REDACTED]  
E: [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk  
W: www.sandwell.gov.uk

Sandwell Council  
Directorate of Regeneration and Growth  
Strategic Assets & Land  
Sandwell Council House  
Oldbury  
West Midlands  
B69 3DE.  
satnav post code: B69 3DB

Get social with Sandwell...

Regeneration and Growth Magazine

-----Original Message-----

From: Elaine Costigan

Sent: 30 May 2021 09:23

To: [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; Peter Hughes  
<peter\_hughxx@xxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>; Luke Giles <Luke\_XXXX@xxxx.xxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>  
Subject: Good morning..

Hope your both well,

We are completely overwhelmed with this issue green space the residents are making a huge issue and in 24hours on their friends of Goldcroft Park have over 235 people it's really started a huge stair, whilst it was a park for many years then got vandalised Is now just an open field, and looks like the residents now realise this could be lost, now want to take ownership and we rally have to support their frantic panic that they may loose this green space.

My question I'm being asked is:-

1/ who owns it ?

2/ did a lady from Wednesbury gift this green space.

3/ is there a covenant on this land.

We do do with some kind of help on these matters.

I can see it's been 10years since they did a census on this land.

Many thanks and hope we can get some help and support and the residents here feel so strongly about it.

We are however meeting the person who has set up the friends group on Tuesday at 6.15.

Math thanks

Cllr Costigan

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

**From:** Elaine Costigan  
**Sent:** 19 June 2021 19:07  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; luke.giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk; Peter Hughes  
**Subject:** Re: Request for advice : CIL funding Goldicroft Park Wednesbury

[REDACTED] 

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]





**From:** Elaine Costigan  
**Sent:** 02 June 2021 09:08  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Screenshot 2021-06-01 at 20.05.27

Thanks [REDACTED] 😊

Sent from my iPhone

On 2 Jun 2021, at 09:00, [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk> wrote:

Hi all,

Just to add to Cllr Costigan's enquiry. There has recently been a new housing development nearby and this may have added to the footfall, hence the need for the bin and replacement dog waste bin.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]  
Customer Services Officer  
Wednesbury Local Office

<image003.jpg>

Sandwell Council...working for you  
T: [REDACTED]

Sandwell Local Wednesbury  
Town Hall  
Lower High Street  
Wednesbury  
WS10 7DF

Web: [www.sandwell.gov.uk](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk)

Have you signed up to 'MySandwell'? Register here <https://my.sandwell.gov.uk/en>

<image001.jpg>

---

**From:** [REDACTED] On Behalf Of Gary Charlton  
**Sent:** 02 June 2021 04:54  
**To:** Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; Gary Charlton <Gary\_Charlton@sandwell.gov.uk>; Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk  
**Subject:** RE: Screenshot 2021-06-01 at 20.05.27

Good Morning Cllr Costigan

Your enquiry below has been sent to [REDACTED] for investigation/response

Hope this assists

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

Technical Support Officer

<image007.jpg>

**Sandwell Council...working for you**

<image008.jpg>

<image002.jpg>

---

**From:** Elaine Costigan

**Sent:** 01 June 2021 20:08

**To:** Gary Charlton <Gary\_Charlton@sandwell.gov.uk>; Luke Giles  
<Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>

**Cc:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>

**Subject:** Screenshot 2021-06-01 at 20.05.27

Hi Gary,

Below is a picture of a meeting we have had tonight in Goldicroft Park, Goldicroft Rd, Wednesbury.  
There is on dog Bin, there used to be a litter bin, could we please put a bin there and maybe update  
the dog bin please !?

Please advise,

Cllr Costigan

<image010.jpg>

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Elaine Costigan  
**Sent:** 10 June 2021 08:56  
**To:** John Baker  
**Subject:** Re: Hi john

Thank you john :)

Sent from my iPhone

> On 10 Jun 2021, at 07:48, John Baker <john\_baker@sandwell.gov.uk> wrote:

>

> Good morning Councillor,

> CIL availability at the local level is organised on a town by town basis. The latest figures I have for Wednesbury were that there was around £64K in the pot. A community based 'Friends of the Park' Group could apply for funding for various projects from this pot. There is a maximum of £5K per bid but I would suggest the group contact [REDACTED] team who can advise further and assist with the application process. I'll let [REDACTED] know that there may be interest around Goldcroft Park.

> Hope the above helps,

> Regards,

> John

>

> John Baker

> Service Manager - Development Planning and Building Consultancy

>

>

>

> Sandwell Council...working for you

> T: [REDACTED] (Planning Reception)

> E: john\_baker@sandwell.gov.uk

> W: www.sandwell.gov.uk

>

> Sandwell Council

> Directorate of Regeneration & Growth

> Sandwell Council House

> Freeth Street

> Oldbury

> West Midlands

> B69 3DE

> (For visitors to Sandwell Council House, the satnav post code is B69 3DB)

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Elaine Costigan

> Sent: 09 June 2021 18:33

> To: John Baker <john\_baker@sandwell.gov.uk>

> Cc: Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>; Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>

> Subject: Hi john

>

> Please advise ref CIL money for the new builds on Hobbs Rd, there is going to be a new friends of Goldcroft Park, they have asked about it.

>

> Many thanks

> Cllr Costigan

>  
> Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Elaine Costigan  
**Sent:** 29 May 2021 10:01  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fwd: Hi tammy

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Date:** 29 May 2021 at 10:00:20 BST  
**To:** Tammy Stokes <Tammy\_Stokes@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>, Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Hi tammy

Please help !

We are in desperate need for a letter ref Goldcroft park it's gone crazy, petitions, a friends group, so against anything happening there, there's hundreds of people, talking about getting funding to buy it off and a concern for me is the information is being provided to the residents from an housing officer deputy managers partner he's giving them all the information which is extremely worrying as they live in Churchfields Rd it makes it look like we are not aware yet a resident is..

Could you please advise the nest way forward with this !  
Maybe a statement as to why the council need these feasibility studies ?

Thanks Tammy  
Cllr Costigan

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Elaine Costigan  
**Sent:** 01 June 2021 08:20  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] Peter Hughes; Luke Giles; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: \*\*\* URGENT \*\*\* - GOLDICROFT ROAD -, WEDNESBURY

Thank you our meeting is tonight at 6.15 on Goldicroft Park ..

Sent from my iPhone

> On 1 Jun 2021, at 08:16, [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk> wrote:  
>  
> [REDACTED]  
>  
> In [REDACTED] absence, can you please provide feedback on the attached email (questions for residents meeting).  
>  
>  
>  
> Regards,  
>  
>  
> [REDACTED]  
> [REDACTED]  
> Lead Engineer (Geotechnics)  
>  
> [sandwell\_mbc]  
>  
> Sandwell Council...working for you  
> Mobile: [REDACTED]  
>  
> E: [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk<mailto:[REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>  
> W: www.urbandesignandbuildingservices.co.uk<http://www.urbandesignandbuildingservices.co.uk/>  
>  
> Regeneration and Growth Magazine  
<[http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/downloads/file/29919/regeneration\\_and\\_growth\\_magazine](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/downloads/file/29919/regeneration_and_growth_magazine)>  
> [cid:image002.jpg@01D756BE.65AEF9E0]  
> [cid:image002.jpg@01D71A7F.9A795290]  
>  
>  
> From: Elaine Costigan  
> Sent: 01 June 2021 08:09  
> To: [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; Peter Hughes  
<peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>; Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>  
> Subject: Good morning  
>  
> Questions from  
> The residents ref our meeting tonight.  
> Would you be able to advise !?  
> Many thanks  
> Cllr Costigan  
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> [cid:image004.jpg@01D756BE.65AEF9E0]

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>  
> Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Elaine Costigan  
**Sent:** 07 June 2021 13:38  
**To:** David Stevens  
**Subject:** Re: Cllr Enquiry Screenshot 2021-06-01 at 20.05.27

Once again thank you

Sent from my iPhone

On 6 Jun 2021, at 22:09, David Stevens <David\_Stevexx@xxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx> wrote:

I have spoken to the service and we will be reinstating the bins

Best wishes

David

---

**From:** Elaine Costigan  
**Sent:** 04 June 2021 17:39  
**To:** waste\_strategy <waste\_strategy@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Gary Charlton <Gary\_Chxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>; David Stevens <David\_Stevexx@xxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>  
**Subject:** Re: Cllr Enquiry Screenshot 2021-06-01 at 20.05.27

Thank you.

David shall we discuss on site ...

On 4 Jun 2021, at 12:19, waste\_strategy <waste\_strategy@sandwell.gov.uk> wrote:

Dear Cllr,

We have been made aware that this land may be subject to some building work in the near future.

Therefore until we are aware of whether this is going ahead or not we won't look to install new bins at present.

Regards

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] **On Behalf Of** Gary Charlton  
**Sent:** 02 June 2021 04:53  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>



**Cc:** Gary Charlton <Gary\_Chxxxxxx@xxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>

**Subject:** FW: Screenshot 2021-06-01 at 20.05.27

Good Morning [REDACTED]

Please see below – can you please investigate and respond to Cllr Costigan

Many Thanks in advance

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Elaine Costigan

**Sent:** 01 June 2021 20:08

**To:** Gary Charlton <Gary\_Chxxxxxx@xxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>; Luke Giles

<Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Peter Hughes

<peter\_hughxx@xxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>

**Cc:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>

**Subject:** Screenshot 2021-06-01 at 20.05.27

Hi Gary,

Below is a picture of a meeting we have had tonight in Goldcroft Park, Goldcroft Rd, Wednesbury.

There is on dog Bin, there used to be a litter bin, could we please put a bin there and maybe update the dog bin please !?

Please advise,

Cllr Costigan

<Screenshot 2021-06-01 at 20.05.27.png>

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Alison Knight  
**Sent:** 01 October 2020 07:41  
**To:** Peter Hughes; Alan Martin; Maria Crompton  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] Luke Giles; Elaine Costigan; Alan Caddick  
**Subject:** RE: Fires 🔥

Thank you for the email Cllr Hughes

I've asked the team to look at this and will get back to you over the next week.

Regards

Alison

**Dr Alison Knight**  
**Executive Director - Neighbourhoods**



T: [REDACTED]  
M: [REDACTED]

---

**From:** Peter Hughes  
**Sent:** 01 October 2020 00:08  
**To:** Alison Knight <Alison\_Knight@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; Maria Crompton <maria\_crompton@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; Alan Caddick <Alan\_Caddick@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: Fires 🔥  
**Importance:** High

Hi Alison et al

Goldicroft Greenspace was identified some 10 years ago for possible development, and was on a list for Cabinet consideration at that time.

Obviously, under normal circumstances, as ward councillors, we would normally lobby to retain Green space, especially in Wednesbury, where we have by far the least Green space in Sandwell!

However, as my colleague, Cllr Costigan points out, Goldicroft Fields could never be considered a 'quality' greenspace – it's probably used by a handful of dog walkers at the most, and has consistently been the location for various forms of ASB – setting fires being one of the most popular, which is obviously the issue being reported here.

All those 10 years ago, again in our position as local councillors, Elaine and I carried out a consultation process with local residents to see whether we should support the Cabinet's decision (at that time) to retain it on a list of development sites.

We did the same with another identified plot of land (a wooded copse off Woden Road North) which has since gained the name of 'Ten Acre Wood', and in that instance, the local residents were unanimous in their opposition to re-development. We fed this back to the Cabinet, and, as a result, successfully got that piece of land removed from the 'Potential Development Site List', and as a result of this, a 'Friends of Ten Acre Wood' Group was set up which still exists now, and has carried out some very good work!

In the case of Goldicroft Fields, the feedback from local residents was much more mixed, and, on balance, because of the issues of ASB, the consultation indicated that those residents that replied were marginally in favour of it being re-developed. So, we did not feel it appropriate to lobby for it to be removed from the list.

Rather, we have continued to argue the case for possible redevelopment, preferably for quality elderly persons accommodation, in a similar 'hub' situation to that developed in Great Barr. Such accommodation we thought might encourage older [people under-occupying council family houses to move on and vacate them, thereby releasing much-needed accommodation for transfer/waiting list applicants for Wednesbury North, which is at a premium!

Various problems have been cited for not re-developing, not least coal-mining (which is not an insurmountable problem in Sandwell) and access (which removal of one/two existing council properties adjacent, might facilitate (albeit there may be an additional cost to this). The resultant gain in extra properties, we feel would far outweigh this!

For the reasons outlined above, could we please ask for this matter to be considered again, especially in view of recent media statements relating to insufficient social housing!

Your early feedback on this would be very much appreciated!

Best regards & Stay Safe

Pete

Cllr Peter Hughes [Wednesbury North] BA (Hons), MBA, ACIH

Tel: [REDACTED]

---

**From:** [Elaine Costigan](#)

**Sent:** 30 September 2020 18:54

**To:** [REDACTED]; [Peter Hughes](#); [Luke Giles](#)

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Fires 📎

Over Goldicroft Park, Goldicroft Rd,

This has been a problem area for years, it used to be a park but there's nothing in there now for a few years, housing looked into it but say there was no opening big enough sadly, we had gates put on they got pulled down, could the pcso keep a look out about 8/10 youths are gathering the houses back onto this from Hobbs Rd and Handley St.

Many thanks

Cllr Costigan

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Alison Knight  
**Sent:** 01 October 2020 07:41  
**To:** [REDACTED]; Maria Crompton  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] Alan Caddick  
**Subject:** RE: Fires 🔥

[REDACTED] – is this on the plan? Can you let me know if this is suitable.

Oldbury actually has the lowest amount of green space in the borough, but Wednesbury is lower than average. Alan C – I think I know where this plot is – is there anything else we can do with it as green space, if it isn't suitable or VFM to develop?

Thanks

Alison

**Dr Alison Knight**  
**Executive Director - Neighbourhoods**



T: [REDACTED]  
M: [REDACTED]

---

**From:** Peter Hughes  
**Sent:** 01 October 2020 00:08  
**To:** Alison Knight <Alison\_Knight@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; Maria Crompton <maria\_crompton@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; [REDACTED] Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; Alan Caddick <Alan\_Caddick@sandwell.gov.uk>  
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Cllr Peter Hughes [Wednesbury North] BA (Hons), MBA, ACIH

Tel: [REDACTED]

---

**From:** [Elaine Costigan](#)

**Sent:** 30 September 2020 18:54

**To:** [REDACTED]; [Peter Hughes](#); [Luke Giles](#)

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Fires 🐼

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Cllr Costigan

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Luke Giles  
**Sent:** 02 June 2021 06:25  
**To:** David Stevens  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan; Peter Hughes; [REDACTED] Rajbir Singh  
**Subject:** Re: Friends of goldicroft park.

Hi David

Can I invite you and the leader Rajbir to Wednesbury to have a look at the open space that we are trying to save and we need support from yourselves to do so

Cllr Luke Giles  
Councillor Wednesbury North  
Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny  
Tel. [REDACTED]

---

**From:** Luke Giles  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 1, 2021 8:36:00 PM  
**To:** David Stevens <David\_Stevens@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_@uk>; Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Friends of goldicroft park.

Hi David.

Further to our conversations that we have had today, this is a petition that the community group has put together over the short period of the weekend. I look forward to having further conversations around this shortly.

The residents in the community have let their feelings known that they are opposing any development of any level on this open green space. There are a number of complications around this land so I can't see this being even feasible to develop. We will lose a much used and needed open green space where the wildlife can be preserved. We have bats on the land and also number of other wildlife.

I have also copied in a couple of the residents that have run this amazing campaign in such a short period of time.

Cllr Luke Giles  
Councillor Wednesbury North  
Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny  
Tel. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

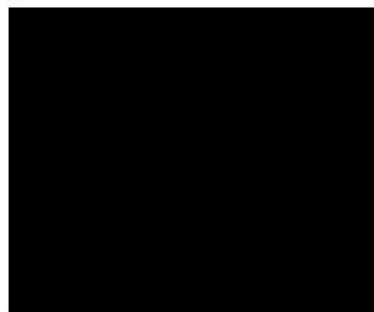
---

**From:** Luke Giles  
**Sent:** 03 June 2021 21:35  
**To:** David Stevens; Tammy Stokes  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan; Peter Hughes; [REDACTED]; Rajbir Singh;  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Friends of goldicroft park.

Please see scream shot about the covenants which residents have with their deeds. Can I please urge the council to put this to bed once and for all and secure this as an open green space for the residents to enjoy as the purpose originally given

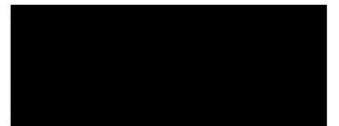


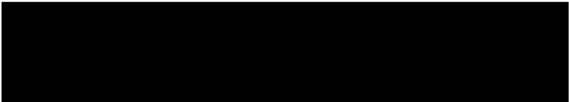
9:29 ↗



**Friends Of Goldicro**

Group post by



Just looked at our copy of the Al  
came with the title Deeds for our  
28th February 1916 and 10th Sep  
COVT by Open with Vdr that the  
times kp and maintain the a.. pc  
an Open Space for the use & enj  
Wednesbury for ever ..... as to va  
Additional wording in the 1924 p  
Inhabitants of Wednesbury for e  
suits ..... class or demands for o  
and agent . 

Cllr Luke Giles  
Councillor Wednesbury North  
Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny  
Tel. [REDACTED]

---

**From:** Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@xxx>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 2, 2021 6:24:34 AM  
**To:** David Stevens <David\_Stevens@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_@xuk>; Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]; Rajbir Singh <Rajbir\_Singh@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Re: Friends of goldicroft park.

Hi David  
Can I invite you and the leader Rajbir to Wednesbury to have a look at the open space that we are trying to save and we need support from yourselves to do so

Cllr Luke Giles  
Councillor Wednesbury North  
Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny  
Tel. [REDACTED]

---

**From:** Luke Giles  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 1, 2021 8:36:00 PM  
**To:** David Stevens <David\_Stevens@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_@xuk>; Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Friends of goldicroft park.

Hi David.

Further to our conversations that we have had today, this is a petition that the community group has put together over the short period of the weekend. I look forward to having further conversations around this shortly.

The residents in the community have let their feelings known that they are opposing any development of any level on this open green space. There are a number of complications around this land so I can't see this being even feasible to develop. We will lose a much used and needed open green space where the wildlife can be preserved. We have bats on the land and also number of other wildlife.

