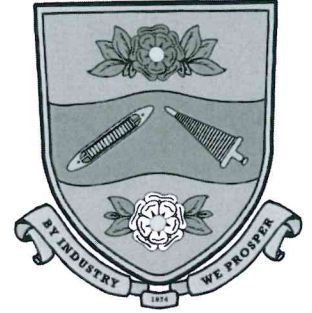


TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk's Office,
Todmorden Community College,
Burnley Road, Todmorden OL14 7BX
01706 548135
townclerk@todmorden-tc.gov.uk
www.todmorden-tc.gov.uk



11 December 2019

Ian Jackson
Area Manager
Lidl GB Ltd
Eastgate Way
Manor Park
WA7 1NT

Dear Mr Jackson

LIDL STORE, HALIFAX ROAD, TODMORDEN: SAFETY ACCESS ISSUE RELATING TO ADJOINING "POND"

Further to my letter of 31st October I am writing again to bring your attention to ongoing safety issues relating to the adjoining 'pond' at the Todmorden store.

When visiting yesterday I noticed that the gate was bolted which is excellent. However, I'd be grateful if you could please confirm whether the current fencing is temporary or permanent? The current fencing is around 10ft tall with the planting of small, slow growing conifers in some areas, but unfortunately there are gaps at the bottom of most fences. There are gaps beneath the fence on the canal side and facing on to the car park. In particular, there is one area near the electric car charging point where something or someone has burrowed in the soft earth under the fence and it would be easy for a child or an animal to fit through. This could lead to a potentially fatal accident.

Another area of concern is the gate, which looks less sturdy than the rest of the fencing. Also, the bolt and padlock look like those suitable for a residential garden gate but for such a site where the potential risks are high.

I attach photographs of the fence and gate for your information.

Finally, we have received feedback that some backfilling of soil from the site into the pond has taken place. As I understand it, the pond was built to accommodate the run-off of water to alleviate potential flooding. Any infilling of the pond would be counterproductive to that objective.

I should be grateful to receive your response to this feedback.

Yours sincerely

Colin Hill
Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
Todmorden Town Council

cc: Store Manager, Lidl, Todmorden