

## Press Release

An East Riding ward councillor has stepped in to set the record straight, and sing Molescroft's praises after reports of antisocial behaviour emerged in social media and local newspapers, over the summer.

Cllr Denis Healy, ward councillor for St Mary's ward, which includes Molescroft, said;

"When I first read about all night drinking sessions, intimidating behaviour, cars being driven menacingly, and Molescroft park and pavilion becoming a no-go area, I couldn't help thinking that any problems were being massively exaggerated.

Indeed, many residents have been in touch with me to say that they think Molescroft is being unfairly tainted, and as one of their ward councillors, I think it's only fair to set the record straight.

"There was a tragic incident in April, when a young person received fatal injuries in a collision with a vehicle on Woodhall Way. His friends subsequently paid tribute to him and remembered his life by gathering at Molescroft playing fields. This was a perfectly spontaneous and heartfelt response.

"In the days that followed, some young people chose to return to the park, and there were instances of underage drinking which were dealt with by Humberside police. There was also a considerable amount of accumulated rubbish which was quickly cleared by the Parish Council supported by the Wombles of Beverley. I understand that there have been no further instances of this nature since then.

"This was a one-off event that happened several **months** ago, and to have Molescroft characterised as a lawless place with feral youths running riot on a regular basis is wide of the mark, and needs to be corrected.

"Molescroft Pavilion and park is a dynamic place, right at the centre of community life. The Parish Council and its staff continued to work tirelessly through the pandemic to keep all the facilities open, with safeguarding in place. When the facility was closed during lockdown, a full maintenance schedule was carried out, and a new and extended kitchen facility was provided.

It's an extremely popular village facility with loads of activities going on, including the very successful Tomorrow's Youth group, bringing elderly residents together and the Beverley and Molescroft Petanque Club which has a growing membership.

They have also recently planted 50 young trees in a nursery area at the rear of the pavilion

"Residents of Molescroft are proud of their village and its pavilion and park. I don't doubt that we had problems with antisocial behaviour at a specific moment in time, a few months ago, but that has been dealt with, and raking it up now in the slow news month of August doesn't do the local community any justice."