

PRESS RELEASE



Council	Haydon Wick Parish Council
Date	03/09/2025
Title	Haydon Wick Parish Council Addresses Akers Way Litter Concerns and Calls for Borough Council Action
Enquiries to	Georgina Morgan-Denn, Chief Officer/Clerk & RFO
Contact	clerk@haydonwick.gov.uk / 01793 722446

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Haydon Wick Parish Council Addresses Akers Way Litter Concerns and Calls for Borough Council Action

Following recent community concerns about litter accumulation along Akers Way, Haydon Wick Parish Council is providing transparency on the ongoing challenges and outlining steps being taken to address this persistent issue.

The Reality of the Situation

Councillor Vinay Manro explains: "*Litter along Akers Way has become a persistent concern with clear underlying causes. Properties along this road cannot use standard wheelie bins due to the challenging terrain of slopes and steps, requiring residents to rely on blue waste bags. When these bags split or spill overnight, waste is often left behind by Swindon Borough Council's collection crews, leaving our Parish Council to manage the cleanup.*"

The scale of the problem has become significant, with the Parish Council's Parks and Open Spaces team currently collecting approximately 15 bags of litter monthly from this area alone – equivalent to 7.5 hours of additional work and a cost of £112.50 per month to local taxpayers.

Escalating Challenges

Since the beginning of 2025, the situation has deteriorated, possibly due to changes in bag quality or collection procedures. The area has also become a dumping ground for bulky items including fridges and other metal goods, creating additional safety and environmental concerns with increased risks as much of the litter accumulates dangerously close to the kerbside, and now includes potentially hazardous dumped materials too.

Call for Borough Council Action

Haydon Wick Parish Council is calling on Swindon Borough Council to:

- Investigate and implement a more effective waste collection solution for properties unable to use wheelie bins

- Review collection procedures to ensure all waste is properly gathered, including spillage from damaged bags
- Address the illegal dumping of bulky items with appropriate enforcement measures
- Work collaboratively to develop a long-term solution that breaks the cycle of persistent litter

Community Partnership

While the Parish Council continues its cleanup efforts, residents can help by ensuring waste bags are properly sealed and only placed out on collection morning to minimize overnight damage. However, the fundamental issue requires a systemic solution from the waste collection authority.

"We appreciate residents' suggestions about community litter picks, and we welcome volunteer efforts," added Councillor Manro. "However, the core problem lies with inadequate waste collection arrangements that need addressing at borough level. Our residents should not have to repeatedly clean up after a failing system."

Looking Forward

Haydon Wick Parish Council remains committed to maintaining clean, safe public spaces while advocating for appropriate solutions from the responsible authorities. The Council will continue monitoring the situation and working with Swindon Borough Council to achieve a sustainable resolution.