I have also copied in a couple of the residents that have run this amazing campaign in such a short period of time.

Cllr Luke Giles  
Councillor Wednesbury North  
Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny  
Tel. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Elaine Costigan  
**Sent:** 03 June 2021 21:52  
**To:** Luke Giles; [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** David Stevens; Tammy Stokes; Peter Hughes; [REDACTED]  
Rajbir Singh; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Friends of goldicroft park.

[REDACTED] residents have found deeds Luke has attached it for your perusal.

> On 3 Jun 2021, at 21:34, Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk> wrote:

>

> Please see scream shot about the covenants which residents have with  
> their deeds. Can I please urge the council to put this to bed once and  
> for all and secure this as an open green space for the residents to  
> enjoy as the purpose originally given

>

>

> [Image.jpeg]

>

> Cllr Luke Giles

> Councillor Wednesbury North

> Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny Tel. [REDACTED]

>

> From: Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>

> Sent: Wednesday, June 2, 2021 6:24:34 AM

> To: David Stevens <David\_Stevens@sandwell.gov.uk>

> Cc: Elaine Costigan <Elaine.Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; Peter Hughes

> <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Rajbir Singh <Rajbir\_Singh@sandwell.gov.uk>

> Subject: Re: Friends of goldicroft park.

>

> Hi David

> Can I invite you and the leader Rajbir to Wednesbury to have a look at  
> the open space that we are trying to save and we need support from  
> yourselves to do so

>

> Cllr Luke Giles

> Councillor Wednesbury North

> Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny Tel. [REDACTED]

>

> From: Luke Giles

> Sent: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 8:36:00 PM

> To: David Stevens <David\_Stevens@sandwell.gov.uk>

> Cc: Elaine Costigan <Elaine.Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; Peter Hughes

> <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]

> Subject: Friends of goldicroft park.

>

> Hi David.

>

> Further to our conversations that we have had today, this is a petition that the community group has put together over the short period of the weekend. I look forward to having further conversations around this shortly.

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> The residents in the community have let their feelings known that they are opposing any development of any level on this open green space. There are a number of complications around this land so I can't see this being even feasible to develop. We will lose a much used and needed open green space where the wildlife can be preserved. We have bats on the land and also number of other wildlife.

>

> I have also copied in a couple of the residents that have run this

> amazing campaign in such a short period of

> time.[Image.jpeg][Image.jpeg] Cllr Luke Giles Councillor Wednesbury

> North Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny Tel. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Elaine Costigan  
**Sent:** 01 June 2021 21:54  
**To:** David Stevens  
**Cc:** Luke Giles; Peter Hughes; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Friends of goldicroft park.

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

On 1 Jun 2021, at 20:38, David Stevens <David\_Steve@xxx> wrote:

Good Evening Cllr Giles

Thanks for your email

I'll be in touch tomorrow once I have further information

Best wishes

David

---

**From:** Luke Giles  
**Sent:** 01 June 2021 20:36  
**To:** David Stevens <David\_Stevens@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_@xxxuk>; Peter Hughes  
<peter\_hugh@xxx>; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Friends of goldicroft park.

Hi David.

Further to our conversations that we have had today, this is a petition that the community group has put together over the short period of the weekend. I look forward to having further conversations around this shortly.

The residents in the community have let their feelings known that they are opposing any development of any level on this open green space. There are a number of complications around this land so I can't see this being even feasible to develop. We will lose a much used and needed open green space where the wildlife can be preserved. We have bats on the land and also number of other wildlife.

I have also copied in a couple of the residents that have run this amazing campaign in such a short period of time.

<image001.jpg>

<image002.jpg>

Cllr Luke Giles

Councillor Wednesbury North

Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny

Tel. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** David Stevens  
**Sent:** 01 June 2021 20:38  
**To:** Luke Giles  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan; Peter Hughes; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Friends of goldicroft park.

Good Evening Cllr Giles

Thanks for your email

I'll be in touch tomorrow once I have further information

Best wishes

David

---

**From:** Luke Giles  
**Sent:** 01 June 2021 20:36  
**To:** David Stevens <David\_Stevens@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_@uk>; Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Friends of goldicroft park.

Hi David.

Further to our conversations that we have had today, this is a petition that the community group has put together over the short period of the weekend. I look forward to having further conversations around this shortly.

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I have also copied in a couple of the residents that have run this amazing campaign in such a short period of time.



Cllr Luke Giles  
Councillor Wednesbury North  
Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny  
Tel. [REDACTED]

## Rumena Begum

---

**From:** Elaine Costigan  
**Sent:** 02 June 2021 08:42  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Peter Hughes; Luke Giles; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Friends of Goldicroft Park.

Fab

Sent from my iPhone

On 2 Jun 2021, at 08:40, [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk> wrote:

Good Morning All,

Thank you Luke for bringing this to my attention, it is really strange to read this e-mail first thing this morning as I was doing my normal trawl of facebook when I woke up and came across a post on Wednesbury Updates with a link to the group. I ended up reading all the posts about the Friends group and the meeting you had recently (so technically I have been at work since 7 a.m. 😊)

I would be more than happy to support the Friends group and to give advice about help they can access from various sources. I think the obvious one is SCVO (Sandwell Council for Voluntary Organisations) who can assist with all sorts of aspects of running a community group, accessing funding etc.

Also the litterpicks that have been suggested could be more formalised with the support of Tipton Litterwatch who can provide equipment and arrange to have collection of the rubbish etc.

It would be good to have a chat with the members you have included in this e-mail either via Teams or at a site visit? In the meantime I will make some enquiries to see what support can be offered.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Peter Hughes  
**Sent:** 01 June 2021 23:41  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_x@uk>; Luke Giles  
<Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: Friends of Goldicroft Park.  
**Importance:** High

Hi [REDACTED]

It was great to see the strength of feeling from local residents with regards to safeguarding and 'taking ownership' of 'Goldicroft Park', and whereas there may have been doubts about it's value as a greenspace – these were well and truly displaced this evening; especially in your rapid 'call to arms' in getting a strong Petition off the ground and in the formation of a 'Friends Group' within a matter of days.

For further help in developing this Friends Group, you may wish to view the Website 'PARKS COMMUNITY: Helping UK Friends Groups Thrive' via this link:

<https://parkscommunity.org.uk/starting-a-friends-group/lets-be-friends/>

As agreed earlier, I attach a copy of Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council's Application for Registering 'Goldcroft Park' as an Asset of Community Value.

The form also contains notes about the process, and for more information, you can go to the Government's Community Rights website at:

<https://mycommunity.org.uk/resources/understanding-the-community-right-to-bid/>

If you need any further help regarding this, then please do not hesitate to contact me or one of my colleagues; and I am sure that [REDACTED] will also be more than pleased to assist also.

Best regards  
Pete

*Peter Hughes*

**Cllr Peter Hughes BA [Hons], MBA, ACIH**  
**Wednesbury North Ward**  
Tel: [REDACTED]  
<image001.png>

---

From: Luke Giles  
Sent: 01 June 2021 20:39  
To: [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>  
Cc: Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; Peter Hughes  
<peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]  
Subject: Friends of goldcroft park.

Hi [REDACTED]

You might not know but there has been a new community group set up to campaign for the open green space which is Goldcroft Field.

Is there any possibility that you could link up with the community group and see what options they have available to improve and to preserve this lovely green space.

Cllr Luke Giles  
Councillor Wednesbury North  
Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny  
Tel. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Peter Hughes  
**Sent:** 02 June 2021 10:46  
**To:** Luke Giles; [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Friends of Goldicroft Park.

I'll be there!

*Peter Hughes*

**Cllr Peter Hughes BA [Hons], MBA, ACIH  
Wednesbury North Ward**

**Tel:** [REDACTED]



---

**From:** Luke Giles  
**Sent:** 02 June 2021 09:09  
**To:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Friends of Goldicroft Park.

May I suggest we meet at the entrance to the park at 6 o'clock

Cllr Luke Giles  
Councillor Wednesbury North  
Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny  
Tel. [REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 2, 2021 9:04:22 AM  
**To:** Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Friends of Goldicroft Park.

Absolutely, don't see why not. If we are outside there is no issue with meeting face to face as far as I am aware.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Luke Giles  
**Sent:** 02 June 2021 09:01  
**To:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Friends of Goldicroft Park.

Yes that ok. Can we do the meeting on site.

Cllr Luke Giles

Councillor Wednesbury North  
Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny  
Tel. [REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 2, 2021 9:00:03 AM  
**To:** Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@xxxxxxx.xxx.xx>  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxx.xxx.uk>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Friends of Goldicroft Park.

Will do, and thanks again for letting me know – this is just the sort of thing I need to be aware of.

---

**From:** Luke Giles  
**Sent:** 02 June 2021 08:55  
**To:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxx.xxx.uk>; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Friends of Goldicroft Park.

I will go back and speak to a few of the group and come back to you as soon as possible. But if you can pencil that in that would be great

Cllr Luke Giles  
Councillor Wednesbury North  
Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny  
Tel. [REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 2, 2021 8:50:41 AM  
**To:** Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@xxxxxxx.xxx.xx>  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxx.xxx.uk>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Friends of Goldicroft Park.

