Chairman

Nether Wallop Parish Council

 26 April 2022

Dear Sirs

I have a son with Asperger’s syndrome who enjoys walking along the footpaths in the village, which is good for his mental and physical health and something we should all be able to enjoy. A couple of times a week he likes to walk along the footpath that starts in Bent Street and comes out through a wooded track out onto Five Bells Lane.

So that he can have a bit of independence he is happy for us to drop him at the entrance in Bent Street and drive round and wait for him at the entrance to the wooded track in Five Bells Lane.

There is always someone in the car so we can move if needed and we are not impeding anyone. We have done this for some time without incident but for the past two weeks occupants of a neighbouring property seem to have taken offence at our very existence. I appreciate sometimes if you see a vehicle that you don't recognise you can be concerned but we have tried to explain we are merely waiting for a few minutes to meet said autistic son, they wouldn't listen , said they didn't care and rudely and dismissively just told us to go away.and we couldn't park there.

As we are not in anyone’s way, there are no signs saying you can't wait there and are only there for a few minutes at a time I assume this is ok and we don't have to just go away. My son is quiet and polite and surely should be able to enjoy the same amenities as anyone else and we should be able to make this possible for him.

Life is hard enough for people with these hidden conditions, especially after the pandemic and a bit of tolerance would be much appreciated. Thank you.

**NOTE: Name and address supplied. This is a longstanding resident of the Parish.**