

OVERGROWN HEDGES AND TREES BORDERING ROADS AND PATHS (Encroachment)

Dear Parishioners,

You may not be aware that there are laws governing the encroachment of trees and hedging bordering footways and roads.

1. There should be clearance of at least 2.2m (7' 2") above a footway, pavement, or verge to allow pedestrians free passage.
2. Hedges/vegetation should be cut back to the property boundary line so as not to overhang or encroach onto the highway (meaning carriageway, footway or verge)

Hughenden Parish Council (HPC) only owns a small number of hedges, mostly around allotments, the Common in Great Kingshill and some of its open area's. HPC also looks after a small number of hedges on behalf of Buckinghamshire Council. The vast majority of hedges are owned by you, our parishioners.

We request that you check all of your boundaries to make sure that you are compliant with the above. Especially those with hedges bordering pavements and encroaching onto roads.

Hedges should **not** be cut within the period **1st March to the 1st September**, to support our wildlife, unless they are causing a risk to health and safety, when they can be cut back regardless of date.

Should you be unable to maintain your hedges within the legal guidelines, please contact the office who may be able to suggest a list of contractors who undertake this type of work.

If you aren't sure which are your boundaries hedges, you can check them at <https://mywycombe.wycombe.gov.uk/> by clicking My Maps option and ticking the Land Ownership category. This will take you to the website where you can purchase land registry details of your property which may help you.

29 July 2021 – Mel Woof