Fine with me if it suits everyone else?

Thanks

---

**From:** Luke Giles  
**Sent:** 02 June 2021 08:48  
**To:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxx.xxx.uk>; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Friends of Goldicroft Park.

Next Wednesday at 6 ok.

Cllr Luke Giles  
Councillor Wednesbury North  
Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny  
Tel. [REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 2, 2021 8:47:08 AM  
**To:** Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@xxxxxxx.xxx.xx>  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_xxxxxxx@xxxxxxx.xxx.uk>; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Friends of Goldicroft Park.

Fine with me as long as it's not a Monday, any other day I can do 😊

---

**From:** Luke Giles  
**Sent:** 02 June 2021 08:43  
**To:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_xxxxxxx@xxxxxxx.xxx.uk>; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Friends of Goldicroft Park.

Fantastic. Because most of the people work after 6 o'clock is the best time. How does that work with you

Cllr Luke Giles  
Councillor Wednesbury North  
Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny  
Tel. [REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 2, 2021 8:40 am  
**To:** Peter Hughes; Luke Giles  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Friends of Goldicroft Park.

Good Morning All,

Thank you Luke for bringing this to my attention, it is really strange to read this e-mail first thing this morning as I was doing my normal trawl of facebook when I woke up and came across a post on Wednesbury Updates with a link to the group. I ended up reading all the posts about the Friends group and the meeting you had recently (so technically I have been at work since 7 a.m. 😊)

I would be more than happy to support the Friends group and to give advice about help they can access from various sources. I think the obvious one is SCVO (Sandwell Council for Voluntary Organisations) who can assist with all sorts of aspects of running a community group, accessing funding etc.

Also the litterpicks that have been suggested could be more formalised with the support of Tipton Litterwatch who can provide equipment and arrange to have collection of the rubbish etc.

It would be good to have a chat with the members you have included in this e-mail either via Teams or at a site visit? In the meantime I will make some enquiries to see what support can be offered.

Thanks

---

**From:** Peter Hughes  
**Sent:** 01 June 2021 23:41  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_xxxxxxx@xxxxxxx.xxx.uk>; Luke Giles <Luke\_Gilxx@xxxx.xxxwell.org.uk>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Friends of Goldicroft Park.

Importance: High

Hi [REDACTED]

It was great to see the strength of feeling from local residents with regards to safeguarding and 'taking ownership' of 'Goldicroft Park', and whereas there may have been doubts about it's value as a greenspace – these were well and truly displaced this evening; especially in your rapid 'call to arms' in getting a strong Petition off the ground and in the formation of a 'Friends Group' within a matter of days.

For further help in developing this Friends Group, you may wish to view the Website 'PARKS COMMUNITY: Helping UK Friends Groups Thrive' via this link:

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As agreed earlier, I attach a copy of Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council's Application for Registering 'Goldicroft Park' as an Asset of Community Value.

The form also contains notes about the process, and for more information, you can go to the Government's Community Rights website at:

<https://mycommunity.org.uk/resources/understanding-the-community-right-to-bid/>

If you need any further help regarding this, then please do not hesitate to contact me or one of my colleagues; and I am sure that [REDACTED] will also be more than pleased to assist also.

Best regards

Pete

*Peter Hughes*

**Cllr Peter Hughes BA [Hons], MBA, ACIH**

**Wednesbury North Ward**

Tel: [REDACTED]



---

From: Luke Giles

Sent: 01 June 2021 20:39

To: [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>

Cc: Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]

Subject: Friends of goldicroft park.

Hi [REDACTED]

You might not know but there has been a new community group set up to campaign for the open green space which is Goldicroft Field.

Is there any possibility that you could link up with the community group and see what options they have available to improve and to preserve this lovely green space.

Cllr Luke Giles

Councillor Wednesbury North

Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny

Tel. [REDACTED]



## Rumena Begum

---

**From:** Elaine Costigan  
**Sent:** 01 June 2021 21:54  
**To:** Luke Giles  
**Subject:** Re: Friends of goldicroft park.

Well done 🙌

Sent from my iPhone

On 1 Jun 2021, at 20:38, Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk> wrote:

Hi [REDACTED].

You might not know but there has been a new community group set up to campaign for the open green space which is Goldcroft Field.

Is there any possibility that you could link up with the community group and see what options they have available to improve and to preserve this lovely green space.

Cllr Luke Giles  
Councillor Wednesbury North  
Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny  
Tel. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Alison Knight  
**Sent:** 16 October 2020 17:42  
**To:** Peter Hughes  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] Maria Crompton; [REDACTED] Luke Giles;  
Elaine Costigan; Alan Caddick  
**Subject:** RE: Goldicroft Open Space

Cllr Hughes

Apologies that it has taken me a couple of weeks to get back to you - I have had to pull the information together and confirm the current situation with other colleagues.

The site has been investigated previously as a potential site for development. Although the site is currently allocated as Community Open Space in the Development Plan and development would be contrary to Policy, it was rated as Low Quality Low Value in the audit whereby alternative uses could be considered.

In October 2014 the site was then reserved for potential Educational use as expansion/playing fields use for Wood Green Junior School and was discounted for development proposals. This is no longer the case as both Wood Green Junior School and Albert Pritchard Infant school in the vicinity obtained Planning Permission in 2016 for extensions and will rely on their existing provision for recreation. Therefore Goldicroft Road site is now not required for Educational purposes.

Any proposed development of the Goldicroft site is constrained, however, not only by the Policy allocation but the restricted vehicular access and the suspected ground conditions. The sole vehicular access is sub-standard in terms of width and it is considered that the acquisition of adjoining third party land, probably dwelling houses, would be essential to enable appropriate development. Moreover, the site was historically part of the Vicarage Colliery and although maps do not indicate mineshafts on the site there are four on its boundary, potentially of influence, and the mounds shown on the historic plans would in all probability indicate the presence of made ground unsuitable for foundations without treatment.

This site is similar to a number of potential sites that the Council has - predominantly garage sites, where the site access is constrained by not allowing adequate width to achieve an adoptable standard road and footpaths preventing the sites from being developed to their full potential. The Goldicroft site is on the list of pipeline sites to be investigated further as part of a feasibility/viability process but the site investigation will not be started until the access issues can be resolved. This issue of access on Goldicroft and a number of other sites is something that is due to be raised with Cllr Allcock at his briefings.

[REDACTED] will be looking at the feasibility of the site most likely in the New Year.

Regards

Alison

**Dr Alison Knight**  
**Executive Director - Neighbourhoods**



T: [REDACTED]  
M: [REDACTED]

---

**From:** Peter Hughes

**Sent:** 01 October 2020 00:08

**To:** Alison Knight <Alison\_Knight@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; Maria Crompton <maria\_crompton@sandwell.gov.uk>

**Cc:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] Luke Giles <Luke\_xxxxx@xxxx.xxndwell.org.uk>; Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxx.xxx.xx>; Alan Caddick <Alan\_Caddick@sandwell.gov.uk>

**Subject:** RE: Fires 📧

**Importance:** High

Hi Alison et al

Goldicroft Greenspace was identified some 10 years ago for possible development, and was on a list for Cabinet consideration at that time.

Obviously, under normal circumstances, as ward councillors, we would normally lobby to retain Green space, especially in Wednesbury, where we have by far the least Green space in Sandwell!

However, as my colleague, Cllr Costigan points out, Goldicroft Fields could never be considered a 'quality' greenspace – it's probably used by a handful of dog walkers at the most, and has consistently been the location for various forms of ASB – setting fires being one of the most popular, which is obviously the issue being reported here.

All those 10 years ago, again in our position as local councillors, Elaine and I carried out a consultation process with local residents to see whether we should support the Cabinet's decision (at that time) to retain it on a list of development sites.

We did the same with another identified plot of land (a wooded copse off Woden Road North) which has since gained the name of 'Ten Acre Wood', and in that instance, the local residents were unanimous in their opposition to re-development. We fed this back to the Cabinet, and, as a result, successfully got that piece of land removed from the 'Potential Development Site List', and as a result of this, a 'Friends of Ten Acre Wood' Group was set up which still exists now, and has carried out some very good work!

In the case of Goldicroft Fields, the feedback from local residents was much more mixed, and, on balance, because of the issues of ASB, the consultation indicated that those residents that replied were marginally in favour of it being re-developed. So, we did not feel it appropriate to lobby for it to be removed from the list.

Rather, we have continued to argue the case for possible redevelopment, preferably for quality elderly persons accommodation, in a similar 'hub' situation to that developed in Great Barr. Such accommodation we thought might encourage older [people under-occupying council family houses to move on and vacate them, thereby releasing much-needed accommodation for transfer/waiting list applicants for Wednesbury North, which is at a premium!

Various problems have been cited for not re-developing, not least coal-mining (which is not an insurmountable problem in Sandwell) and access (which removal of one/two existing council properties adjacent, might facilitate (albeit there may be an additional cost to this). The resultant gain in extra properties, we feel would far outweigh this!

For the reasons outlined above, could we please ask for this matter to be considered again, especially in view of recent media statements relating to insufficient social housing!

Your early feedback on this would be very much appreciated!

