

## Introduction

We propose to use the land that is subject to this application for a dog exercise facility, allowing dog owners to hire the field for specified slots to enable their dog to enjoy off the lead exercise in a safe and enclosed environment.

The application is for a change of use from agricultural land to sui generis with permission to erect 'deer style' fencing and gate to enclose the land with a new vehicular access from the highway to a parking area inside the enclosure.



There will be a 3m buffer between the existing hedgerows and the fencing to allow access for maintenance.

## The Proposal

The applicant is aware of facilities similar to this one being managed successfully in the region.

The field would be available to hire for the sole use of the hirer to enable dog owners to allow their dog(s) to have off the lead exercise and recreation in a safe and enclosed environment. This facility would be open to members of the public. The hire is only for users who have pre-booked and been granted a unique access code.

A maximum of 2 dog owners would be permitted to use the field per session with a limit of 6 dogs and 2 vehicles, unless otherwise agreed with the owner.

The dog exercise facility would be used by people who do not have appropriate gardens or suitable open spaces nearby to exercise their dogs. This includes but is not limited to; owners of rescue dogs or nervous dogs who need an enclosed area without worrying about other dogs, owners that wish to train their dogs to recall or owners who are unable to exercise their dogs due to being incapacitated.

The applicant requests opening hours of dawn - dusk.

The site entrance will be fitted with a locked gate which will be secured by a coded system. The code will be released to clients by way of a booking system and confirmation email. The code will be changed on a regular basis to alleviate unknown access out of hours. Clients will be instructed that this gate is to be kept locked at all times to ensure there is no chance of drop-ins disturbing their session.

Users would be required to bag their own dog waste, place it in the bins provided whereby the applicant will remove it from the site regularly.

Adequate turning space would be provided to allow vehicles to enter and exit the site onto the track in forward gear.

The applicant is aware of the location and proximity of neighbouring land users. Care has been taken to propose a site away from residential dwellings. The applicant has thought carefully about minimising disruption to surrounding users and proposes to undertake the following measures:-

- Minimise the number of vehicles per slot to 2 (in reality due to the nature of dogs that use these types of facilities it will likely only be the 1 car)
- Limit the number of dogs per slot to 6.
- Allow a 5/10 minute buffer between slots so no users should meet and keep noise to a minimum.
- Ensure owners are present with their dogs and are responsible for keeping them under control.
- Dogs will be required to be on the lead until they are within the boundaries of the enclosed field.
- The applicant proposes to do a field and fence check regularly.
- Restricted to daylight hours and no artificial lighting will be used to ensure no disruption to the rural landscape.

Examples of similar fencing:

