

Correspondence for parish council 20th March 2024

From: Martin Heseltine

Subject: Beech hedge over growing a footpath.

Message Body:

Hello, there is a stretch of difficult to walk past hedge on the B4234 between Walford and Ross. The path is seriously overgrown and the tarmac path is left very narrow and often slopes towards the road. It is very unsafe and not easy to pass. It is at

///. duet.workshops.primed

Thank you

From Grahame Morgan-Watson

Dear Nick and Joanne

My recent experience regarding the Walford Parish Council email protocol, suggests to me that the council and clerk, do not fully understand the rules pertaining to data protection.

Having received emails over the past couple of months that reveal all the recipients of an email, I am attaching a document that you need to familiarise yourselves with regarding the use of C.C. Sending and Reply All habits.

As stated here from an online legal site;

The regulation requires organisations to obtain consent before collecting, processing, and sharing personal data. Therefore, sharing an email address without authorisation could be a breach of GDPR. The UK's application of GDPR is enshrined in law in the Data Protection Act 2018 in the UK.

<https://www.databreachlaw.org.uk/data-breach-compensation/is-sharing-an-email-address-a-breach-of-gdpr#:~:text=The%20regulation%20requires%20organisations%20to,Act%202018%20in%20the%20UK.>

So just because a parishioner has emailed you to request updates on a particular working group, that is not granting permission to share their email with anyone else who is part of that group. Unless that is, you have specifically requested permission to share the contact details.

Therefore, when sending any email to multiple emails, they should always be using the BCC option, and the initial recipient, is one's own email address.

The alternative is to use some kind of database email system that allows personalised emails for each recipient (such as mail chimp or ACT)

Sharing emails can lead to mistakes by recipients that can result in one's personal email falling into the hands of unscrupulous scammers and spammers.

Please confirm at the next WPC meeting, that the council and councillors will commit to following the rules in this regard.

I have volunteered my time in bringing these issues to the council, as a service to the council and the parish, in order to avoid WPC incurring potentially unnecessary legal costs and fines.

Yours sincerely

Grahame Morgan-Watson