Best regards & Stay Safe

Pete

Cllr Peter Hughes [Wednesbury North] BA (Hons), MBA, ACIH

Tel: [REDACTED]

---

**From:** [Elaine Costigan](#)

**Sent:** 30 September 2020 18:54

**To:** [REDACTED]; [Peter Hughes](#); [Luke Giles](#)

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Fires 📧

Over Goldicroft Park, Goldicroft Rd,

This has been a problem area for years, it used to be a park but there's nothing in there now for a few years, housing looked into it but say there was no opening big enough sadly, we had gates put on they got pulled down, could the pcso keep a look out about 8/10 youths are gathering the houses back onto this from Hobbs Rd and Handley St.

Many thanks

Cllr Costigan

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Elaine Costigan  
**Sent:** 16 October 2020 18:09  
**To:** Alison Knight  
**Subject:** Re: Goldicroft Open Space

Thank you Alison..

Sent from my iPhone

On 16 Oct 2020, at 17:42, Alison Knight <Alison\_Knight@sandwell.gov.uk> wrote:

Cllr Hughes

Apologies that it has taken me a couple of weeks to get back to you - I have had to pull the information together and confirm the current situation with other colleagues.

The site has been investigated previously as a potential site for development. Although the site is currently allocated as Community Open Space in the Development Plan and development would be contrary to Policy, it was rated as Low Quality Low Value in the audit whereby alternative uses could be considered.

In October 2014 the site was then reserved for potential Educational use as expansion/playing fields use for Wood Green Junior School and was discounted for development proposals. This is no longer the case as both Wood Green Junior School and Albert Pritchard Infant school in the vicinity obtained Planning Permission in 2016 for extensions and will rely on their existing provision for recreation. Therefore Goldicroft Road site is now not required for Educational purposes.

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This site is similar to a number of potential sites that the Council has - predominantly garage sites, where the site access is constrained by not allowing adequate width to achieve an adoptable standard road and footpaths preventing the sites from being developed to their full potential. The Goldicroft site is on the list of pipeline sites to be investigated further as part of a feasibility/viability process but the site investigation will not be started until the access issues can be resolved. This issue of access on Goldicroft and a number of other sites is something that is due to be raised with Cllr Allcock at his briefings.

██████████ will be looking at the feasibility of the site most likely in the New Year.

Regards

Alison



**Dr Alison Knight**  
**Executive Director - Neighbourhoods**

<image010.jpg>

T: [REDACTED]

M: [REDACTED]

---

**From:** Peter Hughes

**Sent:** 01 October 2020 00:08

**To:** Alison Knight <Alison\_Knight@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>;

Maria Crompton <maria\_crompton@sandwell.gov.uk>

**Cc:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Elaine Costigan

<Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; Alan Caddick <Alan\_Caddick@sandwell.gov.uk>

**Subject:** RE: Fires 📧

**Importance:** High

Hi Alison et al

Goldcroft Greenspace was identified some 10 years ago for possible development, and was on a list for Cabinet consideration at that time.

Obviously, under normal circumstances, as ward councillors, we would normally lobby to retain Green space, especially in Wednesbury, where we have by far the least Green space in Sandwell!

However, as my colleague, Cllr Costigan pointed out, Goldcroft Fields is not a 'quality' greenspace – it's probably used by a handful of dog walkers at the most, and has consistently been the location for various forms of ASB – setting fires being one of the most popular, which is obviously the issue being reported here.

All those 10 years ago, again in our position as local councillors, Elaine and I carried out a consultation process with local residents to see whether we should support the Cabinet's decision (at that time) to retain it on a list of development sites.

We did the same with another identified plot of land (a wooded copse off Woden Road North) which has since gained the name of 'Ten Acre Wood', and in that instance, the local residents were unanimous in their opposition to re-development. We fed this back to the Cabinet, and, as a result, successfully got that piece of land removed from the 'Potential Development Site List', and as a result of this, a 'Friends of Ten Acre Wood' Group was set up which still exists now, and has carried out some very good work!

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developed in Great Barr. Such accommodation we thought might encourage older [people under-occupying council family houses to move on and vacate them, thereby releasing much-needed accommodation for transfer/waiting list applicants for Wednesbury North, which is at a premium!

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For the reasons outlined above, could we please ask for this matter to be considered again, especially in view of recent media statements relating to insufficient social housing!

Your early feedback on this would be very much appreciated!

Best regards & Stay Safe

Pete

Cllr Peter Hughes [Wednesbury North] BA (Hons), MBA, ACIH

Tel: [REDACTED]

---

**From:** [Elaine Costigan](#)

**Sent:** 30 September 2020 18:54

**To:** [REDACTED]; [Peter Hughes](#); [Luke Giles](#)

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Fires 🐼

Over Goldcroft Park, Goldcroft Rd,

This has been a problem area for years, it used to be a park but there's nothing in there now for a few years, housing looked into it but say there was no opening big enough sadly, we had gates put on they got pulled down, could the pcso keep a look out about 8/10 youths are gathering the houses back onto this from Hobbs Rd and Handley St.

Many thanks

Cllr Costigan

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Tammy Stokes  
**Sent:** 05 March 2021 17:07  
**To:** Peter Hughes; [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Luke Giles; Elaine Costigan; [REDACTED]; David Stevens  
**Subject:** RE: Goldicroft Open Space  
**Attachments:** RE: Wednesbury North Partnership Meeting 30.03.21. @ 3.00pm by Teams

Hi Councillor Hughes,

Apologies but there must have been some miscommunication. I did call you twice earlier to pick this up directly but I think you must have been unavailable.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I will get back to you shortly about Goldicroft Road. [REDACTED] has been looking into this but has been dealing with [REDACTED] which has delayed the response. I should have at least let you know this.

More than happy to diarise time with you to discuss Wednesbury North and as set about above the only reason I declined was due to an existing commitment. As I mentioned yesterday to [REDACTED] if you send the pressing questions through I will do my best to answer them (see attached).

Kind regards,

Tammy

---

**From:** Peter Hughes  
**Sent:** 05 March 2021 10:58  
**To:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; Tammy Stokes <Tammy\_Stokes@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; David Stevens <David\_Stevexx@xxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>  
**Subject:** RE: Goldicroft Open Space  
**Importance:** High

Hi Tammy

I do not appear to have received a response to my email below regarding Goldicroft Open Space.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] feel we would still like:

- To receive clarification about proposals (or not) for Goldicroft



• [REDACTED]

Would appreciate your early response on both issues.

Best regards  
Pete

*Peter Hughes*

**Cllr Peter Hughes BA [Hons], MBA, ACIH**  
**Wednesbury North Ward**  
Tel: [REDACTED]



---

**From:** Peter Hughes  
**Sent:** 18 February 2021 15:05  
**To:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; Alan Caddick <Alan\_Caddick@sandwell.gov.uk>; Tammy Stokes <Tammy\_Stokes@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk  
**Subject:** RE: Goldicroft Open Space  
**Importance:** High

Hi Tammy et al

Prior to her leaving, Alison committed to coming back to us early in the New Year with regards to the suitability/feasibility of development of this area.

We are aware that there were some investigation works taking place there a few weeks ago, as we were advised of this by local residents – I assume that this might have had something to do with this?

That being the case, are you able to give us any indication of the outcome of any investigations?

[REDACTED]

Best regards  
Pete

*Peter Hughes*

**Cllr Peter Hughes BA [Hons], MBA, ACIH**  
**Wednesbury North Ward**  
Tel: [REDACTED]



---

**From:** Peter Hughes  
**Sent:** 19 October 2020 13:40  
**To:** Alison Knight <Alison\_Knight@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; Alan Caddick <Alan\_Caddick@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Maria Crompton <maria\_crompton@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>

**Subject:** RE: Goldicroft Open Space  
**Importance:** High

Hi Alison

Thank you very much for the full and detailed clarification of the situation regarding this site. It is indeed Low Quality/Low Value from a Green Space point of view, and, historically, has proved to be a site of ongoing ASB, and used very little, except for dog-walking by a low number of people.

As with many plots of land across Wednesbury, it will have history of mine-workings, but, I feel, should not be an impediment to possible development. Likewise, access is not insurmountable if there is a will to move forward with such development. For me, such a piece of land seems a waste as it stands at the moment.

I'm pleased to hear that this will be reviewed in January, and my fellow councillors in Wednesbury North and I look forward to receiving further observations early in the New Year.

Best regards & Stay Safe

Pete

Cllr Peter Hughes [Wednesbury North] BA (Hons), MBA, ACIH

Tel: [REDACTED]

---

**From:** [Alison Knight](#)

**Sent:** 16 October 2020 17:42

**To:** [Peter Hughes](#)

**Cc:** [REDACTED]; [Maria Crompton](#); [REDACTED]; [Luke Giles](#); [Elaine Costigan](#); [Alan Caddick](#)

**Subject:** RE: Goldicroft Open Space

Cllr Hughes

Apologies that it has taken me a couple of weeks to get back to you - I have had to pull the information together and confirm the current situation with other colleagues.

The site has been investigated previously as a potential site for development. Although the site is currently allocated as Community Open Space in the Development Plan and development would be contrary to Policy, it was rated as Low Quality Low Value in the audit whereby alternative uses could be considered.

