

## **Dogs on Lead in Clapp's Mead Playing Field?**

**N.B.** This discussion does not relate to the fenced children's play area, which is strictly NO DOGS as specified in the Dorset-wide Public Space Protection Order – Dogs (which came into force October 2020).

The Parish Council survey conducted via the Chideock News gave the following results: -

23 against requiring dogs to be on lead, with an additional 2 suggesting that leads should be requested if there are children playing in the field.  
11 for doing being on leads.

Mrs Lyn Crisp conducted a verbal survey, which indicated that many people would be content for dogs to be off lead in the playing field area.

There is support for a "half way house" viz

To request people to put their dog(s) on lead if children are playing in the field.

There appear to be 3 possible options: -

1. Keep things as they are – i.e. request that dogs are on lead at all times – this is not supported by the results of the Chideock News survey, or by Mrs Crisp's.
2. Do not request that dogs are on lead - this is supported by the results of the Chideock News Survey and Mrs Crisp's.
3. As 2 but request that dogs are kept on lead if children are playing in the field. This was suggested in 2 Chideock News survey responses and the idea appears to have been popular in Mrs Crisp's.

The Clerk recommends that councillors are asked if they support each option in turn and then, if possible, a formal vote is taken on the option with the most councillor support.

**N.B.** The Clerk recommends that other suggestions made by Mrs Crisp (more seating in the fenced play area; goal posts / nets) be discussed at the April Parish Council meeting as they are outside of the scope of the matter under consideration, which was raised at the January Parish Council meeting.