

Selby District Disability Forum CIC

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Promoting Equal Access

January 2020

Dear Residents of Carlton,

Re: Challenging Thoughtlessness

We are your local 'Disability Action Group'. We are made up of those living with disabilities, supporting people with disabilities and those who simply want to make our local community more accessible for everyone.

We are writing to ask you all to consider the following areas from the point of view of those living with disabilities in your village.

1. Considerate Parking

When parking in and around local villages and towns, please consider how poor parking can create difficult and often dangerous situations for people with disabilities. Especially those in wheelchairs or with visual impairments, not to mention people with prams or pushchairs. **Please ensure you leave enough space between your car and the hedge/wall, big enough for a wheelchair to get past.**

The RAC states on their website that "if you are parking along a narrow road, where parking wholly on the road would stop other cars, and particularly emergency vehicles, from getting through, then it is a sensible option to park partially on a pavement, providing there are no parking restrictions and **providing you are not blocking a wheelchair user or pram from using the pavement.**"

2. Considerate Driving

Your attitude on the road affects your risk of having an accident, and also influences how other drivers treat you. It can be the difference between arriving angry and frustrated or arriving calm and relaxed.

Disabled pedestrians can find it more challenging to cross the road, or to anticipate traffic movements. Please be patient and give them time.

3. Dog Litter

Thankfully most of us wouldn't dream of leaving dog mess behind. Fouling of public areas by dog faeces has serious public health impacts. Not only that, it creates a terrible nuisance to all residents, but particularly those with disabilities. For those with sight loss, mobility issues, or using wheelchairs and mobility scooters, avoiding dog litter can be impossible and create horrible situations for people.

Please think of others and clean up after your dog.

4. Overgrown Hedges

Overgrown hedges and vegetation can cause safety problems for people using the highway. Especially those with impaired vision, mobility issues, or wheelchair and mobility scooter users. Please be mindful of this and help make pavements safe and useable for everyone by keeping hedges and branches cut back and under control.

5. Wheelie Bins and Recycling Boxes

Poorly placed wheelie bins and recycling boxes can cause dangerous safety problems for people using our roads and pavements. Especially for those with impaired vision, mobility issues, or wheelchair and mobility scooter users. Please be mindful of this and help make pavements safe and useable for everyone by placing bins and boxes carefully.

Thank you so much for all your time and help with these requests, and for helping us to make your local community better for everyone.

Best wishes,

Your Local Disability Action Group

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