In October 2014 the site was then reserved for potential Educational use as expansion/playing fields use for Wood Green Junior School and was discounted for development proposals. This is no longer the case as both Wood Green Junior School and Albert Pritchard Infant school in the vicinity obtained Planning Permission in 2016 for extensions and will rely on their existing provision for recreation. Therefore Goldicroft Road site is now not required for Educational purposes.

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be investigated further as part of a feasibility/viability process but the site investigation will not be started until the access issues can be resolved. This issue of access on Goldicroft and a number of other sites is something that is due to be raised with Cllr Allcock at his briefings.

[REDACTED] will be looking at the feasibility of the site most likely in the New Year.

Regards

Alison

**Dr Alison Knight**  
**Executive Director - Neighbourhoods**



T: [REDACTED]  
M: [REDACTED]

---

**From:** Peter Hughes  
**Sent:** 01 October 2020 00:08  
**To:** Alison Knight <Alison\_Knight@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; Maria Crompton <maria\_crompton@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; [REDACTED] Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; Alan Caddick <Alan\_Caddick@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: Fires 📧  
**Importance:** High

Hi Alison et al

Goldicroft Greenspace was identified some 10 years ago for possible development, and was on a list for Cabinet consideration at that time.

Obviously, under normal circumstances, as ward councillors, we would normally lobby to retain Green space, especially in Wednesbury, where we have by far the least Green space in Sandwell!

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For the reasons outlined above, could we please ask for this matter to be considered again, especially in view of recent media statements relating to insufficient social housing!

Your early feedback on this would be very much appreciated!

Best regards & Stay Safe

Pete

Cllr Peter Hughes [Wednesbury North] BA (Hons), MBA, ACIH

Tel: [REDACTED]

---

**From:** [Elaine Costigan](#)

**Sent:** 30 September 2020 18:54

**To:** [REDACTED]; [Peter Hughes](#); [Luke Giles](#)

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Fires 📧

Over Goldicroft Park, Goldicroft Rd,

This has been a problem area for years, it used to be a park but there's nothing in there now for a few years, housing looked into it but say there was no opening big enough sadly, we had gates put on they got pulled down, could the pcso keep a look out about 8/10 youths are gathering the houses back onto this from Hobbs Rd and Handley St.

Many thanks

Cllr Costigan

Sent from my iPhone



[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Elaine Costigan  
**Sent:** 05 March 2021 11:10  
**To:** Peter Hughes  
**Subject:** Re: Goldicroft Open Space



Sent from my iPhone

On 5 Mar 2021, at 10:57, Peter Hughes <peter\_hughxx@xxxxxxxx.xxx.xx> wrote:

Hi Tammy

I do not appear to have received a response to my email below regarding Goldicroft Open Space.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] but feel we would still like:

- To receive clarification about proposals (or not) for Goldicroft
- [REDACTED]

Would appreciate your early response on both issues.

Best regards  
Pete

*Peter Hughes*

**Cllr Peter Hughes BA [Hons], MBA, ACIH  
Wednesbury North Ward**

**Tel:** [REDACTED]  
<image001.png>

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**From:** Peter Hughes  
**Sent:** 18 February 2021 15:05  
**To:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; Alan Caddick <Alan\_Caddick@sandwell.gov.uk>;  
Tammy Stokes <Tammyxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>  
**Cc:** Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Elaine Costigan  
<Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: Goldicroft Open Space  
**Importance:** High

Hi Tammy et al

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[REDACTED]

Best regards

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*Peter Hughes*

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Wednesbury North Ward**

Tel: [REDACTED]  
<image001.png>

---

From: Peter Hughes

Sent: 19 October 2020 13:40

To: Alison Knight <Alison\_Knight@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>;

Alan Caddick <Alan\_Caddick@sandwell.gov.uk>

Cc: Maria Crompton <maria\_crompton@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>;

Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@crr.sandwell.org.uk>; Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Goldcroft Open Space

Importance: High

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Cllr Peter Hughes [Wednesbury North] BA (Hons), MBA, ACIH

Tel: [REDACTED]

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From: [Alison Knight](#)

Sent: 16 October 2020 17:42

To: [Peter Hughes](#)  
Cc: [REDACTED]; [Maria Crompton](#); [REDACTED]; [Luke Giles](#); [Elaine Costigan](#); [Alan Caddick](#)  
Subject: RE: Goldicroft Open Space

Cllr Hughes

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Regards

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**Dr Alison Knight**  
**Executive Director - Neighbourhoods**

<image002.jpg>

T: [REDACTED]

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From: Peter Hughes  
Sent: 01 October 2020 00:08  
To: Alison Knight <Alison\_Knight@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>;

Maria Crompton <maria\_crompton@sandwell.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@ [REDACTED]  
Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Elaine Costigan  
<Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; Alan Caddick <Alan\_Caddick@sandwell.gov.uk>

**Subject:** RE: Fires 🐶

**Importance:** High

Hi Alison et al

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Your early feedback on this would be very much appreciated!

Best regards & Stay Safe

Pete

Cllr Peter Hughes [Wednesbury North] BA (Hons), MBA, ACIH

Tel: [REDACTED]

---

**From:** [Elaine Costigan](#)

**Sent:** 30 September 2020 18:54

**To:** [REDACTED]; [Peter Hughes](#); [Luke Giles](#)

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Fires 🏠

Over Goldicroft Park, Goldicroft Rd,

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Many thanks

Cllr Costigan

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Elaine Costigan  
**Sent:** 18 May 2021 16:00  
**To:** Peter Hughes  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; Tammy Stokes; Luke Giles; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Goldicroft Open Space

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

On 18 May 2021, at 15:48, Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk> wrote:

Many thanks [REDACTED] – much appreciated!!

[REDACTED] has indeed forwarded the letter, and it is good to see that the development opportunities for this land are being explored.

Best regards  
Pete

*Peter Hughes*

**Cllr Peter Hughes BA [Hons], MBA, ACIH**  
**Wednesbury North Ward**  
**Tel:** [REDACTED]  
<image001.png>

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 18 May 2021 13:54  
**To:** Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>; Tammy Stokes <Tammy\_Stokes@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk  
**Subject:** RE: Goldicroft Open Space

Afternoon Cllr Hughes

I have tried to call you but seem to be having an issue with the mobile phone – sorry about that. I can advise that site investigation works on Goldicroft are due to start around the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2021 and last for about 10 days. My colleague [REDACTED] will be contacting you and other ward members shortly to share the letter that will be sent to the local residents informing them of what is happening. I hope this information is what you require if not please come back to me.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

Partnerships and Programme Manager

<image002.png>

**Sandwell Council...working for you**

T: [REDACTED]  
E: [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk

Sandwell Council  
Council House  
Freeth Street  
Oldbury  
B69 3DE  
(please use post code B69 3DL for SAT NAV to car parking opposite Council House)  
W: [www.sandwell.gov.uk](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk)

<image003.jpg>

**Get social with Sandwell...**

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<image005.png>

<image006.png>

<image007.png>

<image008.jpg>

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**From:** Peter Hughes  
**Sent:** 18 May 2021 13:15  
**To:** Tammy Stokes <Tammy\_Stokes@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]  
<[REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@crr.sandwell.org.uk>; Elaine Costigan  
<Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: Goldcroft Open Space  
**Importance:** High

Hi Tammy

This came up at our Partnership Meeting again last week, and we thought it would be best if we could arrange a meeting with us the 3 ward councillors, outside of the Partnership Meeting, whether virtually or otherwise?

Are you able to give us dates/times that would be convenient for you before the end of the month please? I think late afternoon (4.00pm onwards) would be best for Cllr Giles who is in full-time employment. It would also be good to have [REDACTED] present, so he is fully briefed from a Neighbourhood level.

Best regards Pete

*Peter Hughes*

**Cllr Peter Hughes BA [Hons], MBA, ACIH**  
**Wednesbury North Ward**  
**Tel:** [REDACTED]  
<image001.png>

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**From:** Tammy Stokes  
**Sent:** 05 March 2021 17:07

**To:** Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Elaine Costigan  
<Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; David Stevens  
<David\_Stevexx@xxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>  
**Subject:** RE: Goldicroft Open Space

Hi Councillor Hughes,

Apologies but there must have been some miscommunication. I did call you twice earlier to pick this up directly but I think you must have been unavailable.

[REDACTED]

I will get back to you shortly about Goldicroft Road. [REDACTED] has been looking into this but has been dealing with an urgent bid for Homes England funding (potentially funding towards 200 homes) which has delayed the response. I should have at least let you know this.

More than happy to diarise time with you to discuss Wednesbury North [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Kind regards,

Tammy

---

**From:** Peter Hughes  
**Sent:** 05 March 2021 10:58  
**To:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; Tammy Stokes  
<Tammy\_Stokes@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Elaine Costigan  
<Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; David Stevens  
<David\_Stevexx@xxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>  
**Subject:** RE: Goldicroft Open Space  
**Importance:** High

Hi Tammy

I do not appear to have received a response to my email below regarding Goldicroft Open Space.

I also note that you're not prepared to attend (or send another officer to) our Wednesbury North  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] we would still like:

- To receive clarification about proposals (or not) for Goldicroft
- [REDACTED]

Would appreciate your early response on both issues.

