

My house backs on to the railway walk and the playing fields at Les Quennevais. I have lived here for five years and have encountered many problems associated with anti-social behaviour.

It is a regular occurrence on most weekends, particularly in the summer months, for young people to congregate on the astro-turf and grand stand drinking alcohol, swearing, screaming and smashing glass. This can go on quite late into the night. We have witnessed them setting fire to the rubbish bins and vandalising the grand stand, forcing us to call the Fire Brigade and Police. When the Police eventually attend it forces the crowds of youths to run onto our estate where they hang around causing even more noise and disruption.

We have had our property damaged by a group of youths who threw stones at our new double glazing and broke a pane of glass which we had to have replaced. When my husband confronted them he received verbal threats and abuse. The Honourable Police said they could not do anything when we reported the incident. Neighbours have also had their cars vandalised. As far as we know none of the culprits live on the estate!!

We feel sorry for the sports ground staff who weekend after weekend have to clean up the mess left by these youths. They have even now stopped repairing the damage that they have made because it costs too much and they know it will only happen again.

We have noticed during the 5 years that we have lived here an increasing amount of rubbish that is around the railway walk and the playing fields. My husband and I are always picking up various items of rubbish including empty beer cans and plastic bottles. There are plenty of bins around but no one seems to take any notice of them!!

We appreciate that kids need somewhere to hang out with their friends and most of them that live around this area are great, but there are some who ruin it for everyone. The playing fields are used everyday by so many people including children. If something isn't done soon this wonderful facility will deteriorate and will be beyond repair.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Sarah Matthews.