Best regards

Pete

*Peter Hughes*

**Cllr Peter Hughes BA [Hons], MBA, ACIH**

**Wednesbury North Ward**

**Tel:** [REDACTED]  
<image001.png>

---

**From:** Peter Hughes

**Sent:** 18 February 2021 15:05

**To:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; Alan Caddick <Alan\_Caddick@sandwell.gov.uk>;  
Tammy Stokes <Tammyxxxxxxx@xxxxxxx.xxx.xx>

**Cc:** Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Elaine Costigan

<Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk

**Subject:** RE: Goldicroft Open Space

**Importance:** High

Hi Tammy et al

Prior to her leaving, Alison committed to coming back to us early in the New Year with regards to the suitability/feasibility of development of this area.

We are aware that there were some investigation works taking place there a few weeks ago, as we were advised of this by local residents – I assume that this might have had something to do with this?

That being the case, are you able to give us any indication of the outcome of any investigations?

At our previous Wednesbury North Partnership meeting, we did ask if someone from housing development/regeneration could attend, to discuss possible development opportunities – would it be possible for someone to join the Teams meeting, and include it on the agenda?

Best regards

Pete

*Peter Hughes*

**Cllr Peter Hughes BA [Hons], MBA, ACIH**

**Wednesbury North Ward**

**Tel:** [REDACTED]  
<image001.png>

---

**From:** Peter Hughes

**Sent:** 19 October 2020 13:40

**To:** Alison Knight <Alison\_Knight@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk;  
Alan Caddick <Alan\_Caddick@sandwell.gov.uk>

**Cc:** Maria Crompton <maria\_crompton@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk;

Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Elaine Costigan <Elaxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxx.xxx.xx>

**Subject:** RE: Goldicroft Open Space

**Importance:** High

Hi Alison

Thank you very much for the full and detailed clarification of the situation regarding this site. It is indeed Low Quality/Low Value from a Green Space point of view, and, historically, has proved to be a site of ongoing ASB, and used very little, except for dog-walking by a low number of people.

As with many plots of land across Wednesbury, it will have history of mine-workings, but, I feel, should not be an impediment to possible development. Likewise, access is not insurmountable if there is a will to move forward with such development. For me, such a piece of land seems a waste as it stands at the moment.

I'm pleased to hear that this will be reviewed in January, and my fellow councillors in Wednesbury North and I look forward to receiving further observations early in the New Year.

Best regards & Stay Safe

Pete

Cllr Peter Hughes [Wednesbury North] BA (Hons), MBA, ACIH

Tel: [REDACTED]

---

**From:** [Alison Knight](#)

**Sent:** 16 October 2020 17:42

**To:** [Peter Hughes](#)

**Cc:** [REDACTED] [Maria Crompton](#); [REDACTED]; [Luke](#)

[Giles](#); [Elaine Costigan](#); [Alan Caddick](#)

**Subject:** RE: Goldcroft Open Space

Cllr Hughes

Apologies that it has taken me a couple of weeks to get back to you - I have had to pull the information together and confirm the current situation with other colleagues.

The site has been investigated previously as a potential site for development. Although the site is currently allocated as Community Open Space in the Development Plan and development would be contrary to Policy, it was rated as Low Quality Low Value in the audit whereby alternative uses could be considered.

In October 2014 the site was then reserved for potential Educational use as expansion/playing fields use for Wood Green Junior School and was discounted for development proposals. This is no longer the case as both Wood Green Junior School and Albert Pritchard Infant school in the vicinity obtained Planning Permission in 2016 for extensions and will rely on their existing provision for recreation. Therefore Goldcroft Road site is now not required for Educational purposes.

Any proposed development of the Goldcroft site is constrained, however, not only by the Policy allocation but the restricted vehicular access and the suspected ground conditions. The sole vehicular access is sub-standard in terms of width and it is considered that the acquisition of adjoining third party land, probably dwelling houses, would be essential to enable appropriate development. Moreover, the site was historically part of the Vicarage Colliery and although maps do not indicate mineshafts on the site there are four on its boundary, potentially of influence, and the mounds shown on the historic plans would in all probability indicate the presence of made ground unsuitable for foundations without treatment.

This site is similar to a number of potential sites that the Council has - predominantly garage sites, where the site access is constrained by not allowing adequate width to achieve an adoptable

standard road and footpaths preventing the sites from being developed to their full potential. The Goldicroft site is on the list of pipeline sites to be investigated further as part of a feasibility/viability process but the site investigation will not be started until the access issues can be resolved. This issue of access on Goldicroft and a number of other sites is something that is due to be raised with Cllr Allcock at his briefings.

[REDACTED] will be looking at the feasibility of the site most likely in the New Year.

Regards

Alison

**Dr Alison Knight**  
**Executive Director - Neighbourhoods**

<image010.jpg>  
T: 0121 569 5030  
M: 07824 526519

---

**From:** Peter Hughes  
**Sent:** 01 October 2020 00:08  
**To:** Alison Knight <Alison\_Knight@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>; Maria Crompton <maria\_crompton@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>; Alan Caddick <Alan\_Caddick@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: Fires 🐶  
**Importance:** High

Hi Alison et al

Goldicroft Greenspace was identified some 10 years ago for possible development, and was on a list for Cabinet consideration at that time.

Obviously, under normal circumstances, as ward councillors, we would normally lobby to retain Green space, especially in Wednesbury, where we have by far the least Green space in Sandwell!

However, as my colleague, Cllr Costigan points out, Goldicroft Fields could never be considered a 'quality' greenspace – it's probably used by a handful of dog walkers at the most, and has consistently been the location for various forms of ASB – setting fires being one of the most popular, which is obviously the issue being reported here.

All those 10 years ago, again in our position as local councillors, Elaine and I carried out a consultation process with local residents to see whether we should support the Cabinet's decision (at that time) to retain it on a list of development sites.

We did the same with another identified plot of land (a wooded copse off Woden Road North) which has since gained the name of 'Ten Acre Wood', and in that instance, the local residents were unanimous in their opposition to re-development. We fed this back to the Cabinet, and, as a result, successfully got that piece of land

removed from the 'Potential Development Site List', and as a result of this, a 'Friends of Ten Acre Wood' Group was set up which still exists now, and has carried out some very good work!

In the case of Goldcroft Fields, the feedback from local residents was much more mixed, and, on balance, because of the issues of ASB, the consultation indicated that those residents that replied were marginally in favour of it being re-developed. So, we did not feel it appropriate to lobby for it to be removed from the list.

Rather, we have continued to argue the case for possible redevelopment, preferably for quality elderly persons accommodation, in a similar 'hub' situation to that developed in Great Barr. Such accommodation we thought might encourage older [people under-occupying council family houses to move on and vacate them, thereby releasing much-needed accommodation for transfer/waiting list applicants for Wednesbury North, which is at a premium!

Various problems have been cited for not re-developing, not least coal-mining (which is not an insurmountable problem in Sandwell) and access (which removal of one/two existing council properties adjacent, might facilitate (albeit there may be an additional cost to this). The resultant gain in extra properties, we feel would far outweigh this!

For the reasons outlined above, could we please ask for this matter to be considered again, especially in view of recent media statements relating to insufficient social housing!

Your early feedback on this would be very much appreciated!

Best regards & Stay Safe

Pete

Cllr Peter Hughes [Wednesbury North] BA (Hons), MBA, ACIH

Tel: [REDACTED]

---

**From:** [Elaine Costigan](#)

**Sent:** 30 September 2020 18:54

**To:** [REDACTED]; [Peter Hughes](#); [Luke Giles](#)

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Fires 📎

Over Goldcroft Park, Goldcroft Rd,

This has been a problem area for years, it used to be a park but there's nothing in there now for a few years, housing looked into it but say there was no opening big enough sadly, we had gates put on they got pulled down, could the pcso keep a look out about 8/10 youths are gathering the houses back onto this from Hobbs Rd and Handley St.

Many thanks

Cllr Costigan

Sent from my iPhone



[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Peter Hughes  
**Sent:** 18 February 2021 15:05  
**To:** [REDACTED] Alan Caddick; Tammy Stokes  
**Cc:** Luke Giles; Elaine Costigan; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Goldicroft Open Space

**Importance:** High

**Due By:** 26 February 2021 09:00  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi Tammy et al

Prior to her leaving, Alison committed to coming back to us early in the New Year with regards to the suitability/feasibility of development of this area.

We are aware that there were some investigation works taking place there a few weeks ago, as we were advised of this by local residents – I assume that this might have had something to do with this?

That being the case, are you able to give us any indication of the outcome of any investigations?

At our previous Wednesbury North Partnership meeting, we did ask if someone from housing development/regeneration could attend, to discuss possible development opportunities – would it be possible for someone to join the Teams meeting, and include it on the agenda?

Best regards  
Pete

*Peter Hughes*

**Cllr Peter Hughes BA [Hons], MBA, ACIH**

**Wednesbury North Ward**

**Tel:** [REDACTED]



---

**From:** Peter Hughes  
**Sent:** 19 October 2020 13:40  
**To:** Alison Knight <Alison\_Knight@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; Alan Caddick <Alan\_Caddick@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Maria Crompton <maria\_crompton@sandwell.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk; Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Elaine Costigan <Elaine\_Costigan@sandwell.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: Goldicroft Open Space  
**Importance:** High

Hi Alison

Thank you very much for the full and detailed clarification of the situation regarding this site. It is indeed Low Quality/Low Value from a Green Space point of view, and, historically, has proved to be a site of ongoing ASB, and used very little, except for dog-walking by a low number of people.

As with many plots of land across Wednesbury, it will have history of mine-workings, but, I feel, should not be an impediment to possible development. Likewise, access is not insurmountable if there is a will to move forward with such development. For me, such a piece of land seems a waste as it stands at the moment.

I'm pleased to hear that this will be reviewed in January, and my fellow councillors in Wednesbury North and I look forward to receiving further observations early in the New Year.

Best regards & Stay Safe

Pete

Cllr Peter Hughes [Wednesbury North] BA (Hons), MBA, ACIH

Tel: [REDACTED]

---

**From:** [Alison Knight](#)

**Sent:** 16 October 2020 17:42

**To:** [Peter Hughes](#)

**Cc:** [REDACTED]; [Maria Crompton](#); [REDACTED]; [Luke Giles](#); [Elaine Costigan](#); [Alan Caddick](#)

**Subject:** RE: Goldicroft Open Space

Cllr Hughes

Apologies that it has taken me a couple of weeks to get back to you - I have had to pull the information together and confirm the current situation with other colleagues.

The site has been investigated previously as a potential site for development. Although the site is currently allocated as Community Open Space in the Development Plan and development would be contrary to Policy, it was rated as Low Quality Low Value in the audit whereby alternative uses could be considered.

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[REDACTED] will be looking at the feasibility of the site most likely in the New Year.

Regards

Alison

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Elaine Costigan  
**Sent:** 08 June 2021 18:39  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Luke Giles; Peter Hughes; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Re Friends of goldicroft park

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

On 8 Jun 2021, at 13:16, [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk> wrote:

Dear Councillors

I refer to my previous email exchange concerning the issue of ownership, who our predecessor council acquired it from and whether or not there is a restrictive covenant in place.

I can confirm that the freehold of the land rests with the Borough council of Sandwell. The Mayor, Alderman and Burgesses of the Borough of Wednesbury acquired this and other land from George Ernest Jellyman on 28 February 1916.

When it was acquired the land was subject to a restrictive covenant **but** this was released and forever discharged by Mr Jellyman on 20 September 1924 which allowed land to be part appropriated for Housing purposes (land included in building out properties in Churchfields Road and Handley Street) and for the building plots previously described in my email of last week to be sold in Goldicroft Road and Hobs Road.

I hope that this clarifies the ownership and covenant situation for all concerned, but I'm happy to meet with you should you wish to see the covenant release.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Senior Lead Officer – Property Information & Records

<image002.jpg>

**Sandwell Council...working for you**

T: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk  
W: [www.sandwell.gov.uk](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk)

Sandwell Council  
Directorate of Regeneration and Growth  
Strategic Assets & Land

Sandwell Council House  
Oldbury  
West Midlands  
B69 3DE.

satnav post code: B69 3DB

<image010.jpg>

**Get social with Sandwell...**

<image004.png>

<image005.png>

<image006.png>

<image007.png>

<image008.jpg>

<image009.jpg>

[Regeneration and Growth Magazine](#)

---

**From:** Elaine Costigan

**Sent:** 03 June 2021 21:52

**To:** [REDACTED]@sandwell.gov.uk>

**Cc:** Luke Giles <Luke\_Giles@cllr.sandwell.org.uk>; Peter Hughes <peter\_hughes@xxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>

**Subject:** Re Friends of goldicroft park

<image001.jpg>

Sent from my iPhone

21:51

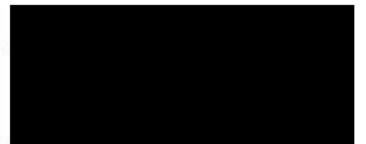
< Inbox Friends of gold 8 Messages

9:29 ↗



Friends Of Goldicroft

Group post by



Just looked at our copy of the Abs  
came with the title Deeds for our l  
28th February 1916 and 10th Sept  
COVT by Open with Vdr that the o  
times kp and maintain the a.. pos  
an Open Space for the use & enjm  
Wednesbury for ever ..... as to val  
Additional wording in the 1924 par  
Inhabitants of Wednesbury for eve  
quite class or demands for or

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Rajbir Singh](#)  
**To:** [Luke Giles](#); [Luke Giles](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Goldicroft  
**Date:** 09 June 2021 16:44:59

---

Hi all

Firstly I would like to thank you for raising this concern through your ward members. I can confirm that the Council will not be proceeding with any further investigations or development plans at the above site.

Please find below my official press statement in relation to the above development.

“The information from the site investigations would have been used to develop options for the future of the site which would have been subject to further public consultation before any decision was taken. However, given the level of objection to the site investigations, and listening to the voices of ward members and residents I have agreed, as part of my commitment to protect Sandwell’s green spaces and build a cleaner, greener, safer borough, that we will not be progressing with plans for new housing on Goldicroft Park.”

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---

**From:** Luke Giles <~~x@xxx~~>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 9, 2021 4:16:06 PM  
**To:** Rajbir Singh <~~x@xx~~>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Goldicroft

Further to the email that you sent earlier Rajbir can you send official response to the group and can I thank you for listening to the members raising concerns that the residents have raised with us

Cllr Luke Giles  
Councillor Wednesbury North  
Chair of budget and corporate scrutiny  
Tel. [REDACTED]

**From:** [David Stevens](#)  
**To:** [Rajbir Singh](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Goldicroft  
**Date:** 09 June 2021 15:55:00

---

Shall we release now or leave until 6 ?

---

**From:** Rajbir Singh  
**Sent:** 09 June 2021 15:54  
**To:** David Stevens <~~@xxx~~>  
**Subject:** Re: Goldicroft

Happy with that.

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---

**From:** David Stevens <~~@xxx~~>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 9, 2021 3:49:56 PM  
**To:** Rajbir Singh <~~@xxx~~>  
**Subject:** Goldicroft

Hi Leader

Are you content with this as the narrative?

“The information from the site investigations would have been used to develop options for the future of the site which would have been subject to further public consultation before any decision was taken. However, given the level of objection to the site investigations, and listening to the voices of ward members and residents I have agreed, as part of my commitment to protect Sandwell’s green spaces and build a cleaner, greener, safer borough, that we will not be progressing with plans for new housing on Goldicroft Park.”

Thanks

David



**From:** [Rajbir Singh](#)  
**To:** [David Stevens](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Goldicroft  
**Date:** 09 June 2021 15:58:33

---

Release it now please.

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---

**From:** David Stevens <[@xxx](#)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 9, 2021 3:55:27 PM  
**To:** Rajbir Singh <[@xxx](#)>  
**Subject:** RE: Goldicroft

Shall we release now or leave until 6 ?

---

**From:** Rajbir Singh  
**Sent:** 09 June 2021 15:54  
**To:** David Stevens <[@xxx](#)>  
**Subject:** Re: Goldicroft

Happy with that.

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

---

**From:** David Stevens <[@xxx](#)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 9, 2021 3:49:56 PM  
**To:** Rajbir Singh <[@xxx](#)>  
**Subject:** Goldicroft

Hi Leader

Are you content with this as the narrative?

“The information from the site investigations would have been used to develop options for the future of the site which would have been subject to further public consultation before any decision was taken. However, given the level of objection to the site investigations, and listening to the voices of ward members and residents I have agreed, as part of my commitment to protect Sandwell’s green spaces and build a cleaner, greener, safer borough, that we will not be progressing with plans for new housing on Goldicroft Park.”

Thanks

David

**From:** [press office](#)  
**To:** [Luke Giles](#)  
**Subject:** Statement from Sandwell council leader Councillor Rajbir Singh regarding Goldicroft Park in Wednesbury  
**Date:** 09 June 2021 16:29:11

---



## News Release

Released: 09 June 2021

### **Statement from Sandwell council leader Councillor Rajbir Singh regarding Goldicroft Park in Wednesbury**

“The information from the site investigations would have been used to develop options for the future of the site, which would have been subject to further public consultation before any decision was taken. However, given the level of objection to the site investigations, and listening to the voices of ward members and residents I have agreed, as part of my commitment to protect Sandwell’s green spaces and build a cleaner, greener, safer borough, that we will not be progressing with plans for new housing on Goldicroft Park.”

### **ENDS**

For further information please contact:  
Sandwell Council Communications Unit  
[xxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxx.xxx.xx](mailto:xxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxx.xxx.xx)

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[www.facebook.com/sandwellcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/sandwellcouncil)  
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Weekly News

Sandwell Council Internal Comms sent this bulletin at 15-06-2021 11:06 AM BST

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)





# WEEKLY NEWS

This message has been sent from  
**David Stevens, Chief Executive of Sandwell Council**



The Leader has confirmed that plans for new housing on Goldcroft Park in Wednesbury will not be progressed.

In a recent press statement the Council Leader Councillor Rajbir Singh said: "Sandwell Council listens to its residents.



"The information from the site investigations would have been used to develop options for the future of the site, which would have been subject to further public consultation before any decision was taken.

"However, given the level of objection to the site investigations, and listening to the voices of ward members and residents I have agreed, as part of my commitment to protect Sandwell’s green spaces and build a cleaner, greener, safer borough, that we will not be progressing with plans for new housing on Goldcroft Park."



[Redacted text block]

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